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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**USAC Releases First Commitments for Funding Year 2014 in the Schools and Libraries Program**

*Commitment of Over \$607 Million and Over 14,600 Applications*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will release wave one of funding commitment decision letters (FCDLs) to Funding Year 2014 (FY 2014) school and library applicants on May 15, 2014. USAC will send over 14,600 letters committing over \$607 million in universal service support. The FCDLs will notify applicants of funding commitments for Priority One services (telecommunications and Internet access) for all discount bands from 20% to 90%.

Included in this first wave are Bridges School in State Road, North Carolina; Cabot Public School District in Cabot, Arkansas; and Marian Wright Edelman Public Library of Marlboro County in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina – the first applicants to successfully file their FY2014 applications. USAC will issue waves of funding decisions each week until all decisions have been processed.

“We are extremely proud that we are helping to bring the benefits of E-rate, and especially broadband, to the schools and libraries all across our country and territories,” stated Anne Campbell, Chair of the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee.

On April 17, 2014, USAC reported to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that \$4.825 billion in requested funding has been estimated for schools and libraries seeking discounts for FY2014. This estimate is based on the dollars requested in 45,731 applications received, or postmarked, by March 26, 2014, the close of the FCC Form 471 application filing window.

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The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation designated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as the permanent administrator of the universal service fund (USF). USAC collects contributions from telecommunications carriers and administers support programs designed to help communities across the country secure access to affordable telecommunications services. Through administration of these programs, USAC provides support for high cost companies in rural areas, eligible consumers, rural health care providers, schools, and libraries. For more information, please visit: [www.usac.org](http://www.usac.org).