

The table below lists the major FCC Orders, rulemaking notices, Public Notices, and other documents relating to the Rural Health Care Program. The list is in reverse chronological order. Note that the table does not include all FCC Orders, rulemaking notices, Public Notices, and other documents relating to universal service and USAC. The table may be updated on an ongoing basis.

| Title and Docket(s) | Document Number/Citation | Release Date | Commonly Referred To As | Brief Description |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--|
| Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Clarification Regarding Evergreen Contract Endorsements Under the Telecommunications and Healthcare Connect Fund Programs of the Rural Healthcare Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice . | DA 15-809 | 7/10/2015 | | The FCC clarifies the scope of the evergreen contract exemption in the Commission's universal service Rural Health Care Program to reduce the administrative burden on participants. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . | DA 15-163 | 2/6/2015 | | The FCC grants a limited waiver of the invoice filing deadline for all applicants under the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) program for funding year 2013 by providing a single onetime 60-day extension of the relevant invoice filing deadline. |
| In the Matter of Forfeiture Methodology for Violations of Rules Governing Payment to Certain Federal Programs, Policy Statement . | FCC 15-15 | 2/3/2015 | | The FCC has reevaluated its methodologies for calculating forfeitures for violations of the USF and other federal program payment rules and adopts a treble damages methodology to assess forfeitures for violations of federal program payment rules. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . | DA 15-69 | 1/20/2015 | | The FCC clarifies the treatment of supporting documentation to applications for support (FCC Form 466) under the Telecommunications Program support mechanism of the Rural Health Care Program. |
| Federal-State Universal Service Joint Board Staff Releases Monitoring Report, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket Nos. 02-6,02-60, 06-122, 10-90, 11-42, 13-184, and 14-58, Report . | DOC 330829 | 12/4/2014 | 2014 Monitoring Report | The staff of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service has released its most recent Monitoring Report on Universal Service. This report contains information designed to monitor the impact of various universal service support mechanisms, and the methods used to finance them, based on data filed by the telephone industry with the Federal Communications Commission through September 2014. |



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| Streamlined Process for Resolving Requests for Review of Decisions by the Universal Service Administrative Company, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket Nos. 02-6, 02-60, 06-122, 08-71, 10-90, 11-42, and 14-58, Public Notice. | DA 14-1330 | 9/15/2014 | | Effective immediately, we will issue a Public Notice periodically, as necessary, disposing of pending matters that do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues, in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent. |
| Streamlined Process for Resolving Requests for Review of Decisions by the Universal Service Administrative Company, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket Nos. 02-6, 02-60, 06-122, 08-71, 10-90, 11-42, and 14-58, Public Notice. | DA 14-1330 | 9/15/2014 | | Effective immediately, we will issue a Public Notice periodically, as necessary, disposing of pending matters that do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues, in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | DA 14-1042 | 7/23/2014 | | The Bureau takes action to update the list of rural areas used to determine eligibility in the Rural Health Care universal service support mechanism. |
| FCC Chairman Wheeler Announces Universal Service Fund Strike Force, Dedicated to Combatting Waste, Fraud and Abuse, News. | DOC 328183 | 7/14/2014 | | Announces the creation of a Universal Service Fund Strike Force, housed in the agency's Enforcement Bureau, dedicated to combatting waste, fraud, and abuse in Commission funding programs. |
| FCC Chairman Announces New Connect2Health Task Force, News. | DOC 325873 | 3/4/2014 | | Task Force will identify barriers to wireless health adoption and build partnerships with stakeholders; Michele Ellison Named Task Force Chair |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Deferral of the Skilled Nursing Facility Pilot Program Pending Commission Consideration of Rural Healthcare Broadband Proposals, WC Docket Nos. 02-60 and 10-90, Public Notice. | DA 14-223 | 2/19/2014 | | Announces deferral of the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Pilot Program adopted in the December 2012 rural healthcare program reform order (the Healthcare Connect Fund Order), pending the Commission's consideration of healthcare related proposals in WC Docket No. 10-90. |



