

# **E-Rate Fall Training: Eligible Services**

2024 Program Participant Webinar September 24, 2024



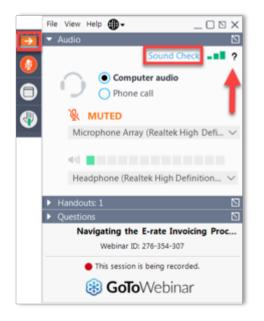
# Housekeeping: General

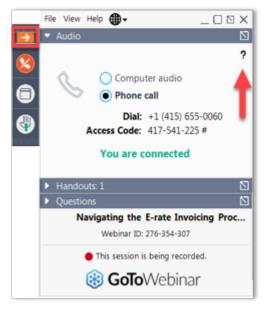
- To accommodate all attendees, real-time closed captions will be present during this presentation. We apologize in advance for any transcription errors or distractions.
- Audio is available through your computer's speakers.
- The audience will remain on mute.
- Use the Questions box to ask questions at any time.
- You can download the slide deck from the Handouts section of the webinar panel.



# Housekeeping: Troubleshooting

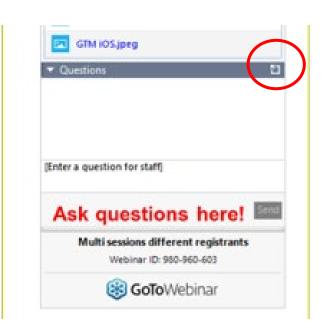
- Click the Sound Check link, then the question mark icon to test your audio.
- If you lose audio or the slides freeze, restart the webinar.
- Check that your computer meets
   GoToWebinar's system requirements by exiting
   the webinar and clicking the Check System
   Requirements link in your event confirmation
   email.
- If issues persist, call (833) 851-8340 to troubleshoot with GoToWebinar.





# **Housekeeping: Q&A**

- There will be a live Q&A session focused on today's topics.
- Tips for submitting questions:
  - Use the Questions box in your webinar control panel anytime during the presentation.
  - Write in full sentences.
  - Ask one question at a time.
  - Ask questions related to today's webinar content.
- To view answers:
  - Click the box with the arrow icon in the top right corner of the Questions box to expand it and reveal all written answers.



## **E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC)**



Call us at (888) 203-8100

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET



#### Create a customer service case

- 1. Log in to the **E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC)**
- 2. Select the **Contact Us** link from the upper right menu on the landing page.

# **Prerequisites**

#### E-Rate Program Overview

 E-Rate Eligible Entities and Service and Application Process Overview

#### E-Rate Pre-Commitment

Competitive Bidding and Requesting Services



Available for Public Use

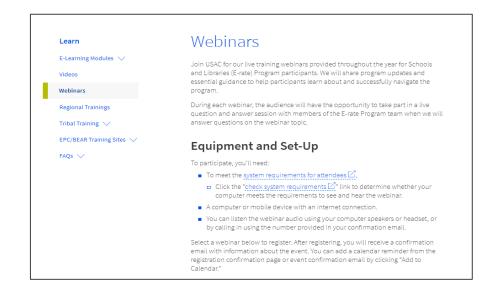
#### **E-Rate Pre-Commitment Process**

September 19, 2024



# **E-Rate Fall Training Series 2024**

- **✓** E-Rate Program Overview: September 16, 2024
- ✓ Pre-Commitment: September 19, 2024
- ✓ Eligible Services: September 24, 2024
- Category Two Budgets: October 17, 2024
- EPC Admin Window: October 24, 2024
- Post-Commitment: October 31, 2024
- Invoicing: November 7, 2024



- These webinars are suitable for all E-Rate experience levels; however, we recommend that those new to the program view these webinars in the order they are presented for the best learning experience.
- These webinars are recommended for both applicants and service providers, especially those new to E-Rate. A webinar tailored towards Service Providers was held in August 2024. Handouts and a recording of this webinar is available on the E-Rate <u>Webinars</u> page.
- Please visit the E-Rate <u>Webinars</u> page for additional information including course descriptions, registration links for future webinars, and access to recordings and handouts from previous webinars.

