

# **Contributor Office Hours**

**Reseller Certificates** 

December 11, 2024



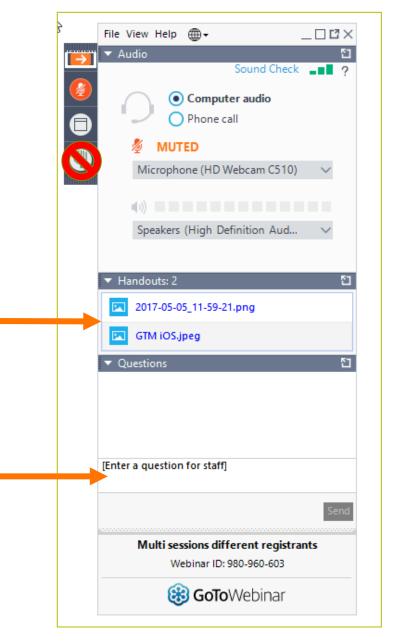
#### DISCLAIMER

To accommodate all attendees, real-time closed captions will be present during this presentation. We apologize in advance for any transcription errors or distractions. Thank you for your support.

# Housekeeping

- The audience will remain on mute.
- If your audio or slides freeze, restart the webinar.
- A copy of the presentation is in the '**Handouts**' section of webinar panel.

• Enter questions at any time using the '**Questions**' panel.



# Webinar Recordings

Please be aware that this webinar is being recorded.

A copy of the recorded webinar, along with a copy of the presentation will be available on the Service Provider's '**Webinars**' <u>webpage</u> within two days.

Future webinars are also posted on the webpage as well as their registration link. At the beginning of each quarter, all webinars scheduled for that quarter will be posted.

#### **Meet Our Presenter**

#### **Amy Kavelman**

Senior Telecom Industry Analyst | Contributor Operations

Ms Kavelman is a member of the 499 team that analyzes revenue reported on the FCC Form 499-A. She has worked at USAC for 14 years.

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Wholesale Revenue
- Reseller Certification
- Questions
- Assistance Resources

# **"Office Hours" Webinar Format**

- Office Hours will be held monthly.
- Brief presentation of a common topic at the beginning
- Open the floor to questions from attendees
  - Attendees type their question in the 'Questions' box in the GoToWebinar panel
  - USAC staff will repeat the question so everyone can hear
  - USAC staff will answer the question, keeping identify of the asker private
  - If question contains specific company information, USAC staff will follow-up with an email, keeping the question private.

#### Wholesale vs Resale

Explaining the Difference

## Wholesale vs Resale

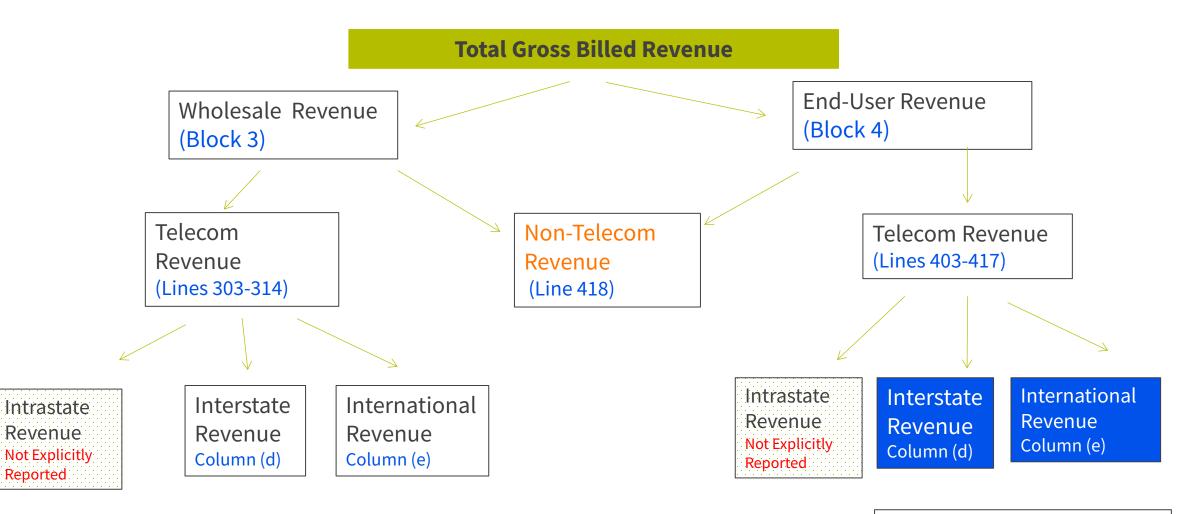
Filers must report revenues using two broad categories:

- 1) revenues reported in Block 3 (revenues from contributing resellers, intercarrier compensation, and universal service support) and
- 2) revenues reported in Block 4 (revenues from all other sources)

Taken together, these revenues should include all revenues billed to customers and should include all revenues on the filers' books of account.

Resale revenue is typically revenue associated with selling services to the end user customer.

### **FCC Form 499-A Revenue Reporting**



**USF** Assessable

# Block 3 vs. Block 4

- <u>Wholesale companies report reseller revenue on Block 3</u>
  - A reseller is defined in the instructions as revenue from a customer that:
  - Incorporates purchased telecommunications services into its own telecommunications offerings, and
  - 2. Can reasonably be expected to DIRECTLY contribute to federal universal service support mechanisms based on revenues from those offerings.
- Revenue that does not qualify for Block 3 is reportable in Block 4 as <u>end user revenue</u>.
  - End Users are the final consumer of the service.
  - Resellers with *de minimis* amounts of interstate and international end user revenues
    - These companies are not direct contributors

## **Reseller Certificates**

# **Reseller Certification**

Wholesale carriers should be collecting reseller certificates from their 2025 resellers NOW. An annual certification must be collected.