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| Federal-State Universal Service Joint Board Staff Releases Monitoring Report, News . | DOC 324893 | 12/23/2013 | 2013 Monitoring Report | The staff of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service has released its most recent Monitoring Report on Universal Service. This report contains information designed to monitor the impact of various universal service support mechanisms, and the methods used to finance them, based on data filed by the telephone industry with the Federal Communications Commission through October 2013. |
| Revised Filing Deadlines Following Resumption of Normal Commission Operations, Public Notice . | DA 13-2025 | 10/17/2013 | | As a result of the recent government-wide lapse in funding, the Commission suspended normal operations from October 1, 2013 through October 16, 2013, for a total of 16 days. Among other things, the Commission's filing window, mail room, and all electronic filing systems, with the exception of the Network Outage Reporting System (NORS), were unavailable from October 1, 2013, until today. |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Effectiveness of the Healthcare Connect Fund Rules and Availability of Forms, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice . | DA 13-1890 | 9/12/2013 | | Announces that the rules associated with information collections for the new Healthcare Connect Fund have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). As a result, those rules and the associated FCC Forms are now effective. |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Announces that Rural Health Care Program Service Providers May Elect Their Preferred Method of Reimbursement, WC Docket No. 02-90, Public Notice . | DA 13-1777 | 8/19/2013 | | Announces the availability of the revised FCC Form 498, which enables service providers in any of the Commission's Rural Health Care (RHC) universal service support programs to choose their preferred method of reimbursement for services they provide to health care providers. |
| The Wireline Competition Bureau and the Office of the managing Director Provide Collection Instructions to USAC for the Healthcare Connect Fund, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice . | DA 13-952 | 4/26/2013 | | Provides instructions to USAC regarding collections for the new Healthcare Connect Fund and instructs USAC not to consider excess collections for rural health care support when making its overall universal service fund (USF) demand projections. |



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| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Report and Order. | FCC 12-150 | 12/21/2012 | Healthcare Connect Fund Order | Reforms our universal service support programs for health care, transitioning our existing Internet Access and Rural Health Care Pilot Programs into a new, efficient Healthcare Connect Fund. This Fund will expand health care provider (HCP) access to broadband, especially in rural areas, and encourage the creation of state and regional broadband health care networks. Broadband connectivity has become an essential part of 21st century medical care. |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Evaluation of Rural Health Care Pilot Program Staff Report, WC Docket No. 02-60, Staff Report. | DA 12-1332 | 8/13/2012 | | Summarizes key observations from the Pilot Program, to assist the Commission as it considers potential changes to the permanent Rural Health Care Program. |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Evaluation of Rural Health Care Pilot Program Staff Report, WC Docket No. 02-60, Staff Report. | DA 12-1332 | 8/13/2012 | | Summarizes key observations from the Pilot Program, to assist the Commission as it considers potential changes to the permanent Rural Health Care Program. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | FCC 12-74 | 7/6/2012 | | Provides continued support for the recurring costs of broadband services provided to those health care provider (HCP) sites to ensure that they can continue to benefit from access to these Pilot Program-funded broadband networks, while we consider potential reforms to transition recipients of Pilot funding to a longer-term mechanism for supporting broadband services delivered to rural HCPs. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | FCC 12-74 | 7/6/2012 | | Provides continued support for the recurring costs of broadband services provided to those health care provider (HCP) sites to ensure that they can continue to benefit from access to these Pilot Program-funded broadband networks, while we consider potential reforms to transition recipients of Pilot funding to a longer-term mechanism for supporting broadband services delivered to rural HCPs. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. | FCC 11-101 | 6/21/2011 | | Adopts an interim rule ¹ permitting health care providers that are located in a “rural area” under the definition used by the Commission prior to July 1, 2005, and that have received a funding commitment from the rural health care program prior to July 1, 2005, to continue to be treated as if they are located in “rural” areas for purposes of determining eligibility for all universal service rural health care programs. |