### **Meet Our Team**



**Bernie Manns** 

Senior Director | E-Rate Program



**Derrick Harrison** 

Program Analyst | E-Rate Program

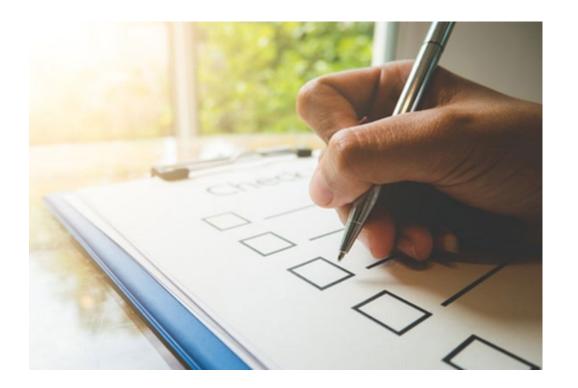
#### **AGENDA**

- Eligible Services List
  - What's New for FY 2025
- Types of Eligible Service
- BMIC Detail
- More on Eligible Services
- Advance Installation
- Basic Fiber Concepts
- Questions & Answer Session

# **Eligible Services List**

# The Eligible Services List (ESL)

• Each year, before the opening of the FCC Form 471 filing window, the FCC releases a list containing general guidance on the equipment and services that are E-Rate eligible for the upcoming funding year.



# **Eligible Services List (ESL)**

- The ESL also provides helpful information such as eligibility conditions for each <u>category of</u> <u>service</u> for the funding year.
- Applicants can only receive funding for eligible equipment and services that are being used for <u>educational purposes</u>.



# **Eligible Services List (ESL)**

- The FCC released the <u>FY2025 Eligible Services List draft</u> on July 31, 2024, for public comment.
- The FCC Order containing the Funding Year 2025 Eligible Services List will be posted on E-Rate's <u>Eligible Services List</u> webpage when it is released.
- The ESL Order has five sections, with the actual Eligible Service List posted last.
  - Introduction A preface to the contents of the Order.
  - Background Discusses the FCC's seeking of comments, and related actions, prior to issuing the Order.
  - Discussion Detailed discussion of scope of modifications in the Eligible Services List.
  - Appendix A– List of Commenters
  - Appendix B FY2025 Eligible Service List.

# What's New: Funding Year (FY) 2025

## FY2025 Eligible Services List (ESL) Public Notice

- The FCC released a Public Notice (DA 24-743) on July 31 seeking comment on changes to the eligible services list, primarily to reflect the adoption of the Wi-Fi Hotspot Report & Order, making Wi-Fi hotspots and service for off-premises use eligible for E-Rate support.
- The final eligible services list will be adopted by the Order this fall.

## **School Buses: Eligibility of Mobile Broadband Connectivity**

Beginning FY2024, mobile broadband connectivity for school buses is E-Rate eligible when used for <u>educational purposes</u>.

- The Wireless bullet on the FY2024 ESL was modified to clarify this new eligibility.
  - From FY2023: "Wireless (e.g. fixed wireless, microwave)"
  - To FY2024: "Wireless (e.g., fixed wireless; microwave; or **mobile service for use on school buses**)"
  - Please note that the FY2025 ESL Public Notice seeks comment on changing this language again to: "fixed wireless; microwave; mobile service for use on school buses; or mobile service for use with Wi-Fi hotspots"
- Installation fees and equipment needed to make this wireless service for school buses functional are also eligible under Category One.
- Separate maintenance and operations services related to mobile broadband connectivity for school buses are **not eligible**.

