

Rural Health Care Program

Telecommunications Program Webinar

March 12, 2015

Welcome to the Webinar

- Provides program updates, clarification of program rules, outreach, and assistance to individual Telecom applicants and service providers
- Second Thursday of March and September
- Agenda provided one week in advance
- Submit questions and suggest agenda topics in advance to RHC-Assist@usac.org

Housekeeping

- Use the “Audio” section of your control panel to select an audio source and connect to sound
 - Turn on your computer’s speakers, or
 - Use the call-in instructions in your confirmation email
- All participants are on mute
- Submit questions at any time using the “Questions” box
- Slides attached to event reminder email and posted to the webinars web page

This is just a general overview and starting point for applicants.

- Every applicant's situation is different
- The presentation does not cover every program requirement
- The presentation does not cover requirements for service providers and consultants

It is essential to read the following documents carefully as you proceed through the planning and application process:

- The Rural Health Care Program rules, 47 C.F.R. Section 54.600-680, located at <http://www.ecfr.gov>, and

Consult the FCC and USAC websites for additional resources.

Agenda

- Funding Update
- My Portal Update
- Deadline Reminders
- Best Practices and Tips for Success
 - Service Requests and Competitive Bidding
 - Funding Requests
- Program Updates
 - FCC Clarifies Supporting Documentation Requirement
 - Service Provider Training: Request for Ideas
 - RHC On The Road

Today's Presenters

- **Annabeth Wonch**
Outreach and Customer Service
- **Erin Crawford**
Invoicing and Eligibility
- **Carolyn McCornac**
Telecommunications
- **Matt Squire**
Telecommunications

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Funding Update

Funding Update

\$400 Million Cap for Total RHC Program Funding	FY2013	FY2014
Total Commitments Requests Received	\$192,951,927	\$100,844,308
Total Commitments Made	\$177,940,871	\$26,674,583
Commitments Requests Received (Telecom Program)	\$141,191,674	\$68,011,876
Commitments Made (Telecom Program)	\$128,018,246	\$6,162,656

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My Portal Update

Change to FCC Form 465 Confirmation Step for New Applicants

- When a new applicant submits an FCC Form 465 through My Portal for the first time, the original FCC Form 465 will need to be printed, signed, and dated by the individual who submitted the form, and submitted to USAC.
- The signed hard copy of the form can be submitted by mail, or electronically by scanning and sending a PDF via to the [RHC Help Desk](#). The FCC Form 465 confirmation pop-up window has been updated to inform applicants they can submit the “wet signature” via email.

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Deadline Reminders

Telecommunications Program FY2014 Filing Calendar



Important Dates

(FY2014: 7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015)

January 1, 2014

This is the first day applicants may submit the FCC Form 465 and supporting documentation for the upcoming funding year.

March 1, 2014

This is the first day in the initial funding request filing period that applicants may submit FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation for the upcoming funding year.

May 30, 2014

This is the last day applicants may submit FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation within the initial funding request filing period for the upcoming funding year. The FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation may also be filed through the end of the funding year (June 30, 2015).