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| Requests For Extension Of The June 30, 2011 Deadline For Funding Commitments Under The Universal Service Rural Health Care Pilot Program, CC Docket 02-60, Public Notice. | DA 11-172 , 26 FCC Rcd 658 | 1/28/2011 | | Extends deadline for Rural Health Care Pilot Program to select a vendor and request funding commitment letters. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. | FCC 10-125 , 25 FCC Rcd 9371 (2010) | 7/15/2010 | | The Commission introduced a new health care connectivity program that would expand investment in broadband for medically underserved communities across the country. |
| Wireline Competition Bureau Establishes the Effective Date for Electronic Disbursement of Universal Service Support Payments, CC Docket No. 02-6, Public Notice. | DA 10-270 , 25 FCC Rcd 7067 (2010) | 6/2/2010 | | Establishes the effective date of August 31, 2010 for the requirement that all federal universal service support payments must be made by electronic funds transfer. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | DA 10-263 | 2/18/2010 | | Extends by one year, to June 30, 2011, the deadline for participants in the Rural Health Care Pilot Program (Pilot Program) to select a vendor and request a funding commitment from USAC. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | DA 10-263 , 25 FCC Rcd 1423 (2010) | 2/18/2010 | | Extends by one year, to June 30, 2011, deadline for participants in the Pilot Program to select a vendor and request a funding commitment from the USAC. |
| Requests for Extension of the June 30, 2010 Deadline for Funding Commitments Under the Universal Service Rural Health Care Pilot Program, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice. | DA-09-2609 , 24 FCC Rcd 14608 (2009) | 12/22/2009 | | Request from the North Carolina TeleHealth Network for an extension of the deadline. Filing is treated as a request for a one year extension for all participants in the Pilot Program and additional requests are treated as <i>ex parte</i> comments. |
| Comment Sought on Health Care Delivery Elements of National Broadband Plan, GN Docket Nos. 09-47, 09-51, 09-137; WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice. | DA-09-2413 , 24 FCC Rcd 13728 (2009) | 11/12/2009 | | Seeks comment on how advanced infrastructure and services could help achieve efficient implementation of health IT applications and to understand gaps between current connectivity and the connectivity requirements for various health IT applications. |



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| Reminder to Rural Health Care Pilot Program Participants of Filing Requirements and Due Dates for Quarterly Reports, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice. | DA-09-2124 , 24 FCC Rcd 12116 (2009) | 9/28/2009 | | Reminder to file quarterly reports for a 72-month period commencing July 30, 2008 to inform the Commission of the cost-effectiveness and efficacy of the networks funded by the Pilot Program. |
| Deadline Established for Completing Funding Year 2008 Application Process for the Rural Health Care Pilot Program, WC Docket No. 02-60, Public Notice. | DA-09-1776 , 24 FCC Rcd 10590 (2009) | 8/10/2009 | | Establishes June 30, 2010 as the filing deadline for participants to submit FCC Form 466-A for Funding Year 2008. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, Holzer Consolidated Health Systems and Southern Ohio Health Care Network Request for Merger of Rural Health Care Pilot Program Projects, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | DA 08-2664 , 23 FCC Rcd 17396 (2008) | 12/05/2008 | | Grants the merger of two Rural Health Care Pilot Program projects in Ohio: Southern Ohio Health Care Network (SOHCN), and Holzer Consolidation Health Systems (Holzer). SOHCN will assume responsibility for the project originally applied for by Holzer. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, As One Together for Health and the University of Mississippi Medical Center Request for Merger of Rural Health Care Pilot Program Projects, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order. | DA 08-2665 , 23 FCC Rcd 17401 (2008) | 12/05/2008 | | Grants a request from two Rural Health Care Pilot Program projects: As One Together for Health (ATH) and the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC), to merge and designate UMC as ATH's successor. Bureau finds that ATH has demonstrated that it is unable to continue to participate in the Pilot Program due to extenuating circumstances. |
| Kansas Corporation Commission Petition for Declaratory Ruling, WC Docket No. 08-55, Public Notice. | DA 08-1060 , 23 FCC Rcd 7203 (2008) | 5/2/2008 | | Seeks comment on a KCC petition for declaratory ruling affirming the lawfulness of its procedure for certifying carriers' receipt of federal universal service support. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 08-47 , 23 FCC Rcd 2539 (2008) | 2/14/2008 | American Telemedicine Association Order | Grants, in part, American Telemedicine Association petition for reconsideration, seeking limited reconsideration of the FCC's Rural Health Care Second Report and Order (FCC-04-289). Specifically extends for three years the FCC's prior determination to grandfather those health care providers who were eligible under the FCC's definition of "rural" prior to the Second Report and Order. |
| Federal Communications Commission to USAC, Letter. | DOC-279603 | 1/17/2008 | | This letter responds to questions raised by participants in the Commission's Rural Health Care Pilot Program and USAC concerning the carryover of universal service funds for the pilot program. |



