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Schools and Libraries News Brief

May 21, 2010

TIP OF THE WEEK: If you did not provide an entry for Item 6f (holiday/vacation/summer contact information) when you filed your Form 471 – or if your information has changed – use the [contact information change procedure to update your information](#). PIA uses this information to attempt to contact you if you cannot be reached through your preferred mode of contact.

Commitments for Funding Years 2010 and 2009

Funding Year 2010. USAC will release FY2010 Wave 1 Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) May 26. This wave will include over \$426 million in funding commitments on over 18,300 letters for approved Priority 1 (Telecommunications Services and Internet Access) requests at all discount levels.

Congratulations to the four applicants that were the first to file a Form 471 for their applicant type. All of them are receiving commitments in this first wave. They are:

- **First individual school:** Bais Yaakov of Boston HS-Girls, Newton Center, Massachusetts
- **First school district:** Mendon-Upton Reg Sch District, Mendon, Massachusetts
- **First library:** Vicksburg District Library, Vicksburg, Michigan
- **First consortium:** Great Western Network, Washburn, North Dakota

Funding Year 2009. USAC will release FY2009 Wave 54 FCDLs May 25. This wave will include commitments for approved Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance requests at 78% and above and denials at 69% and below. As of May 21, FY2009 commitments total over \$2.71 billion.

On the day the FCDLs are mailed, you can check to see if you have a commitment by using USAC's [Automated Search of Commitments](#) tool.

Fall Applicant Training Dates and Locations Announced

Each fall, USAC provides training to applicants around the country in advance of the Form 471 application filing window. Below is a list of the training cities, dates, and hotel locations for 2010:

City	Date	Hotel
Washington, DC	September 30	Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center
Newark, NJ	October 7	Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott
Minneapolis, MN	October 12	Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America
Los Angeles, CA	October 14	Hilton Los Angeles Airport
Kansas City, MO	October 19	Kansas City Marriott Downtown
Jacksonville, FL	October 21	Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Portland, OR	October 28	Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront
Dallas, TX	November 2	Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center

To register online and to locate information on reserving a room at a conference hotel, go to the [Fall 2010 Applicant Training page](#) on the USAC website.

The training sessions have an applicant focus but are open on a first-come, first-served basis to anyone that wants to attend. USAC will start a waiting list for each session once it reaches capacity. We ask that you register only for the session that you want to attend and that you cancel your registration if your plans change so that someone else can register.

Below are some FAQs for the fall applicant training:

Q. How long is the training?

The training will last a full day. This will allow attendees who live within a few hours' drive of the training to avoid an overnight stay if they wish.

Q. Who can attend the training?

Anyone can attend training. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Keep in mind that the training will be focused on the applicant experience; [training for service providers](#) occurred in early May.

Q. Does USAC charge a registration fee for the training?

No. However, attendees are responsible for their travel costs including transportation and lodging. Note that at some of the conference hotels, USAC has negotiated a reduced parking rate.

Q. How do I make hotel reservations?

There is a separate web page on the USAC web site for each of the eight training sessions. Click on the link from the [Fall 2010 Applicant Training page](#) to the web page for the training session you would like to attend and follow the instructions on that page to make a hotel reservation.

You must make a reservation on or before the dates below to reserve a room at the conference room rate. Rooms may not be available – or may be more expensive – if you try to make a reservation after these dates:

Hotel	Deadline for Hotel Reservations
Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center	September 7
Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott	October 7
Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America	October 12
Hilton Los Angeles Airport	September 30
Kansas City Marriott Downtown	September 27
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront	September 27
Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront	October 1
Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center	October 1

Q. What will USAC cover in the training?

We plan to have a beginners session early in the morning that will cover the basic application process for those who need an overview or a refresher. The other sessions at the training will cover general program information along with updates, specific guidance for the FY2011 application process, and details of any changes or revisions to existing guidance.

Q. Will training materials be available onsite?

The final agenda and the training presentations will be posted on the USAC website during the week before the first training session. Attendees should download or print copies and bring them to the training.

USAC will provide packets of general reference materials at each training. We will bring a limited number of printed copies of the presentations, but we suggest you bring your own as they tend to go quickly.

Q. What should I bring with me to the training?

At a minimum, we suggest the following:

- Copies of the presentations, either printed or downloaded.
- A copy of your hotel reservation.
- Directions to the hotel by the transportation method you will use to get there. Note that there are links to the conference hotels – and in some cases links to directions – on each training web page on the USAC web site. Hotels are in general close either to a large airport or to downtown.
- A sweater or jacket. The air conditioning in hotel conference rooms can be chilly.

Q. What if I still have questions?

You can email any questions to [USAC Training](#). You can also use this email address to cancel or change your conference registration. However, to cancel a hotel reservation, please contact the hotel directly.

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