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## Funding Status for E-Rate and ECF

### *E-Rate for FY 2023:*

USAC issued Wave 42 for FY 2023 on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, for \$15.4 million, none for North Carolina. Total funding is now \$2.58 billion including \$84.3 million for North Carolina. At this point, USAC has funded 97.6% of the originally submitted applications representing 92.7% of the dollars requested.

### *ECF for 2021-2023:*

Total commitments for all three ECF windows are \$6.47 billion including \$192 million for North Carolina.

### *E-Rate for FY 2024:*

The Form 471 filing window for FY 2024 opened on January 17<sup>th</sup> and will close on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Applications marked as “Wave Ready” are likely to be included in the first funding wave for FY 2024 that is expected in late April.

## Updates and Reminders

### *Upcoming Dates:*

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|-------------|--|
| February 16 | Form 486 deadline for FY 2023 Wave 26. 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 27                      02/23/2024  |
|             | Wave 28                      03/01/2024  |
|             | Wave 29                      03/08/2024  |
|             | Applicants missing their Form 486 deadlines should, within a week, receive Urgent Reminder Letters from USAC providing a 15-day grace period.  |
| February 27 | Extended invoice deadline for FY 2022 recurring service FRNs.  |

- February 27 Due date for comments on the cybersecurity forms at the OMB.
- February 27 Due date for reply comments on the FCC’s cybersecurity pilot NPRM ([FCC 23-92](#)).
- February 28 Last 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<sup>th</sup> to file a Form 470 would have to review all bids, select vendors, sign contracts and upload them into EPC, create and file their Form 471, all on March 27<sup>th</sup> 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 “In Window,” Form 471s must be filed and certified by 11:59 p.m. EDT.

#### *ACP Wind-Down Update:*

As discussed in our [newsletter of February 5<sup>th</sup>](#), there is still a small chance that Congress will appropriate additional funds for the Affordable Connectivity Program (“ACP”) that would allow it to continue at least through the end of calendar year 2024. In the meantime, ACP funding is forecasted to run out in April. The FCC has already instructed USAC to begin winding down the program. As a result, the following steps have already been taken:

- Effective January 25<sup>th</sup>, participating internet service providers were to have sent the first of three notices to their ACP customers alerting them to the program’s likely termination.
- As of last Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, new enrollments in ACP were no longer being accepted.

The most recent information on the ACP’s status is in [USAC’s notice of February 7<sup>th</sup>](#) referencing the FCC’s [public notice](#) of the ACP enrollment freeze and the following resources:

- USAC’s [ACP Wind-Down Webinar](#)
- USAC’s [ACP Wind-Down Office Hours on January 18](#)
- USAC’s [ACP Wind-Down Office Hours on January 30](#)
- USAC’s [Bulletin Announcing the ACP Wind Down](#)
- The FCC’s [ACP Wind-Down Fact Sheet](#)
- The FCC’s [ACP Wind-Down FAQs](#)

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*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.*

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