June 2, 2014

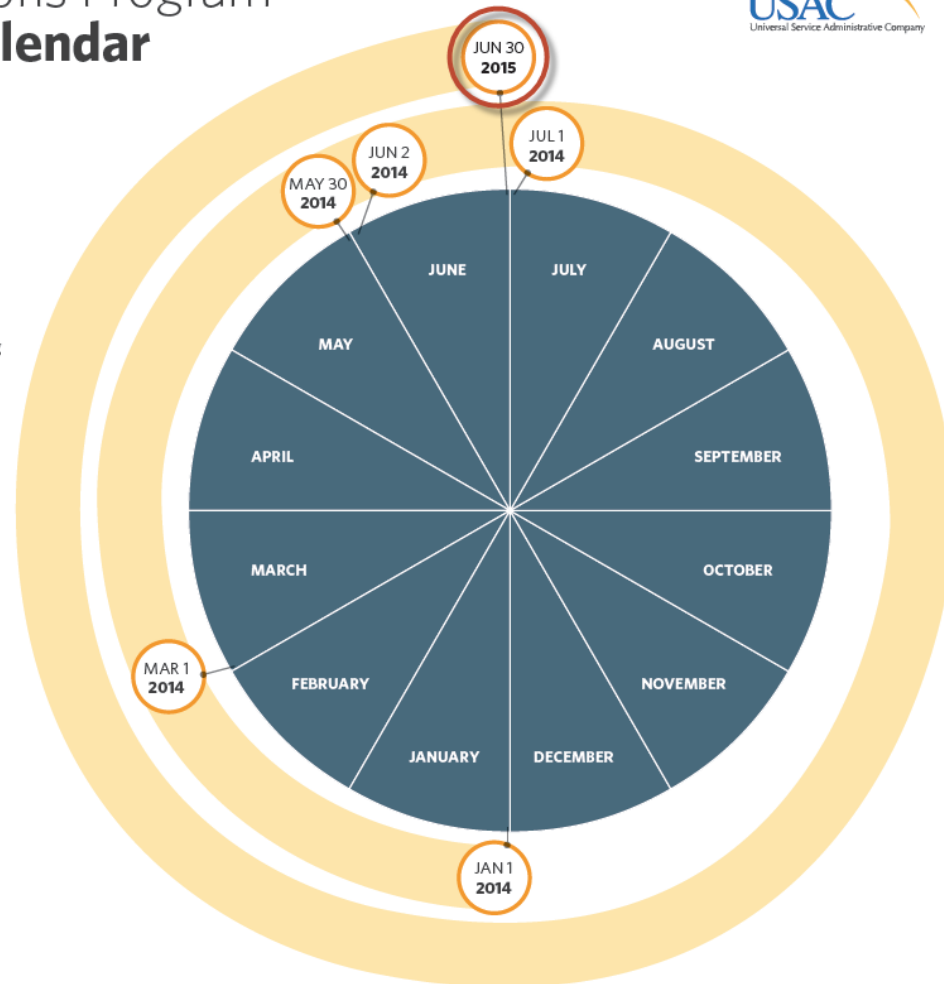
This is the deadline for posting an FCC Form 465 to receive the full 12 months of funding. Support is prorated if the FCC Form 465 is posted after this date.

July 1, 2014

This is the first day of the funding year.

June 30, 2015

This is the last day of the funding year and the deadline to submit the FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation for FY2014.



Telecommunications Program FY2015 Filing Calendar



Important Dates

(FY2014: 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016)

January 1, 2015

This is the first day applicants may submit the FCC Form 465 and supporting documentation for the upcoming funding year.

March 1, 2015

This is the first day in the initial funding request filing period that applicants may submit FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation for the upcoming funding year.

June 1, 2015*

This is the last day applicants may submit FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation within the initial funding request filing period for the upcoming funding year. The FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation may also be filed through the end of the funding year (June 30, 2016).

June 2, 2015

This is the deadline for posting an FCC Form 465 to receive the full 12 months of funding. Support is prorated if the FCC Form 465 is posted after this date.