## **School Buses: Types Eligible for E-Rate Support**

School bus Wi-Fi services are eligible for buses that are school-owned, as well as leased or contracted school buses, provided that the school buses are used primarily to transport students to and from school and school-related activities for educational purposes as defined by FCC rules.

- Occasionally used chartered buses (e.g., used for school field trips), municipal, or city buses are ineligible.
- Other types of school-owned vehicles (e.g., cars and vans) are also ineligible.

More information is available on the Wi-Fi on Buses – Summary Overview page.

### **School Buses: Restrictions on Usage**

- Equipment and services must primarily be utilized for educational purposes as defined by E-Rate rules.
- There are no new user or Children's and Internet Protection Access (CIPA) restrictions adopted for Bus Wi-Fi. All restrictions must be consistent with those placed on building-based broadband networks.
- Wi-Fi should **only be active during school bus normal operating hours** (i.e., when students are being transported to and from school or school-related activities) or when there is a **clear educational purpose** for enabling school bus Wi-Fi connections outside of these hours. Bus Wi-Fi service must be disabled outside of these hours and cannot be utilized for community purposes.
- Security cameras for buses are ineligible for E-Rate support.

#### **School Buses: Multiple Service Providers**

Clarification of prohibition on redundant or duplicative services for school bus wireless services.

- Schools may situationally enter into agreements with multiple providers such as when some buses are served by one provider and other buses by a different provider.
- Rural applicants may select a solution that allows a bus to be served by multiple providers. Schools and school districts can check their urban/rural status <a href="here">here</a>.

## **School Buses: Competitive Bidding**

- School bus Wi-Fi is subject to all existing E-Rate rules and requirements, including those related to competitive bidding, cost allocation, and discounting rules.
- Applicants who entered into multi-year agreements for Bus Wi-Fi in the Emergency
  Connectivity Fund (ECF) program are not exempt from competitive bidding requirements.
- The competitive bidding exemption for Commercially Available Business Class Internet
  Option (CABIO) services does not apply to bus services. It only applies to services delivered
  to a school or library building.
- Service provider selection must be consistent with E-Rate program rules including selecting the most cost-effective service offering(s), using **price of the eligible equipment and services as the primary factor** in the evaluation matrix.

# Wi-Fi Hotspots: Now E-Rate Eligible

- On July 18, 2024, the FCC adopted a Report and Order (<u>FCC 24-76</u>) making Wi-Fi
  hotspots and mobile wireless Internet services for off-premises use eligible for ERate program support.
- This will allow eligible schools and libraries to start **Wi-Fi hotspot lending programs** so that their students, school staff, and library patrons with need can check out E-Rate-supported Wi-Fi hotspots and services to engage in remote learning.
- Accordingly, the FCC adopted certain limitations, including funding caps per device/service and budgets, to ensure Wi-Fi hotspots are more effectively targeted to those with the greatest need.
- Wi-Fi hotspot requests will require separate applications as with Bus Wi-Fi applications.

# Wi-Fi Hotspots: Now E-Rate Eligible

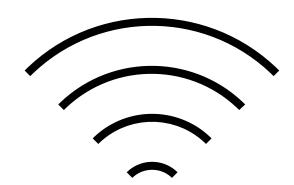
- Eligible schools and libraries can receive E-Rate support for Wi-Fi hotspots and wireless Internet services that can be used off-premises by students, school staff, and library patrons.
- Eligibility is limited to commercially available mobile wireless Internet services delivered through Wi-Fi hotspots.
- Wi-Fi hotspots and Internet services are subject to all existing E-Rate rules and requirements, including competitive bidding, cost allocation, and discounting rules.
- Applicants who entered into multi-year agreements for Wi-Fi hotspots services in the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program are not exempt from competitive bidding requirements.
- Service provider selection must be consistent with E-Rate program rules including selecting the most cost-effective service offering(s) and using price of the eligible equipment and services as the primary factor in the evaluation matrix.

