

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**USAC Releases First Commitments for Funding Year 2009
in the Schools and Libraries Program**

USAC Commits \$134 million in Wave One of FY2009 on Over 6,900 Applications

Washington, D.C. – The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will release wave one of funding commitment decision letters (FCDLs) to Funding Year 2009 (FY2009) school and library applicants on April 28, 2009. USAC sent over 6,931 letters committing more than \$134 million in Universal Service Fund 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 Skyline Elementary & High School, Vicksburg District Library, the Valley Library Consortium and North Cedar Community School District, the first applicants to successfully file their FY2009 applications. This first wave is among the earliest ever for the program, coming only behind the first wave issued in 2000, which was released one week earlier.

On March 10, 2009, the Schools and Libraries Division reported to the Federal Communications Commission that \$3.99 billion in requested funding has been estimated for schools and libraries seeking discounts for FY2009. This estimate is based on the dollars requested in 40,140 applications received or postmarked by February 12, 2009, the close of the Form 471 application filing window.

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About the Universal Service Administrative Company

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation designated as the permanent administrator of the Universal Service Fund by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). USAC administers the Universal Service Fund and the four universal service programs—High Cost, Low Income, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries—pursuant to the requirements of FCC rules. The Universal Service Fund helps provide communities across the country with affordable telecommunications services. For more information, please visit: www.usac.org.