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| Federal Communications Commission to USAC, Letter . | DOC-279603 | 1/17/2008 | | This letter responds to questions raised by participants in the Commission's Rural Health Care Pilot Program and USAC concerning the carryover of universal service funds for the pilot program. |
| 2007 Universal Service Monitoring Report, CC Dockets 98-202 and 96-45. | DOC-279226 | 12/28/2007 | 2007 Monitoring Report | Report contains information designed to monitor the impact of various universal service support mechanisms, and the methods used to finance them. 11th report in this series. (Data received through June 2007) |
| Your organization is eligible to receive funding for up to 85 percent of the costs associated with: (1) the construction of a state or regional broadband network and the advanced telecommunications and information services provided over that network; (2) connecting to Internet 2 or National LambdaRail (NLR); and (3) connecting to the public Internet, Letter . | DOC-279275 | 12/20/2007 | | The FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau letters congratulating the RHC Pilot Program selected participants and reminding them of the RHC Pilot Program's competitive bid requirements. |
| Your organization is eligible to receive funding for up to 85 percent of the costs associated with: (1) the construction of a state or regional broadband network and the advanced telecommunications and information services provided over that network; (2) connecting to Internet 2 or National LambdaRail (NLR); and (3) connecting to the public Internet, Letter . | DOC-279275 | 12/20/2007 | | The FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau letters congratulating the RHC Pilot Program selected participants and reminding them of the RHC Pilot Program's competitive bid requirements. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Erratum . | DOC-279101 | 12/17/2007 | | This is a courtesy document that combines two official FCC Record documents: FCC 07-198 released on November 19, 2007 and an Erratum (DA 07-5018) released on December 17, 2007; thus this is not an official FCC record document. |



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| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Erratum . | DOC-279101 | 12/17/2007 | | This is a courtesy document that combines two official FCC Record documents: FCC 07-198 released on November 19, 2007 and an Erratum (DA 07-5018) released on December 17, 2007; thus this is not an official FCC record document. |
| The Federal Communications Commission selects participants for the universal service Rural Health Care (RHC) Pilot Program established by the Commission in the 2006 Pilot Program Order, Order . | FCC 07-198 , WC Docket No. 02-60 Erratum DA 07-5018 , 12/17/07 News Release Selected Participants | 11/19/2007 | Pilot Program Selection Order | The FCC launches initiative to increase access to health care in rural America through broadband telehealth by announcing selected participants in the RHC Pilot Program. |
| The Federal Communications Commission selects participants for the universal service Rural Health Care (RHC) Pilot Program established by the Commission in the 2006 Pilot Program Order, Order . | FCC 07-198 , WC Docket No. 02-60 Erratum DA 07-5018 , 12/17/07 News Release Selected Participants | 11/19/2007 | Pilot Program Selection Order | The FCC launches initiative to increase access to health care in rural America through broadband telehealth by announcing selected participants in the RHC Pilot Program. |
| The Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin J. Martin discusses a comprehensive proposal to fund a \$400 million Rural Health Care Pilot Program that would expand access to health care to America's rural and underserved communities through the creation of broadband telehealth networks in 42 states and three U.S. territories, Remarks . | Remarks News Release Slides | 11/13/2007 | | Chairman Martin discusses benefits of deploying broadband telehealth networks in rural and underserved communities. |



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| <p>The Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin J. Martin discusses a comprehensive proposal to fund a \$400 million Rural Health Care Pilot Program that would expand access to health care to America’s rural and underserved communities through the creation of broadband telehealth networks in 42 states and three U.S. territories, Remarks.</p> | <p>Remarks News Release Slides</p> | <p>11/13/2007</p> | | <p>Chairman Martin discusses benefits of deploying broadband telehealth networks in rural and underserved communities.</p> |
| <p>Comprehensive Review of Universal Service Fund Management, Administration, and Oversight, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, Lifeline and Link-Up, Changes to the Board of Directors for the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., WC Docket No. 05-195, CC Docket No. 96-45, CC Docket No. 02-6, WC Docket No. 02-60, WC Docket No. 03-109, CC Docket No. 97-21, Report & Order.</p> | <p>FCC 07-150, 22 FCC Rcd 16372 (2007)</p> | <p>8/29/2007</p> | | <p>Adopts measures to safeguard the USF from waste, fraud, and abuse as well as measures to improve the management, administration, and oversight of the USF. Specifically: Strengthens oversight of the USF contributions process by requiring timely filing of Telecommunications Reporting Worksheets and timely payment of USF contributions; Clarifies current procedures and restructure the rate of interest under the DCIA as amended, that is imposed when contributors fail to make USF contributions on time and apply the same rate to contributors that fail to file properly the FCC Forms 499-A and 499-Q; Adopts document retention requirements and administrative limitation periods for the high-cost, low-income, and rural health care universal service programs, and for USF contributors; Adopt rules for recovery of improperly disbursed funds for the high-cost, low-income, and rural health care universal service programs; Revises FCC debarment rules to include parties who are convicted of criminal violations or held civilly liable for acts arising out of participation in the high-cost, low-income, and rural health care universal service programs; Adopts performance measures for the universal service programs and for the Administrator.</p> |



