

Schools and Libraries Program News Brief

June 8, 2018

TIP OF THE WEEK: Do you have E-rate Program questions or need program assistance? Contact our Client Service Bureau at (888) 203-8100 on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Commitments for Funding Year 2018

Funding Year 2018. USAC released Funding Year (FY) 2018 Wave 8 Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) on June 2 and Wave 9 FCDLs on June 8. As of June 8, FY2018 commitments total over \$1.09 billion.

On the date that FCDLs are issued, you can access your FCDL notification from the **Notifications** section of your landing page in the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC).

Service Substitution Certifications

Applicants are required to certify the following statements prior to submitting <u>service</u> <u>substitution</u> requests:

- 1. The substituted products or services mentioned in the request have the same functionality as that contained in the original proposal.
- 2. The substitution does not violate any contract provisions or state or local procurement laws.
- 3. The substitution does not result in an increase in the percentage of ineligible services or functions, that the requested change is consistent within the scope of the establishing FCC Form 470, including any requests for proposal for the original services.

Applicants can help USAC more efficiently process their <u>service substitution</u> requests by properly and accurately responding to the certification statements. Reference the following guidance on how to certify your service substitution request:

Properly respond when certifying to the accuracy of the statements.

- By answering "Yes" the applicant is certifying that the statements are true.
- By answering "No" the applicant is certifying that the statements are not true.

Many applicants answer "No" to the certification statements unintentionally. If an applicant answers "No", USAC must perform additional outreach to confirm they are answering as intended, thus increasing the processing time of the request.

If you need assistance with your <u>service substitution</u> request, contact the Customer Service Bureau at (888) 203-8100 or create a customer case in EPC.

USAC Open Data Release Notes and FAQs

In an effort to better communicate with and support our USAC Open Data community about upcoming dataset changes or solutions, USAC has created <u>Release Notes</u> and <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> (<u>FAQs</u>) pages on the <u>USAC Open Data</u> platform.

The <u>Release Notes</u> page will communicate all major dataset and platform fixes, enhancements, and known issues that USAC has addressed based on valuable community user feedback.

The <u>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</u> page will address common concerns and questions related to using the <u>USAC Open Data</u> platform.

The link to both new pages can be found on the header and footer of the <u>USAC Open Data</u> platform.

Header

Footer

If you have any questions or comments regarding these new features on the <u>USAC Open Data</u> platform, or if you encounter any issues when using the platform, please send an email to <u>opendata@usac.org</u>.

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Back