Universal Service Administrative Co.

Funding Request Webinar FAQs
January 10, 2018

How do we know if our FY2017 funding request was approved for evergreen status when filing FY2018 funding requests if the FY2017 funding request has still not been approved?

The RHC Program team is still finalizing FY2017 funding decisions, therefore some applicants may be waiting for their FY2017 evergreen endorsement. (Note: when applicants do receive their funding commitment letters, their evergreen status will be shown there.) We advise applicants who are waiting for FY2017 evergreen decisions to reapply for funding in FY2018 as a precaution. Applicants should refile the FCC Form 461 or 465 and redo the competitive bidding process for FY2018. After competitive bidding is complete, when applicants fill out the FCC Form 462 or 466, we ask that they please include a cover letter that includes the HCP number(s), FRN, and contract ID from FY2017 so we can match these up. More information can be found here.

When will the urban rates be posted?

Urban rates will be posted on the USAC website prior to the filing window opening on February 1, 2018. We will be sure to include this information in the monthly RHC Program Newsletter and on the RHC Program homepage.

Are urban rate letters from the service provider no longer acceptable forms of supporting documentation in the Telecom Program?

That is correct, urban rate letters from the service provider do not count as "publically available." Private rate quotes from vendors are not permitted to show the urban rate. Per rule 54.605, urban rates must be for "functionally similar" services and "publicly available." More information about the urban and rural rates can be found here.

Is there a list of eligible equipment?

No, there is not a list of eligible equipment. In order for equipment to be eligible in the HCF Program, it must support HCF Program-funded circuits and must be necessary to make the circuit function. Further guidance can be found in the HCF Order, paragraph 162.