

Attachment 8

USAC Confidentiality Agreement

This USAC Confidentiality Agreement (the “Confidentiality Agreement”) is entered into by and between the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”), the disclosing party, and _____, located at _____ (the “Receiving Party”) for the purpose of preventing the unauthorized disclosure of Confidential Information as defined below. The parties agree to enter into a confidential relationship with respect to the disclosure of certain proprietary and confidential information (“Confidential Information”).

1. The Receiving Party recognizes and acknowledges that as a potential contractor, subcontractor, consultant, agent, or other representative thereof (collectively, a “Contractor”) for the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”), it may have access to Confidential Information, as that term is defined in Appendix A to this Confidentiality Agreement.
2. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that it will treat any Confidential Information in the manner set forth in this Confidentiality Agreement. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that this obligation applies to the treatment of all Confidential Information to which it obtains access while performing services or applying to perform services on behalf of USAC, regardless of the form of the Confidential Information or the manner in which it obtains access to the Confidential Information. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that its obligations with respect to Confidential Information apply to oral and written communications, drafts and final documents, information obtained directly or indirectly if the Receiving Party obtained the information as a result of its relationship with USAC.
3. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that its obligation to treat Confidential Information in the manner set forth in this Confidentiality Agreement will continue even if it is no longer a Contractor.
4. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that it will not use Confidential Information for any purpose other than a legitimate business purpose of USAC.
5. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that, except as provided in paragraphs 6 and 7 herein or as authorized by the USAC Chief Executive Officer or the USAC General Counsel, or in either one’s absence, a respective designee, the Receiving Party will not disclose Confidential Information to any other person or entity.
6. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that this Confidentiality Agreement shall not apply to requests for Confidential Information made by an employee of the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”), except that the Receiving Party may not disclose Personally Identifiable Information (as that term is defined in Appendix A to this Confidentiality Agreement) without the express advance written approval of the USAC Chief Executive Officer or the USAC General Counsel, or in either one’s absence, a respective designee.



7. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that, subject to the notice requirement in paragraph 8 below, this Confidentiality Agreement shall not prevent disclosure of Confidential Information in response to an official request from the Comptroller General of the United States, the Government Accountability Office, or the United States Congress or a Committee or Subcommittee thereof, except that the Receiving Party may not disclose Personally Identifiable Information without the express advance written approval of the USAC Chief Executive Officer or the USAC General Counsel, or in either one's absence, a respective designee.
8. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that if it receives a subpoena or any other request or demand for Confidential Information, the Receiving Party will take all reasonable and appropriate steps such that the request is submitted within one business day of receipt, and prior to any disclosure of such information or records, to the USAC General Counsel, or in the USAC General Counsel's absence, a respective designee.
9. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that if it knows or has a reasonable basis for believing that any USAC staff person or other person or entity is using or disclosing Confidential Information in violation of this Confidentiality Agreement, it will immediately so notify the USAC General Counsel.
10. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that if it intentionally or unintentionally discloses any Confidential Information in violation of this Confidentiality Agreement, it will immediately so notify the USAC General Counsel.
11. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that if it is uncertain or has questions about its obligations under this Confidentiality Agreement, the Receiving Party will immediately seek advice from the USAC General Counsel.
12. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that any violation of this Confidentiality Agreement may subject it to disciplinary action, including suspension or termination of its relationship with USAC, and civil and criminal liability.
13. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that signing this Confidentiality Agreement is a condition of applying to perform services and/or performing services as a Contractor for USAC. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that USAC may modify this Confidentiality Agreement and require it to execute the modified version.
14. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that upon completion or termination of its relationship as a Contractor for USAC, the Receiving Party will return to the USAC General Counsel or other person designated by them, any Confidential Information in its possession.
15. The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that this Confidentiality Agreement is binding upon it as of the date of the signature of the Receiving Party, that any modification to this Confidentiality Agreement is binding on the Receiving Party as of the date that it signs such modified version, and that its obligations under the Confidentiality Agreement,



including any modifications, continue through and beyond the termination of its position as a Contractor and for as long as it has in its possession, access to, or knowledge of Confidential Information. The Receiving Party further acknowledges and agrees that USAC may, in its sole discretion, modify Appendix A and such modification(s) shall be effective and enforceable against the Receiving Party following written notice to the Receiving Party, which may be by any reasonable method, including but not limited to hand delivery, mail, courier service, email, or facsimile, and that its signature or agreement is not required for the modification to Appendix A to be effective and binding on the Receiving Party.

16. If any provision of this Confidentiality Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, that provision shall be deemed stricken and the remainder of the Confidentiality Agreement shall continue in full force and effect as if it had been executed without the invalid provision.
17. This Confidentiality Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the Laws of Washington D.C., without giving effect to the principles thereof relating to the conflicts of laws. The parties agree that the state and federal courts located in Washington D.C. shall have exclusive jurisdiction with respect to any dispute, controversy, or claim arising out of or relating to this Confidentiality Agreement.

Acknowledged and agreed:

By (signature) _____

Name (print) _____

Date _____

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT – APPENDIX A

Personally Identifiable Information is defined as information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual’s identity, either alone or when combined with other information that is linked or linkable to a specific individual.

Confidential Information is defined as:

1. Information, data, material, or communications in any form or format, whether tangible or intangible, including notes, analyses, data, compilations, studies, or interpretations (collectively referred to hereafter as “information”) and any data, material or communications in any form or format, whether tangible or intangible, that contains, reflects, or is derived from or based upon any information or is related to internal USAC management matters, including but not limited to USAC program integrity procedures, if disclosure is reasonably likely to interfere with or prejudice the performance of the internal USAC management functions.
2. Information related to the development of statements of work or evaluation criteria for USAC or Commission procurements, contractor bids or proposals, evaluation of bidders or offerors, selection of contractors, or the negotiation of contracts.
3. Information that is excluded by applicable statute or regulation from disclosure, provided that such statute (a) requires that the information be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (b) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of information to be withheld. Such information includes copyrighted or trademarked information.
4. Information containing trade secrets or commercial, financial or technical information that (a) identifies company-specific (i.e., non-aggregated) proprietary business information about a Universal Service Fund (USF) contributor (or a potential contributor) or its parent, subsidiary, or affiliate, and (b) has not previously been made publicly available.
5. Information concerning USAC relationships with financial institutions, including but not limited to, account locations, identifiers, balances, transaction activity and other account information and any advice or guidance received from such institutions.
6. Information regarding or submitted in connection with an audit or investigation of a USF contributor, potential USF contributor, USF beneficiary, applicant for USF support, or USAC Staff Person.
7. Information to which USAC, the Commission, or any other government agency might assert a claim of privilege or confidentiality, including but not limited to attorney-client communications, information that constitutes work product or reflects USAC, Commission or other government agency decision-making processes, including law enforcement



investigations and program compliance matters. Such information includes but is not limited to internal USAC information, information exchanged between USAC and the Commission or another government agency, and information exchanged between two or more government agencies in any form, including but not limited to letters, memoranda, draft settlement documents, and working papers of USAC, the Commission, other government agencies, and their respective staff.

8. Information that was submitted with a corresponding written request for confidential treatment, protection, or nondisclosure, including, but not limited to, submissions marked “proprietary,” “privileged,” “not for public disclosure,” or “market sensitive information,” unless and until such request is denied.
9. Information developed in security investigations. Such information is the property of the investigative agency and may not be made available for public inspection without the consent of the investigative agency.