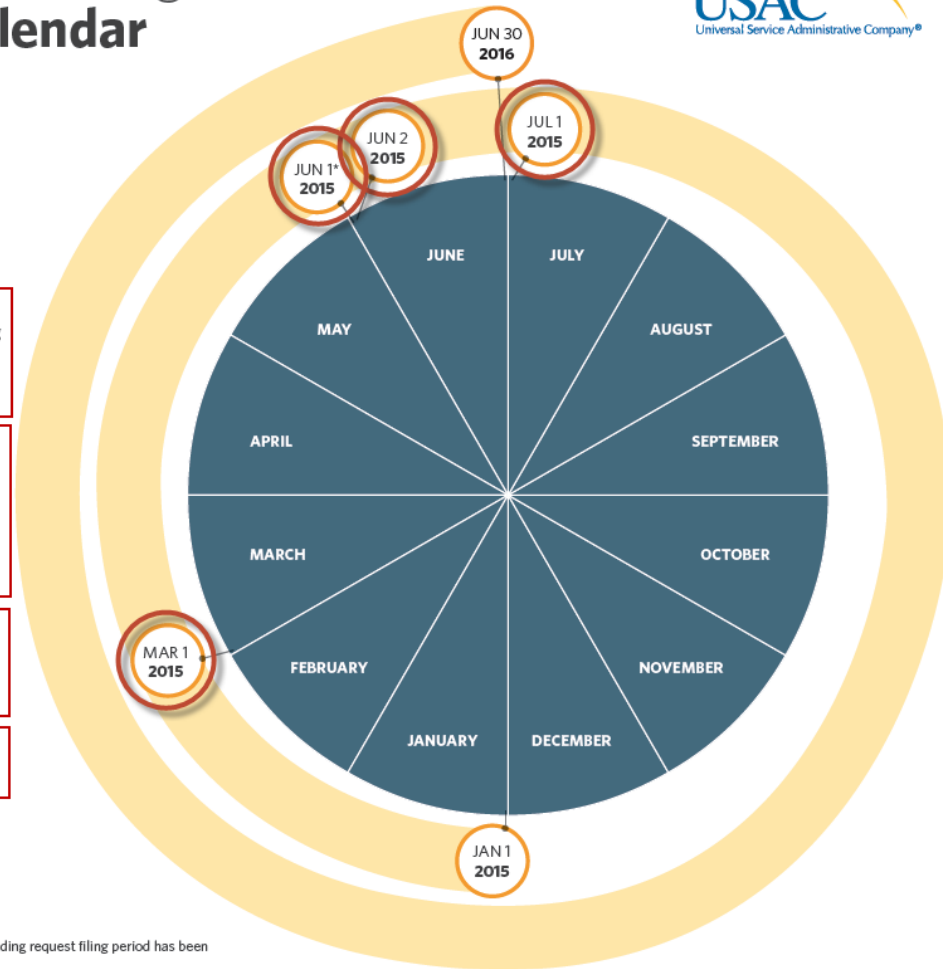
July 1, 2015

This is the first day of the funding year.

June 30, 2016

This is the last day of the funding year and the deadline to submit the FCC Form 466 and supporting documentation for FY2015.

*Due to May 30 falling on a weekend, the last day of the initial funding request filing period has been moved to the following business day.



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Service Requests & Competitive Bidding

Reminder of Deadline to File an FCC Form 465

- Filing for Fiscal Year 2014 ends at 11:59pm on June 30, 2015.
- The final day to file a FCC Form 465 for the FY2015 filing window and comply with the 28-day competitive bidding period is June 2, 2015.

When to Competitively Bid

- Applicants can submit FCC Forms 465 now.
- The posting period for the FCC Form 465 for competitive bidding is 28 days.
- The estimated processing time for an FCC Form 465 is three business days provided the form is complete and there are no changes needed.
- Telecom program applicants should competitively bid if they do not have existing contract for the site and do not have an evergreen contract

What is an Evergreen Contract?

- A contract is considered evergreen when RHC reviews and approves that the contract meets the following requirements:
 - Contract identifies both parties
 - Contract is signed and dated by the HCP or Consortium Leader after the Allowable Contract Selected Date (ACSD)
 - Contract specifies the type, term and cost of service(s)

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Funding Requests for FY2014 and FY2015

Rural Rate Charges and Documentation

- Administrative Fees are not eligible for support with the rural rate charge.

Billing Number: P2 PN9258 01 002
Account Number: 8002-417-0086
 Invoice Number: 2652330892 ORIGINAL
Invoice Date: 08-01-14
 For billing inquiries: 1-877-212-9500



Description	Monthly Charges	Prorated Charges/Credits	One-Time Charges/Credits	Taxes and Surcharges	Total
Circuit Charges					
REGULATORY/OTHER CHARGES					
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE FEE-DCS #	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53.74	\$0.66	\$54.40
FEDERAL REGULATORY FEE-DCS #	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$138.70	\$1.70	\$140.40
PROPERTY TAX ALLOTMENT-DCS #	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$247.61	\$3.05	\$250.66
UNIVERSAL CONNECTIVITY-DCS #	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,041.35	\$12.62	\$1,053.97
ACCUNET® T1.5 MBPS SERVICE					
DHEC 357496 ATI #	\$3,986.00	\$17.160	\$0.00		
Discount Plan Savings:	\$3,157.82 _F	\$17.160 _R	\$0.00		
Net Charge:	\$828.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.73	\$831.91


Rural Rate Charges and Documentation

- Eligible taxes and fees must be included on Line 33 of the FCC Form 466. These charges must be identified on the bill.


<i>SERVICES</i>			
1	NE RURAL HEALTH DISC FY 13-14		140.21 CR
1	MPLS SERVICES		.00
1	ENHANCED LOCAL CALLING AREA	Monthly Cost:	.00
1	POINT TO POINT CIRCUIT	1357.00	1,357.00
1	POINT TO POINT CIRCUIT	NE USF:	.00
1	POINT TO POINT CIRCUIT	94.31	.00
	<i>TOTAL SERVICES</i>		1,216.79
<i>SURCHARGES AND OTHER FEES</i>		Rural Rate:	
	NE UNIVERSAL SERVICE	1357.00+94.31=	
	<i>TOTAL SURCHARGES AND OTHER FEES</i>	1451.31	94.31
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>CHARGES</i>		1,311.10

Rural Rate Charges and Documentation

Line 32: Service Installation Date  

Line 33: Actual Rural Rate per Month
(Enclose Documentation) 

Attach ONLY Rural Rate Documentation. Do not upload documentation for other line items here.