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| Applications to participate in the pilot program are due sixty (60) days from the date of OMB approval of the information collection requirements. Accordingly, applicants must submit their applications to the Commission no later than May 7, 2007, Public Notice. | Public Notice , DA 07-1188 | 3/9/2007 | | The FCC announces May 7, 2007 as the deadline for RHC Pilot Program applications. |
| Applications to participate in the pilot program are due sixty (60) days from the date of OMB approval of the information collection requirements. Accordingly, applicants must submit their applications to the Commission no later than May 7, 2007, Public Notice. | Public Notice , DA 07-1188 | 3/9/2007 | | The FCC announces May 7, 2007 as the deadline for RHC Pilot Program applications. |
| The Federal Communication Commission's Pilot Program For Enhanced Access to Advanced Telecommunications and Information Services, Slides. | Slides unavailable | 2/7/2007 | | The FCC presentation on the RHC Pilot Program. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 07-6 , 22 FCC Rcd 2555 (2007) News Release | 2/6/2007 | | Grants petition filed by National LambdaRail (NLR) seeking reconsideration or, in the alternative, clarification of the FCC's order establishing a rural health care pilot program to encourage the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services throughout the nation. |
| In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 07-6 , 22 FCC Rcd 2555 (2007) News Release | 2/6/2007 | | Grants petition filed by National LambdaRail (NLR) seeking reconsideration or, in the alternative, clarification of the FCC's order establishing a rural health care pilot program to encourage the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services throughout the nation. |
| 2006 Universal Service Monitoring Report, CC Dockets 98-202 and 96-45. | DOC-269251 | 12/29/2006 | 2006 Monitoring Report | Report contains information designed to monitor the impact of various universal service support mechanisms, and the methods used to finance them. Tenth report in this series. (Data received through May 2006) |



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| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Request for Review of the Decision of the Universal Service Administrator by Thumb Cellular Limited Partnership, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order . | DA 06-2355 , 21 FCC Rcd 13539 (2006) | 11/22/2006 | | Clarifies that Section 1.4(j) of the Commission's rules provides that if the filing date falls on a holiday (Saturday, Sunday, officially recognized federal legal holidays, and any other day FCC offices are closed and not reopened prior to 5:30 pm), the document shall be filed on the next business day, regardless if program rules state specific date. Example: If rule states, "must be submitted no later than March 30 each year," and March 30 is a holiday, any filings are due the next business day (e.g., March 31 or April 1). |
| The FCC has launched a website (http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/rural/rhcp.html) that provides a consolidated source of information about the FCC's recently announced Rural Health Care Pilot Program, News Release . | News Release | 11/21/2006 | | The FCC Launches the "Rural Health Care Pilot Program" website. |
| The FCC has launched a website (http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/rural/rhcp.html) that provides a consolidated source of information about the FCC's recently announced Rural Health Care Pilot Program, News Release . | News Release | 11/21/2006 | | The FCC Launches the "Rural Health Care Pilot Program" website. |
| National LambdaRail, Inc. (NLR) filed a petition for reconsideration or, in the alternative, clarification ¹ of the Commission's Order establishing a rural health care pilot program to encourage the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services throughout the nation, Public Notice . | Public Notice , DA 06-2279 | 11/6/2006 | | The FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the petition filed by National LambdaRail, Inc. on October 30, 2006. Comment Date: 11/21/06; Reply Comment Date: 11/28/06. |



