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## Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF

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

Wave 34 for FY 2022 was issued on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, for \$17.8 million, none for North Carolina. Cumulative commitments to date are \$2.75 billion including 66.1 million for North Carolina. Nationwide, USAC has funded 97.8% of the FY 2022 applications representing 90.8% of the requested funding.

### *ECF for 2021-2023:*

Wave 27 for Windows 1 and 2 and Wave 13 for Window 3 were [released](#) on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, for a total of \$53.9 million, almost entirely for Window 3 applicants. Funding in last week’s waves included \$649 thousand for two North Carolina applicants. . Total commitments for all three ECF windows are \$6.40 billion including \$179 million for North Carolina. Nationwide, USAC has funded 79.4% of the ECF applications representing 65.4% of the requested funding. Total disbursements as of last Friday remain \$2.39 billion.

## Updates and Reminders

### *Upcoming Dates:*

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| December 16 | The Form 486 deadline for FY 2022 Wave 18. 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:  |
|             | Wave 19                      12/23/2022   |
|             | Wave 20                      12/30/2022   |
| January 9   | ACP application window deadline ( <a href="#">DA 22-1213</a> ) for the FCC’s outreach pilot programs for potential participation by schools, libraries, and others (see our <a href="#">newsletter of August 15<sup>th</sup></a> ). See also the <a href="#">FCC</a> and <a href="#">USAC</a> announcements of the opening of the ACP application window last Monday. |

*EPC Account Administrator Action Required:*

In advance of a planned move of the standalone BEAR processing system into EPC in early January (see USAC’s [E-Rate System Consolidation](#) posting and our [newsletter of November 14<sup>th</sup>](#)), USAC emailed an [advisory notice](#) to EPC Account Administrators last week urging them to validate, and update as necessary, the users and their current access levels in their EPC accounts.

USAC has indicated that it plans to transition current BEAR permission levels into EPC, but this is clearly a step that EPC users — particularly EPC Account Administrators — will want to confirm. Once BEAR processing is moved into EPC, we expect the user permission section of EPC to look as follows:

#11111 - ABC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Summary Customer Service Modifications Additional Information Discount Rate Category Two Budget Contracts FCC Forms FRN Appeals News **Related Actions**

### Manage User Permissions

**Organization Details**

Name	ABC SCHOOL DISTRICT	FCC Registration Number	11111
Address	123 Main Street SPRINGFIELD, NY 11111 New York	Organization Type	Applicant
Mailing Address	123 Main Street SPRINGFIELD, NY 11111 New York	Phone Number	111-111-1111
		Email	

**User Permissions**

In the table below, you can designate the permissions that you wish to give to each of your users for the various tasks you can complete in the portal. This table will continue to grow as more functionality comes online.

- Full rights users can start, complete, submit and certify forms.
- Partial rights users can start and enter data in the forms, but cannot submit and certify them.
- View Only users can only see forms created by other people in your organization but cannot create forms themselves.
- Form 498 School or Library Officials can start, complete, submit, certify, modify, and deactivate Forms 498.
- Form 498 General Financial Contacts can start, complete, and submit Forms 498, but cannot certify new or updated Forms 498 or deactivate existing Forms 498.
- Post-Commitment Full and Partial rights user can start, complete, and submit Spin Change and Service Substitution requests. Post-Commitment View Only rights can view the submitted Spin Change and Service Substitution requests.

Name	Email	Apply All	470 Permission	471 Permission	472 Permission	498 Permission	Post-Commitment Permission	486 Permission	Appeals Permission
Althea Smith	asmith@ABCschooldistrict.net		Full	Full	Full	School or Library Official	Full	Full	Full
ROBERT SMITH	rob@ABCschooldistrict.net		Full	Full	Full	No Access	Full	Full	Full

To create and/or file a BEAR within EPC, a user will have to have either “Partial” (for draft-only rights) or “Full” (to certify) Form 472 rights. The Account Administrator is the only EPC user who can assign or modify user permissions.

Applicants likely to experience the most problems as BEAR processing is transitioned into EPC are those whose Account Administrator designations are out-of-date. USAC’s instructions for updating an Account Administrator are contained in its [E-Rate Special Edition Newsletter of November 21<sup>st</sup>](#) recommending the following two steps:

1. Contact the E-Rate Customer Service Center at (888) 203-8100.
2. Provide a reference letter of agency from the school/library district on the organization’s letterhead (or from the organization’s email domain) including the new EPC account administrator’s name, title, signature, and contact information.

*State Conflicts with the FCC’s Proposed Bidding Portal:*

The Iowa Department of Education is the latest state agency to weigh in on potential conflicts between the FCC’s proposed E-rate bidding portal ([FCC 21-124](#)) and the many state procurement laws and regulations. Although the initial and reply comment periods on the proposed portal

closed last spring (see our [newsletter of May 2<sup>nd</sup>](#)), states continue to express concerns — and hopefully will continue to do so — with elements of the proposed plan that are in direct conflict with their state procurement requirements. Examples of earlier concerns include filings from state agencies in [Arkansas](#), [California](#), [Illinois](#), [Kentucky](#), [Nebraska](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [South Dakota](#), and [Utah](#).

[Iowa's comments](#) include a discussion of the conflict that would result on Iowa DOE E-rate bids for statewide services under the competitive bidding rules of the Iowa Department of Administration Services (“DAS”). The DAS rules require that Iowa’s “Targeted Small Businesses” (small woman and minority-owned business that have been registered with the State) be notified 48 hours prior to the posting of public bids. As currently applied to Iowa E-rate bids, this means that the RFP portion of a Form 470 must be posted on Iowa’s Targeted Small Business website two days before the Form 470 (with the RFP) is certified in EPC. As the Iowa DOE indicates in its comments, this early posting of a bid would be in direct conflict with the proposed portal requirement that no bidder can have advance knowledge of the project information.

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*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](mailto:join-ncerate@lists.dpi.state.nc.us). Please include your name, organization, telephone, and e-mail address.*

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