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Universal Service
Administrative Co.

Tribal Outreach

July 2024 USAC Tribal Nation Newsletter

July 31, 2024

Monthly Tribal Teleconference

[Universal Service Administrative Company's](#) (USAC) August Tribal Teleconference will provide an overview of the E-Rate program, including program updates, information on the application process, and time for questions and answers. Please join the teleconference on **Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 4 p.m. ET** – [Register](#).

E-Rate

FY2025 FCC Form 470 Availability Delayed

On July 18, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a Report and Order (FCC 24-76) that makes E-Rate support available for eligible schools and libraries for Wi-Fi hotspots and wireless internet services that can be used off-premises by students, school staff, and library patrons. The adoption of the report and order will require USAC to update the funding year (FY) 2025 FCC Form 470. Read the FCC News Release [here](#).

The availability of the FY2025 FCC Form 470 will be delayed until the report and order becomes effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register. This delayed implementation will allow USAC to include the newly eligible items approved by the FCC on the form so applicants can consider them in their competitive bidding processes. The FY2025 FCC Form 470 will also include updates to requesting school bus Wi-Fi-related services and equipment. When the FY2025 FCC Form 470 becomes available, USAC will issue notifications on its website and via the [E-Rate News Brief](#).

Due to the delay in the availability of the FY2025 FCC Form 470, applicants with long procurement processes can submit the current FY2024 FCC Form 470 in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) to start their competitive bidding process for existing eligible services. We recommend that applicants posting the FY2024 FCC Form 470 indicate in their narrative and any request for proposal (RFP) documents that the procurement is for FY2025.

You can find the relevant report and order on the [FCC E-Rate page](#) once it is released.

Upcoming Cybersecurity Pilot Program Trainings

USAC will host a Cybersecurity Pilot Program overview webinar on **Tuesday, August 6 at 3 p.m. ET** – [Register](#). This webinar will share additional information about the program, including answers to frequently asked questions following the Get Ready webinars.

Potential applicants who are new to E-Rate and the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) can join USAC on **Tuesday, August 13 at 3 p.m. ET** for an E-Rate and EPC for Beginners webinar – [Register](#).

On **Tuesday, August 20 at 3 p.m. ET**, USAC will host a webinar to review the information required to complete the FCC Form 484 Part One. This webinar will walk through the Form 484 Part One questions and answer questions related to the information being gathered – [Register](#).

Upcoming E-Rate Webinar:

To learn more about the Competitive Bidding process, please join us on **August 1, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET**, for the FCC Form 470/Competitive Bidding Webinar – [Register](#).

To learn more about invoicing, including helpful video tutorials, webinar recordings, and trainings, please review the [July 2024 E-Rate News Brief](#).

[Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#)

ACP Wind-Down

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) has ended for now and, effective June 1, 2024, ACP households will no longer receive an ACP discount. ACP households are encouraged to consult with their internet provider to learn more about how the end of the ACP will impact their internet service and bill.

ACP households may be eligible for the FCC's [Lifeline program](#), which helps to lower the monthly cost of phone and/or internet service. The ACP and Lifeline are separate programs, and not all households that were previously in ACP will qualify for Lifeline.

For additional information and updates relating to the ACP, please visit [AffordableConnectivity.gov](#) or [fcc.gov/acp](#). Consumers can visit [LifelineSupport.org](#) to apply for Lifeline and learn more about the program and eligibility requirements.

[Lifeline](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Representative Accountability Database (RAD) 101

Join us on **Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET** for our next Lifeline program webinar for a RAD refresher, including upcoming enhancements. [Register here](#) for the August 2024 monthly webinar.

For the latest news and information about the implementation of the SCA, be sure to check out [Lifeline's Announcements](#) page.

Recordings of previous webinars are available on the [Lifeline Webinars](#) page.

[High Cost](#)

USAC has updated the [High Cost Detailed Payment Data Search tool](#) to provide a more user-friendly platform for the public to access information about dollar amounts paid to eligible telecommunications carriers that receive High Cost funding to provide voice and broadband service in rural America.

To learn more about the updates, please review the High Cost Detailed Payment Data Search tool [announcement](#).

Key Dates and Trainings

E-Rate

Webinar:

- **August 1, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET** – FCC Form 470 and the Competitive Bidding Process – [Register](#).

Cybersecurity Pilot Program Webinars:

- **August 6, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET** – Cybersecurity Pilot Program Overview – [Register](#).
- **August 13, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET** – E-Rate and EPC for Beginners – [Register](#).
- **August 20, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET** – FCC Form 484 Part 1 Information Overview – [Register](#).

2024 In-Person E-Rate Trainings:

- **September 17, 2024**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CT in **Dallas, Texas** – [Register](#).

- **October 7, 2024**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET in **Washington, DC** – [Register](#).
- **October 29, 2024**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CT in **Fayetteville, Arkansas** – [Register](#).
- **Tribal-Focused E-Rate Training**: November 12, 2024, in Palm Springs, California. This Tribal-focused training will be held in conjunction with the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums' (ATALM) annual conference. To attend the E-Rate training, you must be registered for ATALM. To learn more, visit [ATALM's Annual Conference](#) page.

Rural Health Care

- **August 7, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET** – FY2024 Service Provider Training – [Register](#).
- **August 21, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET** – FY2025 Request for Services – [Register](#).

Lifeline

- **August 14, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET** – RAD 101 – [Register](#).

USF Program Technical Assistance

The USAC Customer Service Center (CSC) provides customer service for all USF programs. Visit the [Contact USAC](#) page to get in touch with specialized agents trained to answer your program-specific questions.

Questions or Suggestions?

If you have questions or suggestions about Tribal universal service support, you may contact USAC's Tribal Liaison, Gem Labarta, at TribalLiaison@usac.org.

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