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Schools and Libraries News Brief - SPECIAL EDITION

November 24, 2008

FUNDING YEAR 2009 APPLICATION WINDOW OPENS NEXT WEEK

This special edition of the SL News Brief is to alert you that the Funding Year 2009 (FY2009) application window will open at NOON ET on Tuesday, December 2 and will close at 11:59 PM ET on Thursday, February 12, 2009.

FCC Releases FY2009 Eligible Services List

On November 21, the FCC released <u>Public Notice (FCC 08-265)</u>. This notice released the <u>FY2009 Eligible Services List</u> (ESL) and waived the requirement that the ESL be published at least 60 days before the opening of the filing window.

The FY2009 ESL, which has not changed from the FY2008 ESL, provides specific details on eligible and ineligible products and services. As you prepare to file your program forms for FY2009, be sure to review the ESL for the eligibility of products and services you are considering.

Apply Online Webpage Updated

In advance of the opening of the FY2009 window, USAC has updated the information on the Apply Online page. You will now be able to access the following features:

- Links to websites that allow you to download Internet Explorer and Netscape, the browsers that you should use to file program forms online. Note that USAC does not recommend using other browsers as they may cause errors.
- A <u>Tips and Troubleshooting</u> document that provides information on browser requirements and settings, tips to resolve errors, troubleshooting hints, and solutions to the five most common online filing issues.
- Links to the <u>Schools and Libraries program forms page</u> and <u>Submit a Question</u>.

Note that the appearance and function of all of the apply online buttons remain the same.

Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letters To Be Mailed

Tomorrow USAC will mail about 2,400 Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letters for FY2008. These letter notify applicants whose Forms 486 may be late. USAC calculates the date to issue these letters based on:

- the date of your Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) and
- the service start date you reported on your Form 471.

Note that if you have already filed a Form 486 online but have not yet certified that form online or on paper, USAC will issue you a Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letter to remind you to certify your form.

Your Form 486 is late for any FY2008 FRN that meets the following conditions:

- USAC issued you an FCDL featuring a positive commitment on that FRN on or before July 1, 2008 and
- The service start date you will report on a Form 486 for that FRN is July 1, 2008.

To avoid an adjustment to your service start date and possible reduction in funding, you must certify a Form 486 featuring that FRN by Monday, December 15.

USAC will continue to issue a Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letter for each FRN that appears to have a late Form 486, based on your FCDL date and the service start date you reported on the

Form 471.

You may download and print copies of <u>Schools and Libraries News Briefs</u> on USAC's website. You may <u>subscribe</u> to or <u>unsubscribe</u> from this news brief. For program information, please visit the <u>Schools and Libraries area</u> of the USAC website, <u>submit a question</u> to USAC, or call us toll-free at 1-888-203-8100. Feel free to forward this news brief to any interested parties.

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