



- Funding Status
 - E-Rate for FY 2024
- Updates and Reminders
 - Upcoming Dates
 - FCC Streamlined Decisions
 - Correction: Form 470 Delay for FY 2025

Funding Status

E-Rate for FY 2024:

Wave 11 for FY 2024 was released on Wednesday, July 3rd, for \$55.6 million including \$224 thousand for eleven North Carolina applicants. Total funding is now \$1.64 billion including \$54.3 million for North Carolina. At this point, USAC has funded 81.9% of the originally submitted applications, representing 53.7% of the dollars requested.

Updates and Reminders

Upcoming Dates:

- | | | | | | |
|----------|--|---------|------------|---------|------------|
| July 10 | USAC will hold another rescheduled version of its cybersecurity webinar (registration). Those interested in a more detailed discussion may want to review a recording of the Cybersecurity Pilot webinar hosted by E-Rate Central on July 26 (see slides). | | | | |
| July 12 | Form 486 deadline for FY 2023 Wave 47. More generally, the Form 486 deadline is 120 days from the FCDL date or the service start date (typically July 1 st), whichever is later. Upcoming Form 486 deadlines are: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Wave 48</td> <td>07/19/2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wave 49</td> <td>07/26/2024</td> </tr> </table> <p>The first Form 486 deadline for FY 2024, for applicants funded on or before July 1st, will be October 29th.</p> | Wave 48 | 07/19/2024 | Wave 49 | 07/26/2024 |
| Wave 48 | 07/19/2024 | | | | |
| Wave 49 | 07/26/2024 | | | | |
| July 18 | FCC Open Meeting to include consideration of the proposed Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to make off-premises use of Wi-Fi hotspots and wireless internet service eligible for E-rate funding (see draft Order currently on circulation). | | | | |
| August 1 | Current USAC estimate of Form 470 availability for Funding Year 2025. | | | | |
| August 1 | USAC webinar on FCC Form 470/Competitive Bidding (registration). | | | | |

August 29 Invoice deadline for ECF Window 3 applications.¹ Please note that invoice deadline extension requests are unlikely to be approved.

FCC Streamlined Decisions:

The FCC issued another set of “streamlined,” precedent-based, appeals and waivers last week. As with past streamlined decisions, applicants facing similar problems as those addressed in these decisions may garner useful information by carefully reading the additional FCC explanations found in the footnotes. The original appeal and/or waiver requests can be found online in the FCC’s [Search for Filings](#) under Docket 02-6 (E-rate) or Docket 21-93 (ECF).

In June’s streamlined decisions ([DA 24-608](#)), the FCC:

1. E-Rate Dismissed:
 - a. Two Petitions for Reconsideration for failure to identify any material error, omission, or reason warranting reconsideration.
2. E-Rate Granted:
 - a. One Request for Waiver allowing a service delivery extension.
 - b. One Request for Review on cost-effectiveness “finding that where there is only one bid responsive to the FCC Form 470, the responsive bid necessarily offered the lowest bid.”
 - c. One Petition for Reconsideration for a late-filed Form 471 due to delays beyond the applicant’s control.
 - d. One Request for Waiver for the inadvertent cancellation of a Form 471.
 - e. Two Requests for Waiver for Form 471 applications filed more than 30 days late due to serious illnesses.
 - f. Twelve Requests for Waiver for Form 471s filed within 14 days of the close of the window.
 - g. One Request for Waiver of a late-filed Form 486.
 - h. Three Requests for Waiver involving ministerial and/or clerical errors.
 - i. One Request for Waiver based on the reconsideration of a Bureau decision.
 - j. Two Requests for Waiver of invoice deadlines where USAC post-commitment decisions were not issued until after the deadlines had passed.
 - k. Ten Requests for Waiver of the special construction service delivery deadline.
3. E-Rate Denied:
 - a. Eighteen Requests for Waiver of late-filed Form 471s filed more than 14 days late and failing to present special circumstances justifying a waiver.
 - b. Four Requests for Waiver of invoice deadline extensions.

¹ The government funding bill passed in March, 2024, rescinds \$1.768 billion from the ECF program. As a result, the FCC and USAC are now prevented from: processing post-commitment requests to change service providers or invoicing methods; approving a commitment if an appeal or waiver is granted; or making upward commitment adjustments to resolve errors (see [USAC’s ECF Newsletter for June](#)).

- c. One Request for Waiver for ministerial and/or clerical errors.
- d. One Request for Waiver for a service implementation delay.
- e. Five Requests for Waiver for untimely filed appeals or waivers.
- f. One Request for Waiver of the Form 470 and Form 471 deadlines.

Correction: Form 470 Delay for FY 2025

In last week's newsletter, we had noted — correctly — USAC's announcement that the FY 2025 version of the Form 470, normally available on July 1st, would be delayed this year. The delay reflects the highly likely need to support competitive bidding for off-premises use of hotspots and wireless internet service, whose eligibility is expected to be approved by the FCC at its July 18th Open Meeting (see our [newsletter of July 1st](#)). We had suggested last week that applicants needing to file early Form 470s for other FY 2025 services could use the older FY 2024 Form 470 version as long as they clearly indicate in that form's narrative section that they are seeking services for FY 2025. Unfortunately, this advice is no longer valid since the FY 2024 version of the Form 470 has been removed from the USAC website. Unless USAC comes up with a fix, the only option now for applicants wishing to file early FY 2025 Form 470s is to wait for the new version to become available — hopefully later this month (or early in August) after a final FCC decision on hot spots.

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.