# Wi-Fi Hotspots: E-Rate Eligible

- Wi-Fi hotspot: a device that is intended to provide Wi-Fi connectivity to a hotspot user as its sole function.
- Wi-Fi hotspots will be eligible as Category One (C1) network equipment necessary to make C1 wireless Internet services functional.
  - Can be found on the FY2025 FCC Form 470 under "I seek bids for internet access and/or data transmission service" and "I seek bids for Category One network equipment or maintenance and operations."
- Wi-Fi hotspot funding requests limited to fixed, **three-year budget cycle**. First cycle funding years (FY) 2025 FY 2027.
- Off-premises **Wi-Fi hotspots equipment** and **mobile wireless Internet services** requests will be prioritized *after* on-premises Category 1 and 2 equipment and service requests, in the event demand exceeds available funding.

# **Eligible Equipment and Services**

- **To be E-Rate eligible**, Wi-Fi hotspots **must**:
  - Be portable.
  - Be a single device (i.e., not a set of linked devices).
  - Be for use with a commercially available mobile wireless Internet service.
- What is NOT eligible for E-Rate funding:
  - Multi-functional devices (e.g., smartphones, PCs, notebooks, tablets, customer premises. equipment, routers or switches, and wireless access points, etc.).
  - Wireless services delivered to any broadband-enabled end user devices (e.g., laptops, tablets), fixed wireless connections and the related equipment, private 5G/LTE networks, fiber, and network expansion or construction.
- In addition, 1:1 Wi-Fi hotspot initiatives are not allowed, and each Wi-Fi hotspot must have an associated line of service to be eligible for E-Rate funding. Wi-Fi hotspots may not be warehoused/stored for future use or as replacements for lost, damaged, or stolen Wi-Fi hotspot devices.



# **Types of Eligible Service**

# **Categories of Service**

- Category 1 Services are services needed to support broadband connectivity to eligible schools and/or libraries
- Category 2 Services are
  - Services needed for broadband connectivity within schools and/or libraries, and
  - Services needed to bring broadband into and provide it throughout schools and libraries.

Equipment and services may be fully or only partially eligible for E-Rate Support.

## **Categories of Services**

#### Category One (C1)

- Data Transmission and/or Internet Access
- Bus Wi-Fi
- Off-premises Wi-Fi hotspots
- Wi-Fi Hot spots is the only C1 equipment and/or service with a budget
- Visit the <u>Eligible Services List</u> on our website

#### Category Two (C2)

- Internal Connections, Managed
   Internal Broadband Services, and Basic
   Maintenance of Internal Connections
- Applicant has a budget or limit on how much funding can be requested
- Budget covers a five-year period (FY2021-2025)
- See <u>Category Two Budgets</u> page

# **Category One Services – Service to the Entity - Examples**

- Leased lit fiber or leased dark fiber
- Internet access
- Satellite service
- DS-1 (T-1), DS-3 (T-3), etc.
- DSL
- Broadband over power lines
- Equipment and services supporting mobile broadband to eligible school buses

#### **Category One Services – Service to the Entity – Eligible Costs**

- Eligible costs associated with Category One services:
  - Monthly charges
  - Special Construction
  - Installation and Activation charges
  - Software
  - Modulating electronics/equipment necessary to make an eligible Category One broadband service functional
  - Maintenance and operations charges, including costs of for software needed for the operation of or maintenance of Network Equipment
  - The FY 2024 Eligible Services List clarified that the software necessary to operate or maintain Category One equipment is eligible.

# **Types of Category Two Service**

- Internal Connections (IC) The equipment and services used to bring broadband into, and provide it throughout, schools and libraries.
- Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections (BMIC) Basic maintenance and technical support appropriate to maintain reliable operation for eligible broadband internal connections.
- Managed Internal Broadband Services (MIBS) Third-party operation, management, and monitoring of eligible broadband internal connections (owned or leased equipment).

