

## E-rate Program Applicant Training

## **Opening Remarks**

September – November 2016

#### Who is Craig Davis?

- Background
  - USAC for 12 years
  - Director, High Cost Program
  - VP, Rural Health Care
- Personal Philosophy
  - Stakeholders come first
  - How can I help



#### **FY 2016 Was Very Challenging**

- Adjusting to a New System (EPC)
- Application Process hurdles
- Two Filing periods
- Pace of Commitments
- Stakeholder information not timely available



#### **Thank You For Your**

- Patience
- Understanding
- Feedback
- Solutions
- Perseverance

#### FY 2016 Results

- There was sufficient funding to meet all demand for C1 and C2 requests and the FCC directed USAC to fully fund all eligible requests.
- To date (through Wave 13), we have issued decisions on 26,842 applications (59% of total) for over \$579.8 million.
- Direct BEAR payments to applicants.

#### **How FY 2017 Will Be A Better Experience**

- Stakeholders will be involved sooner
- We are all more familiar with the systems
- Profile already established in EPC
- FCC Form 471 applicant information pre-populated
- One filing window
- Application review will start earlier
- Funding decisions will come sooner and faster



#### **Training Agenda Highlights**

- Portal and EPC demo and benefits
- Direct BEAR payment to applicants process
- How to prepare for audits and what you need
- Fiber basics and rules you must know

#### **Training Themes**

- Partnering for Success
  - You are a part of the solution
  - You define success
- We are here to help
  - Outreach and education
  - Act on your input
- Benefits
  - Better solutions
  - Successful process changes

## **QUESTIONS?**

# Thank you!