

USAC

ACP – July 2022 Newsletter

July 29, 2022

FCC Releases Public Drafts of ACP Federal Housing Assistance Pilot and Outreach Grant Program Orders

On July 15, the FCC released public drafts of the <u>ACP Outreach Grant Program Order</u> and <u>ACP Federal Housing</u> <u>Assistance Pilot Order</u>. These items are tentatively on the agenda for the <u>August Open Commission Meeting</u> scheduled for Friday, August 5, 2022.

The <u>ACP Outreach Grant Program Order</u> (Outreach Grant Program) intends to provide eligible governmental and non-governmental entities funding to conduct outreach to increase awareness of and encourage participation in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

The <u>ACP Federal Housing Assistance Pilot Order</u> would establish a one-year "Your Home, Your Internet" Pilot Program with the goal of increasing awareness of the ACP among recipients of federal housing assistance and facilitating enrollment in the ACP by providing targeted assistance with the ACP application.

For more details on the draft orders, please refer to the bulletin USAC released on July 25.

ACP Recertification

USAC-conducted ACP recertification will begin in August 2022. On July 20, USAC hosted a training on the USACconducted ACP recertification process. To view the webinar recording and learn more about ACP recertification please visit USAC's <u>Webinars</u> page. USAC will release a bulletin in the upcoming weeks with more detail for providers on recertification.

FCC Notice of Inquiry

On July 14, 2022, the FCC adopted a <u>notice of inquiry</u> (NOI) to evaluate steps it could take using the ACP or Lifeline programs to assist survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, intimate partner violence, human trafficking, or stalking. The NOI seeks comment on whether these survivors currently lack the ability to fully utilize these programs and seeks a better understanding of whether and how these programs might be modified to support survivors. Comments for the NOI are due by August 18, 2022 and reply comments are due by September 19, 2022.

ACP Application and Household Worksheet Instructions

On July 27, USAC released updated instructions consumers can use to complete the ACP Application and Household Worksheet. The instructions are also available in nine other languages including: Arabic, Chinese-Simplified, French,

Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Find these instructions on the <u>Tools</u> page on <u>AffordableConnectivity.gov</u>.

Update ACP Contact Information on Consumer Materials

Service providers are encouraged to update any consumer outreach materials that include outdated contact information previously used for the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program. Providers should use the contact information below when referring consumers to the ACP Support Center:

- Email: <u>ACPSupport@usac.org</u>
- Call: (877) 384-2575

Outreach & Trainings

USAC will continue to distribute bulletins and conduct trainings to help service providers and other program participants understand the ACP Order and its effect on current and new program processes. USAC will also continue to update its <u>ACP service provider web content</u> to reflect updated ACP rules and processes. Find upcoming trainings and other resources on the <u>ACP Learn</u> page on USAC's website.

Need Help? Contact Us!

For questions about the Affordable Connectivity Program, service providers can visit <u>USAC.org</u> and consumers should visit <u>AffordableConnectivity.gov</u>. For general program support, service providers should email <u>ACProgram@usac.org</u> and consumers should email <u>ACPSupport@usac.org</u>. Both providers and consumers may also call ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575 for assistance.

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