# **North Carolina E-Rate Forum**

Weekly E-Rate Newsletter Vol. 16, No. 25 June 20, 2022

- Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF
  - E-Rate for FY 2022
  - E-Rate for FY 2021
  - ECF for 2021-2023
- Updates and Reminders
  - Upcoming Dates
  - Last Call for Funds For Learning's 12th Annual E-Rate Survey
- USAC ECF Newsletter Dated June 14 Same as Last Week

# **Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF**

#### *E-Rate for FY 2022:*

Wave 9 for FY 2022 was issued on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, for \$86.2 million including \$1.13 million for sixteen North Carolina applicants. Cumulative commitments to date are \$1.79 billion including \$38.7 million for North Carolina. Nationwide, USAC has funded 87.3% of the FY 2022 applications representing 57.7% of the requested funding.

## *E-Rate for FY 2021:*

There was no additional funding for FY 2021 last week. As of Wave 57, commitments for FY 2021 stand at \$2.64 billion including \$84.2 million for North Carolina. Nationwide, USAC has funded 98.8% of the FY 2021 applications representing 95.8% of the requested funding.

### ECF for 2021-2023:

There was no additional ECF funding last week. As of the <u>most recent ECF waves</u> — Wave 16 for ECF-1 and ECF-2 applications and Wave 1 for ECF-3 applications — total commitments are \$5.14 billion including \$151 million for North Carolina. \$242 million for E-Rate Central clients. Nationwide, USAC has funded 63.6% of applications filed in all three ECF windows. Authorized disbursements as of last Friday totaled \$1.14 billion, a number unchanged from the previous three weeks.

#### **Updates and Reminders**

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

June 24

Form 486 deadline for FY 2021 covering funding committed in Wave 46. More generally, the Form 486 deadline is 120 days from the FCDL date or from the service start date (typically July 1<sup>st</sup>), whichever is later. Upcoming Form 486 deadlines are:

© 2022 E-Rate Central Page 1 of 3

| Wave 47 | 07/01/2022 |
|---------|------------|
| Wave 48 | 07/08/2022 |
| Wave 49 | 07/15/2022 |
| Wave 50 | 07/22/2022 |
|         |            |

June 30 Reply comments due on the FCC's Notice of Inquiry regarding the

prevention and elimination of digital discrimination (FCC 22-21).

September 9 Last day of the "Summer Deferral" window giving applicants additional

time to respond to PIA E-rate inquiries. No such deferral period is in effect

for ECF inquiries.

# Last Call for Funds For Learning's 12th Annual E-Rate Survey:

As discussed in our <u>newsletter of April 18<sup>th</sup></u>, we believe that Funds For Learning ("FFL") has been performing a valuable public service for the entire E-rate community by conducting an in-depth annual survey to solicit the opinions and experiences of schools and libraries regarding the E-rate program. These surveys have become an increasingly important source of information for Congress, the FCC, and USAC to help them evaluate the E-rate program. A copy of the <u>2021 survey results</u>, as provided to the FCC, is worth reviewing to understand the survey's importance.

The 2022 survey period is ending this month and we are again urging those who have not yet done so to participate.

Here's what you need to know:

- The 2022 survey is available at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/22erate">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/22erate</a>. The survey consists of 34 primary questions, plus 6 more optional demographic items. It should take less than 10 minutes to complete.
- Survey results are completely confidential. Only aggregate data is reported.
- Funds For Learning, which like E-Rate Central is an E-rate consultant, does not use survey responses as a marketing tool. We are confident in the integrity of FFL's survey process and encourage you to participate.

#### USAC ECF Newsletter Dated June 14 — Same as Last Week

Aside from a brief recounting of ECF funding from the previous week, discussed in more detail in our <u>newsletter of June 13<sup>th</sup></u>, <u>USAC's Emergency Connectivity Fund Program Newsletter of June 14, 2022</u>, does not contain any new information that was not included in previous ECF newsletters.

© 2022 E-Rate Central Page 2 of 3

\_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter information and disclaimer: This newsletter may contain unofficial information on prospective E-rate developments and/or may reflect E-Rate Central's own interpretations of E-rate practices and regulations. Such information is provided for planning and guidance purposes only. It is not meant, in any way, to supplant official announcements and instructions provided by USAC, the FCC, or NCDPI.

Additional North Carolina specific E-rate information is available through our Web site — http://www.e-ratecentral.com/us/stateInformation.asp?state=NC. Note that this site provides easy access to formatted North Carolina applicant E-rate histories via the Billed Entity Number ("BEN") search mechanism in the upper left-hand corner. Detailed information can be obtained by "drilling down" using the links for specific funding years and individual FRNs.

If you have received this newsletter from a colleague and you would like to receive your own copy of the North Carolina E-Rate Forum, send an email to join-ncerate@lists.dpi.state.nc.us. Please include your name, organization, telephone, and e-mail address.

In compliance with federal law, the NC Department of Public Instruction administers all state-operated educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.

© 2022 E-Rate Central Page 3 of 3