- USAC staff will verify reseller certificates through a random selection process. Any resellers without a valid certificate will require the wholesale carrier to move the revenue from Block 3 to Block 4.
- If that is done, the wholesale carrier may be required to pay additional contributions to the USF.

# **Reseller Certification**

Any filer reporting revenue in Block 3 of the FCC Form 499-A must demonstrate that the reseller meets both parts of the definition.

- Purchasing service(s) for resale, at least in part, and incorporating the purchased services into its own
  offerings which are, at least in part, assessable U.S. telecommunications or interconnected VoIP service;
  and
- Either directly contributing or have a reasonable expectation that another entity in the downstream chain of resellers directly contributes to the federal universal service support mechanisms on the assessable portion of revenue from offerings that incorporate the purchased services.
- The instructions were clarified that the reseller's 499 Filer ID must be active.

Wholesale carriers will request this certificate from their resllers.

Resellers attest to this definition by signing a Reseller Certificate. Certificates must be submitted annually.

### **Reseller Template**

USAC | Service Providers | Resources | Forms & Instructions | USAC-Designed Forms and Templates

#### Resources

Forms ∧

💮 Forms & Instructions

**Prior Year Forms** 

USAC-Designed Forms and Templates

Upcoming Dates

Announcements

Quick Links

Glossary of Terms

Appeals and Audits

Multi-Factor Authentication

#### USAC-Designed Forms and Templates

Paper forms and templates designed to help gather information that is not found on an FCC Form. Follow instructions on each form for submission requirements.

Credit Balance Refund	Who Must File
Credit Balance Refund Form 🖻	Use this form to request USAC refund your company's credit balance Learn more
FUSF Reseller Certification Template	Who Must File Wholesale carriers can use this template to get information from resale customers regarding their FUSF (federal Universal Service Fund) contributions Learn more

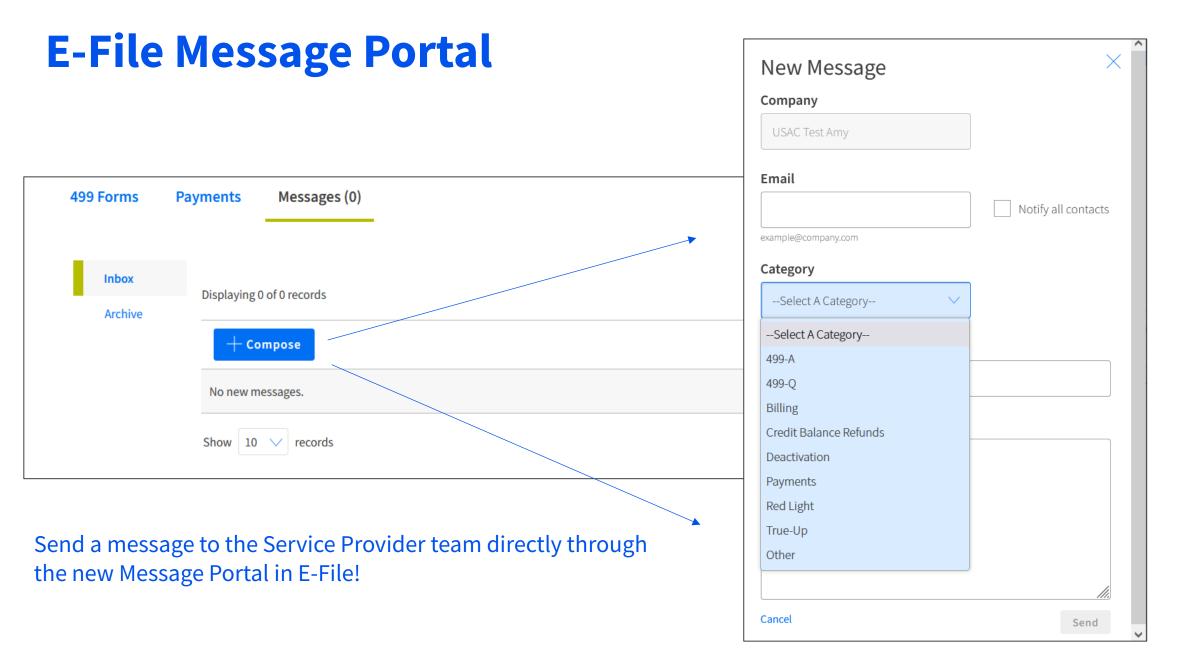
Certificates developed by the filer are acceptable as long as they meet the requirements outlined in the FCC Form 499-A instructions, pages 37-41.

# **Reseller Certification Exemption**

The following categories of revenues reported in Block 3 do not require a reseller certification.

Category of Revenue	499-A Line #
Per-minute switched access charges and reciprocal compensation	Line 304
Revenues received from carriers as payphone compensation for originating toll calls	Line 306
Charges for physical collocation of equipment pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(6)	Line 307
Revenues that filers receive as universal service support from either states or the federal government	Line 308
Revenues received from another U.S. carrier for roaming service provided to customers of that carrier	Line 309

# **Questions?**



# **Contributors/Service Providers Customer Service Center** (CSC)



#### Call us at (888) 641-8722

Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET



**Email:** CustomerSupport@usac.org

- Include in your email
  - 498 ID/Service Provider ID Number (SPIN)
  - 499 Filer ID



# **Thank You!**