Category 2 services have a five-year budget, based on student count (schools) or square footage (libraries).

The type of Category 2 service you select must be consistent between your FCC Form 470 and FCC Form 471.

## **Category Two Service Type Examples**

#### Internal Connections

- Cabling, routers, switches, and modems
- Right-to-use software or Client Access Licenses
- Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections (BMIC)
  - The **repair and upkeep** of eligible cabling, routers, switches and modems
  - Multi-year maintenance service subscriptions

Note: Only maintenance services **provided in the applicable funding year** are eligible in that year (i.e., 1 year of a 3-year subscription should be requested on a current year funding request and invoiced a year at a time over the 3-year period).

- Managed Internal Broadband Services (MIBS)
  - Managed Wi-Fi agreement

# **Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections (BMIC) Detail**

# **Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections Types**

- Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections is the repair and upkeep of eligible internal connections.
- The two types of Basic Maintenance Internal Connections are:
  - In-Person Services, which include on-site repairs (Time and Material Contracts)
  - **Remote Services**, which include Maintenance Support Services (such as, basic technical support, configuration changes, bug fixes, patches, software upgrades, support service subscription licenses, technical support licenses)
- The equipment being maintained must be eligible in order for the maintenance to be eligible for E-Rate support.
  - If repair or replacement work is performed under a maintenance contract, USAC only reimburses for the **actual work performed**.
- The Eligible Services List issued by the FCC defines eligible BMIC services each year.

# **Examples of Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections**

- Repair and upkeep of eligible hardware (In-Person Services / Time and Materials)
- Wire and cable maintenance (In-Person Services / Time and Materials)
- Configuration changes (Remote Services/ Maintenance Support Services)
- Basic technical support including online and telephone-based technical support (Remote Services / Maintenance Support Services)
- Software upgrades and patches including bug fixes and security patches (Remote Services / Maintenance Support Services)

Any license that provides **maintenance functionality** should be requested under **BMIC** on the FCC Form 470/471 (not client access or right to use licenses).

# **Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections Services Do Not Include**

- Actual Equipment being maintained (e.g., cabling, access points, switches)
  - These are eligible under Internal Connections.
- Unbundled warranties (Not Eligible for E-Rate Funding)
- Network management services, including 24-hour network monitoring (Eligible under Managed Internal Broadband Services, MIBS)
- The management, operation, and monitoring of eligible broadband internal connections (Eligible under Managed Internal Broadband Services, MIBS)
- Maintenance on ineligible equipment (Not Eligible for E-Rate Funding)
- Internal connections software (including Right to Use and Client Access Licenses to make equipment functional): Internal connections software allows the equipment to function and distribute high-speed broadband. They do not provide support or maintenance and are therefore ineligible as BMIC. Such software is eligible as Internal Connections.

# **Mixed Functionality**

Some equipment has **mixed** BMIC & Internal Connections (IC) functionality

- Some vendor licenses may include both BMIC & IC functionality such as Right-to-Use (RTU) and Maintenance Services on the same license.
- Split the license based on functionality (i.e., RTU and maintenance) into separate FRNs for BMIC and IC
  - Contact the manufacturer or <u>USAC's Customer Service Center</u> (CSC) to obtain the breakdown for specific functionality that is included in a specific mixed services license

Tip: During your competitive bidding process, if you are seeking bids for Right-To-Use functionality and maintenance subscription services, be sure to post for all applicable service types on the FCC Form 470. (i.e., IC and BMIC)

### **Mixed Functionality - Example**

Some licenses or service subscriptions may have **mixed** BMIC & Internal Connections (IC) functionality

- Question to ask: Is the "Prepaid Multiyear" license or subscription:
  - A Right-to-Use license and therefore an internal connections item and/or
  - Software upgrades and patches including bug fixes and security patches and therefore the SKU is basic maintenance of internal connections?