 Taxes and fees need to be included on Line 33 of the FCC Form 466

- Taxes and fees that are not prorated will not be included with funding requests on Line 33 of FCC Form 466.

Rural Rate Charges and Documentation

- When multiple charges are listed, please identify the applicable rural rate charges clearly on the invoice/bill (i.e. telephone lines or circuit IDs).

Detail Of New Charges							
Service Type	Service	Non-Recurring	Line Charges	Features/OC&C	Usage	Taxes & Surcharges	Total
Local & Long Distance							
	607-431-5161 [Inside Line]	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$0.30	\$2.12	\$26.32
	607-431-5744	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$0.00	\$2.11	\$26.01
	607-432-0838	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$36.33	\$4.70	\$64.93
	607-432-0840	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$20.25	\$3.55	\$47.70
	607-432-1620 [DPA]	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$0.00	\$2.11	\$26.01
	607-432-2437	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$13.03	\$3.06	\$39.99
	607-432-5563	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$17.32	\$3.29	\$44.51
	607-432-5564	\$0.00	\$18.40	\$5.50	\$0.37	\$2.13	\$26.40
	Subtotal	\$0.00	\$147.20	\$44.00	\$87.60	\$23.07	\$301.87
	Total	\$0.00	\$147.20	\$44.00	\$87.60	\$23.07	\$301.87

8p06B


Rural Rate Charges and Documentation

Subtotal for 87/KQXX/626550/CE /MJD /	\$1,760.00	17 BELMONT 910-580	Subtotal for 10/VLXP/635045/
Service: Ethernet Virtual Connection Circuit ID: 10/VLXM/987429/EVC/MJD /			Total:
3. 20 Mbps EVC - CoS Level 0 - Standard	\$324.00		Total Internet New Charges
Subtotal for 10/VLXM/987429/EVC/MJD /	\$324.00	17 BELMONT 910-580	Non Payment of Internet charges will your Local telephone service; but un
Service: Carrier Ethernet Service Circuit ID: 87/KPXX/982750/CE /MJD /			
4. 5 Mbps Ethernet Port & Access	\$363.00		
Subtotal for 87/KPXX/982750/CE /MJD /	\$363.00	CORNERSTONE 689-580	
Service: Carrier Ethernet Service Circuit ID: 87/KPXX/982763/CE /MJD /			
5. 5 Mbps Ethernet Port & Access	\$363.00		
Subtotal for 87/KPXX/982763/CE /MJD /	\$363.00	PFM 79 MAIN PUTNEY 685-580	
Service: Carrier Ethernet Service Circuit ID: 87/KPXX/982745/CE /MJD /			

HCP xxxxx FRN 1234567

Funding Request and Contracts

- When there is an existing contract in My Portal, submit the FCC Form 466 using the My Contracts tab. This will prevent the system from generating multiple contract IDs for the same contract.

Funding Request and Contracts

MY FORMS MY DOCUMENTS **MY CONTRACTS** MY HCPS Add New HCP

Search by HCP # Search by HCP Name

	Street Address	Account Type	Account Rights	Reqs. Pending	Alert
16189	17 First Street East	Primary	Full	0	New!

MY FORMS MY DOCUMENTS **MY CONTRACTS** MY HCPS HCP Name: HCP Number: 16189

MY CONTRACTS

Evergreen Contracts

Contract Friendly Name	Service Provider	SPIN	Contract Number (if applicable)	RHC Contract Number	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiration Date	Select Circuits
	TeleQuality Communications, Inc.	143031579	HCC.TN.101112.0145	671361	Oct 11, 2012	Oct 10, 2015	<input type="button" value="Select Circuits"/>

MY FORMS MY DOCUMENTS **MY CONTRACTS** MY HCPS HCP Name: HCP Number: 16189

Fund Year	FRN List	Form Type	Service Provider	SPIN Lists	Service Type	Bandwidth	Create New Form
2013	13338291	466	TeleQuality Communications, Inc.	143031579	T1 or DS1	1.544 Mbps	<input type="button" value="Create 2014 466"/> <input type="button" value="Create 2015 466"/>
2012	12192601	466	TeleQuality Communications, Inc.	143031579	T1 or DS1	1.544 Mbps	<input type="button" value="Create 2014 466"/> <input type="button" value="Create 2015 466"/>

Urban Rate Documentation

- A tariff is acceptable to use as an urban rate document however, the tariff must be dated within five years of the funding year. For example, for FY2014 (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015) a tariff document dated January 20, 2009 is not acceptable.