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| National LambdaRail, Inc. (NLR) filed a petition for reconsideration or, in the alternative, clarification ¹ of the Commission's Order establishing a rural health care pilot program to encourage the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services throughout the nation, Public Notice . | Public Notice , DA 06-2279 | 11/6/2006 | | The FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the petition filed by National LambdaRail, Inc. on October 30, 2006. Comment Date: 11/21/06; Reply Comment Date: 11/28/06. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . | FCC 06-144 , 21 FCC Rcd 11111 (2006) News Release | 9/29/2006 | Rural Health Care Pilot Program Order 2006 Pilot Program Order | Establishes a pilot program to help public and non-profit health care providers build state and region-wide broadband networks dedicated to the provision of health care services, and connect those networks to Internet2, a dedicated nationwide backbone. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order . | FCC 06-144 , 21 FCC Rcd 11111 (2006) News Release | 9/29/2006 | Rural Health Care Pilot Program Order 2006 Pilot Program Order | Establishes a pilot program to help public and non-profit health care providers build state and region-wide broadband networks dedicated to the provision of health care services, and connect those networks to Internet2, a dedicated nationwide backbone. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism; Lifeline and Link-Up, CC Dockets No. 96-45 and 02-6, WC Dockets No. 02-60 and 03-109, Order . | FCC 05-178 , 20 FCC Rcd 16883 (2005) | 10/14/2005 | Katrina Relief Order Hurricane Katrina Order | Katrina Relief order; takes immediate steps to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina by making available approximately \$211 million of targeted support from the Universal Service Fund for reconstruction and remediation relating to the restoration of telecommunications services. |
| Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism; Lifeline and Link-Up, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; CC Docket No. 02-6, WC Dockets No. 02-60 and 03-109, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order . | DA 05-2484 , 20 FCC Rcd 14774 (2005) | 9/21/2005 | Katrina Waiver Order | Katrina Waiver Order; waives procedural rules relating to the Universal Service Fund on an emergency interim basis; State commissions, carriers, and program beneficiaries in the affected areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama may postpone filing certain USF forms, payments and data for a period of up to one hundred and fifty (150) days. |



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| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Second Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. | FCC 04-289 , 19 FCC Rcd 24580 (2004) | 12/17/2004 | | Changes the FCC's definition of rural for the rural health care support mechanism because the definition is no longer being updated with new Census Bureau data; revises rules to expand funding for mobile rural health care services by subsidizing the difference between the rate for satellite service and the rate for an urban wireline service with a similar bandwidth; improves administrative process by establishing a fixed deadline for applications for support; permits rural health care providers in states that are entirely rural to receive support for advanced telecommunications and information services; seeks comment on whether FCC should increase the percentage discount that rural health care providers receive for Internet access and whether infrastructure development should be funded and whether to modify our rules specifically to allow mobile rural health care providers to use services other than satellite. |
| Rural Healthcare Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 04-15 , 19 FCC Rcd 883 (2004) | 1/16/2004 | | Deletes section 54.619(a)(4) requiring USAC to submit an annual report on the rural health care program on the first business day in May of each year. |
| Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. | FCC 03-288 , 18 FCC Rcd 24546 (2003) | 11/17/2003 | Rural Health Care Order | Amends Rural Health Care rules to improve the program, increase participation by rural health care providers; expands the scope of entities eligible to receive discounts, provide support for Internet access, and modifies the way in which the FCC calculates discounts to offer rural health care providers more flexibility. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, AAD/USB File No. 98-37, Order on Remand. | FCC 00-449 , 16 FCC Rcd 571 (2001) | 12/26/2000 | | Granted relief sought in the petition for declaratory ruling filed by the Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission. |



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| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Docket No. 96-45, Fourteenth Order On Reconsideration. | FCC 99-256 , 14 FCC Rcd 20106 (1999) | 11/3/1999 | | Reconsiders the FCC's conclusion that only eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) may be credited by USAC for serving eligible rural health care providers; concludes that all telecommunications carriers that provide supported services to eligible rural health care providers at a discount are entitled to have the total amount of the discount treated as a contribution to the preservation and advancement of universal service; directs USAC to apply, as a credit against a carrier's universal service contribution obligation, the amount equal to the difference between the lower, urban rate that a carrier charges eligible health care providers for supported telecommunications services and the higher, rural rates that would normally be charged to these customers. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Sixth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 97-21, Fifteenth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-45. | FCC 99-269 , 14 FCC Rcd 18756 (1999) | 11/1/1999 | | Simplifies the process for rural health care providers to receive support and permits USAC to provide support for any commercially available telecommunications service, regardless of the bandwidth; requires USAC to calculate support based upon all actual distance-based charges, unless the rural health care provider or carrier requests a more comprehensive support calculation and substantiates that request. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Twelfth Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 99-121 , 64 Fed. Reg. 30440 (1999) | 5/28/1999 | | Reconsiders FCC's decision governing the amount of money that may be collected during the second six months of 1999 and the first six months of 2000 to fund the second year of the universal service support mechanisms for schools, libraries, and rural health care providers. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Tenth Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 99-46 , 14 FCC Rcd 5983 (1999) | 4/2/1999 | | Takes steps designed to ensure that eligible schools, libraries, and rural health care providers gain access to, and receive, discounted services throughout the first funding cycle; addresses concerns raised by schools and libraries in light of the FCC's extension of the 1998-99 funding year. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Ninth Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 98-346 , 14 FCC Rcd 377 (1998) | 12/31/1998 | | Changes the funding year for the rural health care support mechanism from a calendar year cycle (January 1-December 31) to a fiscal year cycle (July 1-June 30), and extends the first funding year by six months to June 30, 1999. |