Tip: If it contains features of **both** types, you should work with the vendor to determine if a separate identifiable price exists for the different aspects.

# Time and Materials / On-Site Maintenance Example

- In-person repair of eligible internal connections equipment
- Billed at an hourly rate
  - Example: A cable is cut or frayed, and the service provider sends on-site maintenance to repair the cable.
- Applicant is billed for both the time and necessary materials to complete the repair.
- When invoicing E-Rate for time and Materials Basic Maintenance and Internal Connections, please provide the hours worked, the hourly rate, and the equipment being maintained.

# Maintenance Support Service (Single Year) Example

- Includes eligible BMIC services such as:
  - Ongoing operating system software updates and upgrades.
- May also includes an ineligible service:
  - Advanced security features like Intrusion Protection Systems or Deep Packet Inspection.
  - Advanced or next-generation firewall or other network security services.
- Check to see what services are eligible and ineligible in the <u>E-Rate</u> <u>Eligible Service List</u>.

# **Maintenance Support Service (Cont.)**

- Partially eligible BMIC support
  - Includes eligible and ineligible services
    - Therefore, this subscription is partially eligible for BMIC support.
- Your service provider can provide more information regarding eligibility and functionality of equipment and services.
- Contact us if you need assistance.

### **Multi-Year Maintenance Support Services**

These are preventive and remedial services that physically repair or optimize hardware, including maintenance under contract and per-incident repair

- Services are only eligible for one funding year at a time.
- You must apply for funding for each year separately.
  - Example: A 3-year maintenance contact for \$12,000 can be submitted for reimbursement for each funding year associated for a maximum of \$4,000 per funding year.
  - Prorate the cost of the service for one year and only invoice after the services are received for the applicable funding year.
  - If services extend outside the funding year window, the invoice will be modified to only pay
    the current funding year services.
  - Inform the reviewer which year of the multi-year contract you are invoicing for.
    - Example: 3-year maintenance contract for **FY 2021 2024. W**hen submitting your request for your 2nd year, indicate that fact to the reviewer.

### Multi-Year Maintenance Services Example

- An applicant has received a **3-year maintenance support subscription**, (a 24-hour, 365 days a year service) to get the latest upgrades and updates.
- During the submission of each year's FCC Form 471 request, the applicant should:
  - Cost allocate the services by the term of the subscription and only request funding and invoice for 1 year of the services.
  - Submit a new FRN for one year of service.
- Since the applicant has already been billed by the service provider for the 3 years upfront, when invoicing USAC, the applicant/service provider would reference the same service provider bill from year one.
- The applicant/service provider should also explain to the reviewer why the date on the service provider bill is outside of the funding year.

# **Changing Service Types After Submitting FCC Form 471**

All services must be properly bid during the FCC Form 470 process.

- Be sure to confirm that you are posting for all service categories for which you are requesting bid responses on the FCC Form 470.
- FCC Forms 470 with the correct service type are required for corrections to be made on the FCC Form 471.
- To request changes identified after the FCC Form 471 is certified and before the FCDL is issued:
  - Submit a Receipt Acknowledgement Letter (RAL) modification request
- To request changes identified after the FCDL is issued:
  - Submit a Service Substitution request with a detailed narrative
    - Background information
    - Calculation for changes (single vs. multi-year)
    - Reason for the correction

### If an Item is Misclassified on Your FCC Form 471

After you receive your Funding Commitment Decision Letter, you may realize that a prepaid SKU (for example) was incorrectly classified as **Internal Connections** and should be classified as **BMIC**. The actions you take to remediate depend on the details.

- If you realize the error before the 60-day appeal period, file an appeal with USAC.
- If you realize the error after the 60-day appeal period, file a waiver of the appeal-filing deadline with the FCC.
- If the FCC Form 470 does not contain the category the item should be listed under, it must be re-filed.