AL
PTP TI

OFFICIAL APPROVED VERSION, RELEASED BY B5THQ
 PRIVATE LINE PRICE LIST

First Revised Page 5.1
 Cancels Original Page 5.1
EFFECTIVE: January 20, 2009

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1.3 Rates and Charges

A. A Digital Local Channel is furnished between a Serving Wire Center and the customer's premises. Rates are based on the airline distance between the Serving Wire Center and the customer's premises.

1. Digital Local Channel, each^{1,2}

	Nonrecurring Charge	Month to Month	24-48 Months	49-72 Months	73-96 Months	USOC
(a) (Obsoleted, See Section B107)						
(b) First 1/2 mile	\$300.00	\$120.70	\$95.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	1LDPZ (1)
(c) Each additional 1/2 mile, or fraction thereof	-	44.80	35.00	33.00	31.00	1LDPA (1)

Contracts with Multiple Locations

- When a contract covers multiple locations, please include a list of all locations (and HCP numbers if applicable) named on the contract.

Account Manager:

Date: 7/18/2013

Bandwidth/ Product Requested
Customer:

Carrier/Provider

Locations	Bandwith/ Product	MRC	NRC	Term
Main Site	50meg/MPLS	\$3,399.00	\$0.00	3 Years
623 N 9th St	3meg/MPLS	\$856.00	\$0.00	3 Years
615 N Main St	3meg/MPLS	\$747.00	\$0.00	3 Years
405 Highway 11	3meg/MPLS	\$908.00	\$0.00	3 Years
406 Rodgers Dr	3meg/MPLS	\$426.00	\$0.00	3 Years
178 Hwy 167 N	3meg/MPLS	\$489.00	\$0.00	3 Years
801 N Edmunds	3meg/MPLS	\$950.00	\$0.00	3 Years
227 Pine Bluff	3meg/MPLS	\$884.00	\$0.00	3 Years
606 West Wilbur	3meg/MPLS	\$446.00	\$0.00	3 Years
TOTAL MRC:		9,105.00		

Contracts and Bid Documentation

- When multiple bids are received from the posted FCC Form 465, weighted bid evaluation criteria must be submitted with the funding request. Criteria must add up to 100%.

Weighing Bids based on pre-determined Criteria for HCP										
Each bid is scored on a scale of 1 to 5										
Reviewer #1:										
Telecom Billing Specialist FY2012										
Criteria	Assigned Weight	DS1		DS1		DS1		DS1		
		A	Telecom	B	Telecom	C	Telecom	D	Telecom	
A	Common Carrier	3.0%	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2
B	Application of Funding	2.0%	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4
C	Monthly Invoice	3.0%	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4
D	Invoice to Hub & Designated Person Filing USAC	6.0%	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
E	One provider	10.0%	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
F	Install Urban Rate	5.0%	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
G	One Point of Contact	13.0%	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
H	Cost of Service	13.0%	3	4	3	4	4	3	3	4
I	Tier 1 Network Provider	10.0%	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4
J	Previous Experience with Service Provider	10.0%	5	3	5	3	5	3	5	3
K	# of Repair Technicians/Technical Support Personnel	13.0%	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4
L	Response Times for Repairs/Outages	12.0%	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
TOTAL		100.0%	4.1	3.92	4.1	3.92	4.59	3.79	4.1	3.92

Questions?

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Program Updates

FCC Clarifies Supporting Documentation Requirements

- Beginning in Funding Year 2015, applicants will be required to file all supporting documentation with their FCC Form 466 by the end of the funding year.

FCC Clarifies Supporting Documentation Requirements

- If a form is received without all supporting documentation, or if supporting documentation is inadequate, USAC will inform the applicant in writing and give the applicant 14 calendar days to submit the missing or relevant supporting documentation. If an applicant does not provide a timely response to USAC requests for documentation, the funding request will be denied.

Service Provider Training: Request for Ideas

- This Spring, RHC will host a special service provider training. If you have any ideas for this training or have a specific topic that you would like to learn more about, please email RHC-Assist@usac.org

Join RHC at the ATA Annual Meeting

- American Telemedicine Association Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA, May 3-5
- RHC Pre-conference Event Sunday, May 3!
 - RHC Program Feedback Session
 - [Register](#) on our website
- RHC Program exhibit
 - Booth #809

Audience Poll

Submit questions at any time
using the “Questions” box in your control panel.

Questions?

Thank You!

- Thanks for joining us at this webinar
- Sign up for reminders in the subscription center
 - Go to www.usac.org and click “subscribe” in the upper-right corner, then select the webinar
- Submit suggestions for the next webinar to RHC-Assist@usac.org
- Additional questions?
 - Email RHC-Assist@usac.org
 - Call (800) 453-1546