| Title and Docket(s) | Document Number/Citation | Release Date | Commonly Referred To As | Brief Description |
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| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Third Report and Order in CC Docket No. 97-21, Fourth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 97-21 and Eighth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-45. | FCC 98-306 , 13 FCC Rcd 25058 (1998) | 11/20/1998 | | Reconsiders the current organizational structure for administering the universal service support mechanisms and adopt a plan for merging the Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC) and the Rural Health Care Corporation (RHCC) into the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) by January 1, 1999; adopt specific procedures under which administrative decisions made by USAC will be reviewable by the FCC. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Fifth Order on Reconsideration and Fourth Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-45. | FCC 98-120 , 13 FCC Rcd 14915 (1998) | 6/22/1998 | Fifth Order on Reconsideration | Adjustment in funding year for schools and libraries support mechanism; collections during 1998 and the first six months of 1999; Rules of priority for the schools and libraries and rural health care support mechanisms; Level of compensation for officers and employees of the Administrative corporations; Publication of quarterly contribution factors in the Federal register |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; Access Charge Reform, Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers, Transport Rate Structure and Pricing, End User Common Line Charge, CC Docket Nos. 96-262, 94-1, 91-213, 95-72, Fourth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order in CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 96-262, 94-1, 91-213, 95-72. | FCC 97-420 corrected version, 13 FCC Rcd 5318 (1998) | 12/30/1997 | Fourth Order on Reconsideration | Clarifies or makes further findings regarding: (1) the rules governing the eligibility of carriers and other providers of supported services; (2) methods for determining levels of universal service support for carriers in rural, insular and high cost areas; (3) support for low-income consumers; (4) the rules governing the receipt of universal service support under the schools and libraries and rural health care programs; (5) the determinations of who must contribute to the new universal service support mechanisms; and (6) administration of the support mechanisms. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Third Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 97-411 , 12 FCC Rcd 22801 (1997) | 12/16/1997 | | Directs the administrator to collect only as much as required by demand, but in no event more than \$25 million per quarter for the first and second quarters of 1998 to support the rural health care support mechanism; direct the administrator to collect only as much as required by demand, but in no event more than \$625 million for the first six months of 1998, to support the schools and libraries support mechanism. |



| Title and Docket(s) | Document Number/Citation | Release Date | Commonly Referred To As | Brief Description |
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| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Third Report and Order. | FCC 97-380 , 12 FCC Rcd 22485 (1997) Errata 10/15/1997 | 10/14/1997 | Third Report and Order | Adopts a filing window period that begins on the date that the Schools and Libraries Corporation and the Rural Health Care Corporation begin to receive applications for support; concludes that the administrative corporations will determine the length of the window and resolve other administrative issues necessary to implement the FCC's decision to adopt a window filing period consistent with its guidance; amends sections 54.507(e) and 54.623(c) of FCC rules to implement this change. |
| Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., CC Docket No. 97-21, and Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration. | FCC 97-253 , 12 FCC Rcd 18400 (1997) | 7/18/1997 | Second Order on Reconsideration | Appointment of NECA as Temporary Administrator, USAC Board of Directors, Functions of USAC, Creation and Functions of High Cost and Low Income Committee, Creation of Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care Corporations, Boards of Directors of Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care Corporations, Functions of Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care Corporations. |
| Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order. | FCC 97-157 , 12 FCC Rcd 8776 (1997) DA 97-2477 , Errata, 12/3/1997, 12 FCC Rcd 22493 (1997) | 5/8/1997 | 1997 Universal Service Order First Report and Order Universal Service Report and Order | "First Report and Order". The FCC implements the mandate for universal service set forth in Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; releases the Universal Service Report and Order implementing section 254 of the Act and establishing a universal service support system that became effective on January 1, 1998. |