# **More on Eligible Services**

### **Budgeting by Category**

- Category One (C1) services are not limited in cost as long as they are costeffective (except as noted below).
  - Note: The recently-adopted Wi-Fi Hotspot Order adopts a budget and funding caps for Wi-Fi hotspots and services.
- Category Two (C2) services are limited by a pre-discount cost ceiling (the "Category Two budget")
  - Budget period is five years
  - Budget is calculated based on:
    - Schools: Number of full-time students in the school
    - Libraries: Square footage of the library branch

# **Recurring Services**

- Services that are billed **monthly** (e.g., broadband internet access service)
- Must be received during the relevant funding year to be eligible for E-Rate funding.
  - For FY2025, this means that recurring services must be **received** between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.

### **Non-Recurring Services**

- One-time charges for equipment and services that are delivered and installed (e.g., wiring, other cabling or wireless installations and equipment).
- Applicants and service providers have until September 30 following the close of the funding year to deliver and install non-recurring C2 services.
- For FY2025, this means non-recurring C2 services can be delivered from July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.
- This service delivery deadline can be extended under certain circumstances.

### **Advance Installation**

### What is Advance Installation?

- Some Category One non-recurring equipment can be installed as early as January 1, prior to the July 1 start of the funding year, if certain conditions are met. See <u>Advance</u> <u>Installation</u> for more information.
- Category Two non-recurring services can be installed beginning April 1 before the start of the funding year.



### **Advance Installation - Category One**

Advance installation for non-recurring **Category One** equipment and services can occur provided the following conditions are met:

- The construction begins after selection of the service provider;
- The service provider must be selected pursuant to an FCC Form 470 posting;
- A Category One recurring service must depend on the installation of the infrastructure;
- The Category One recurring service's actual start date is on or after July 1 of the funding year.

### **Advance Installation – Category Two**

- Advance installation of non-recurring Category Two equipment and services:
  - Services cannot start until after the 28-day competitive bidding process is completed, and the service provider is selected.
  - Funding is not guaranteed until USAC issues a Funding Commitment Decision Letter.

### **Advance Installation Reminders**

- Funding is not guaranteed until USAC issues a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL).
- Invoices FCC Form 472 or FCC Form 474 cannot be dated before July 1 of the funding year.

# **Basic Fiber Concepts**

# **Introduction to Fiber - Types of Eligible Fiber**

#### 1. Leased lit fiber

A fiber-based broadband service where the service provider owns, maintains, and manages the network, and the E-Rate applicant pays a recurring fee to have data transported over the network.

#### 2. Leased dark fiber

The applicant leases a portion of a fiber network owned by a service provider and pays separately for the network equipment, maintenance and operations, and data transport and/or internet access service over that fiber.

# **Introduction to Fiber - Types of Eligible Fiber**

#### 3. Self-provisioned network

Applicant ownership of a high-speed broadband network. The applicant hires a vendor to construct the network or a portion of the network, and thereafter completely or partially owns and maintains that network or portion. An E-Rate eligible entity may share the services and equipment used to construct and/or operate a self-provisioned network supported by E-Rate funding with an ineligible third-party entity so long as the ineligible third-party entity pays its fair share of the costs, i.e., its pro-rata portion of the undiscounted costs of the network.

**Note:** Although included as a fiber option, a self-provisioned network may utilize technologies other than fiber. The applicant owns the network that it hires a service provider to construct. The applicant must pay for the network equipment, pay to maintain the network, and pay for any data transport and/or internet access services separately.

### Introduction to Fiber - Types of Eligible Fiber cont.

### 3. Self-provisioned network cont.

- Self-provisioned networks are a technology-neutral eligible service. Applicants may self-provision a fiber network, but applicants may also self-provision networks using other technologies (i.e., fixed microwave) or a mix of fiber and other technologies. In light of this, the FCC adopted a technology-neutral competitive bidding standard for self-provisioned networks – service provided over third-party networks.
- If an applicant specifies a requested bandwidth that other providers can provide, the technology-neutral competitive bidding standard expands the competitive bidding pool and helps to ensure that applicants requesting E-Rate support for self-provisioned networks only do so when it is the most cost-effective service option to meet their connectivity needs. It is possible that based on the applicant's bandwidth specifications that fiber may be the only option for receiving the requested bandwidth.

