



- Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF
 - E-Rate for FY 2023
 - ECF for 2021-2023
 - E-Rate for FY 2024
- Updates and Reminders
 - Upcoming Dates
- USAC E-Rate Special Edition News Brief Dated December 22 – FY 2024 Filing Window

E-Rate Central wishes you all the best for this holiday season and for the coming New Year.

Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF

E-Rate for FY 2023:

USAC issued Wave 35 for FY 2023 on Thursday, December 21st, for \$17.8 million including \$637 thousand for two North Carolina applicants. Total funding is now \$2.47 billion including \$84.3 million for North Carolina. At this point, USAC has funded 96.9% of the originally submitted applications representing 87.0% of the dollars requested.

ECF for 2021-2023:

Total commitments for all three ECF windows are \$6.45 billion including \$192 million for North Carolina.

E-Rate for FY 2024:

The Form 471 filing window for FY 2024 opens on Wednesday, January 17th, at noon EST and will close on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EDT. The EPC administrative window, which is currently open to allow applicants to update their entity profiles, will close on January 12th (three days earlier than reported in USAC’s previous News Brief). At that point, entity profiles will be locked for the duration of the application window.

Updates and Reminders

Upcoming Dates:

- December 29 The Form 486 deadline for FY 2023 Wave 19. More generally, the Form 486 deadline is 120 days from the FCDL date or from the service start date (typically July 1st), whichever is later. Upcoming Form 486 deadlines are:

Wave 20	01/05/2024
Wave 21	01/12/2024
Wave 22	01/19/2024

	Applicants missing their Form 486s deadlines should, within the week, receive Urgent Reminder Letters from USAC proving a 15-day grace period.
January 8	Last day of the winter PIA deferral period.
January 12	Close of the EPC administrative window.
January 16	New, and slightly extended, due date for comments on the FCC’s NPRM (FCC 23-91) on the eligibility of hotspot loans (see our newsletter of November 13th). Reply comments will now be due January 29 th .
January 17	The Form 471 filing window for FY 2024 opens at noon EST and will close on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EDT.
January 29	Invoice (or invoice deadline extension request) deadline for FY 2022 non-recurring services FRNs.
February 27	Extended invoice deadline for FY 2022 recurring services FRNs.
February 28	Last possible day to file a Form 470 for FY 2024 so as to allow its posting for at least 28 days before the close of the Form 471 application window. Please note that any applicant waiting until February 28 th to file a Form 470 will have to review all bids, select vendors, sign contracts and upload them into EPC, create and file their Form 471, all on March 27 th when the EPC is likely to be at its busiest. This is NOT a recommended course of action!
March 27	Close of the Form 471 application window for FY 2024. To be considered as having been filed “in window,” Form 471s must be filed and certified by 11:59 p.m. EDT.

USAC E-Rate Special Edition News Brief Dated December 22 – FY 2024 Filing Window

[USAC’s E-Rate Special Edition News Brief dated December 22 2023](#), highlighted the opening of the Form 471 application filing window on Wednesday, January 17th, previously announced in its News Brief of December 15th, and corrected the closing date of the Administrative Window (now January 12th). The Form 471 filing window will close on March 27th at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

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.

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