# Fiber - What is Network Equipment?

- A single piece of Network Equipment (also called basic terminating equipment) is eligible under **Category One**.
  - The single piece must be located at the demarcation the point at which the service provider would start to check if service were interrupted.
- Other pieces of Network Equipment can be eligible as Category Two Internal Connections.

### Fiber - What is Network Equipment?

 Network Equipment includes the electronics and equipment necessary to make a Category One fiber service functional.

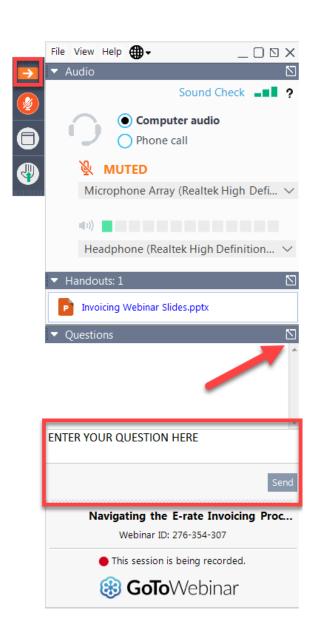


### Resources

- Eligible Services Overview Webpage
- Eligible Services List
- Eligible Services List (ESL) Glossary
- Fiber Summary Overview
- Fiber Frequently Asked Questions

### **Live Q&A**

- Submit your questions about today's topics:
  - Eligible Services List
  - Types of Eligible Services
  - BMIC Detail
  - More on Eligible Services
  - Advance Installation
  - Basic Fiber Concepts



### Q&A Tips

- ✓ Type your queries into the "Questions" box in your webinar control panel.
- ✓ Write in full sentences.
- ✓ Ask one question at a time.
- ✓ Click the box with the arrow above the questions box to expand it and see all the written answers.

# **Questions?**

### **E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC)**



Call us at (888) 203-8100

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET



**Create a customer service case in the E-**

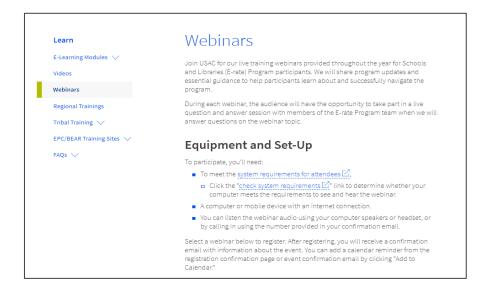
**Rate Productivity Center (EPC):** 

- 1. Log in to EPC.
- 2. Select the **Contact Us** link from the upper right menu on the landing page.

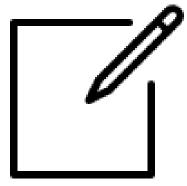
### **Upcoming Webinars**

#### Our upcoming Fall Training webinars:

- E-Rate Fall Training: Category Two Budgets, October 17, 2024
- E-Rate Fall Training: EPC Admin Window, October 24, 2024
- E-Rate Fall Training: Post Commitment, October 31, 2024
- E-Rate Fall Training: Invoicing, November 7, 2024
  - Recommended for applicants and service providers
  - Suitable for all E-Rate experience levels
- Subscribe to the <u>E-Rate News Brief</u>.
- Please visit the E-Rate <u>Webinars</u> page for additional information.



### **Take Our Survey**



- We want to hear about your webinar experience.
- A survey will appear on your screen at the end of the webinar.
- If you are not able to complete the survey today, one will be emailed to you within one to two business days.
- We appreciate your feedback!

# **Thank You!**

