



Schools & Libraries Committee

Briefing Book

Monday, October 27, 2025

3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Eastern Time

Available For Public Use

Universal Service Administrative Company

700 12th Street, N.W., Suite 900

Washington, D.C. 20005

**Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Committee
Quarterly Meeting
Agenda**

**Monday, October 27, 2025
3:00 – 3:45 p.m. Eastern Time
USAC Offices
700 12th Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005**

<u>OPEN SESSION</u> Available for Public Use		<i>Estimated Duration in Minutes</i>
Chair	a1. Consent Items (each available for discussion upon request): A. Approval of Schools & Libraries Committee Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2025 B. Approval of moving all <i>Executive Session</i> items into <i>Executive Session</i>	2
Craig	a2. Approval of Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism 1st Quarter 2026 Programmatic Budget and Demand Projection for the October 31, 2025, FCC Filing	5
Craig	a3. Consideration of Funding Year 2026 Filing Window Dates	5
Craig	i1. E-Rate Business Update • Funding Year 2025 Commitment Results • Q3 2025 Accomplishment • Funding Year 2026 Readiness • Q4 2025 Plans • Cybersecurity Pilot Program Update	20

<u>INFORMATION ONLY</u> Available for Public Use		<i>Estimated Duration in Minutes</i>
Craig	i2. E-Rate Business Update (<i>Continued</i>) • Roadmap • Appendix A. Program Metrics • Appendix B. Glossary of Terms	—
Teleshia	i3. Information on Fourteen USAC Audit and Assurance Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Reports	—

<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u> <i>Executive Session Recommended</i>		<i>Estimated Duration in Minutes</i>
Craig	i4. E-Rate Business Update (<i>Continued</i>)	10

	<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION – INFORMATION ONLY</u> <i>Executive Session Recommended</i>	<i>Estimated Duration in Minutes</i>
Craig	i5. Information on Two Confidential USAC Audit and Assurance Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Reports	–

Next Scheduled USAC Schools & Libraries Committee Meeting

Monday, January 26, 2026 USAC Offices, Washington, D.C.
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**Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Committee Meeting**

ACTION ITEM

Consent Items

Action Requested

The Schools & Libraries Committee (Committee) of the USAC Board of Directors (Board) is requested to approve the consent items listed below.

Discussion

The Committee is requested to approve the following items using the consent resolution below:

- A. Approval of Committee meeting minutes of July 28, 2025 (*see Attachment A*)
- B. Approval of moving *Executive Session* items into *Executive Session*:
 - (1) **i4.** E-Rate Business Update (*Continued*). USAC management recommends that this matter be discussed in *Executive Session* because it relates to *specific internal controls or confidential company data* that would constitute a discussion of internal rules and procedures.
 - (2) **i5.** Information on Two Confidential USAC Audit and Assurance Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Reports. USAC management recommends that this item be discussed in *Executive Session* because it relates to *specific internal controls or confidential company data* that would constitute a discussion of internal rules and procedures.

Upon request of a Committee member, the above items are available for discussion by the Committee.

Recommended USAC Schools & Libraries Committee Action

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLVED, that the Schools & Libraries Committee of the USAC Board of Directors hereby approves: (1) the Committee meeting minutes of July 28, 2025; and (2) discussion in *Executive Session* of the items noted above.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY
700 12th Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005

SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, July 28, 2025

(Draft) MINUTES¹

The quarterly meeting of the Schools & Libraries Committee (Committee) of the USAC Board of Directors (Board) was held at USAC's offices in Washington, D.C. on Monday, July 28, 2025. Amber Gregory, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, with a quorum of six of the 10 Committee members present:

Chalk, Indra	Schell, Julie Tritt
Dalhover, Brian	Sekar, Radha
Gregory, Amber – Chair	Wade, Dr. Joan – Vice Chair – <i>by telephone</i>

Ms. Mona Thompson joined the meeting *by telephone* at 11:02 a.m. ET. She did not vote on item a1. Mr. David Schuler joined the meeting *by telephone* at 11:08 a.m. ET. He did not vote on or participate in the discussion of items a1 and a2.

Members of the Committee not present:

Chacko, Sheba
Sanquist, Christine

Other Board members and officers of the corporation present:

Beyerhelm, Chris – Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer
Butler, Stephen – Vice President of Shared Services
Davis, Craig – Vice President of Schools and Libraries
Delmar, Teleshia – Vice President of Audit and Assurance
Freeman, Sarah – Member of the Board – *by telephone*
Gaither, Victor – Vice President of High Cost – *by telephone*
Garber, Michelle – Vice President of Finance, Chief Financial Officer, and
Assistant Treasurer
Green, Anisa – Member of the Board

¹ Draft resolutions were presented to the Committee prior to the Committee meeting. Where appropriate, non-substantive changes have been made to the resolutions set forth herein to clarify language, or to correct grammatical or spelling errors.

Action Item #aSL01 10/27/2025

Attachment A

Minutes of July 28, 2025

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Hutchinson, Kyle – Vice President of IT and Chief Information Officer
 Kettwich, Dan – Member of the Board
 Mason, Ken – Member of the Board
 O'Brien, Tim – Vice President of Lifeline
 Sweeney, Mark – Vice President of Rural Health Care
 Waller, Jeffery – Member of the Board – *by telephone*
 Wein, Olivia – Member of the Board
 Williams, Erin – Vice President, General Counsel, and Assistant Secretary

Others present:

NAME**COMPANY**

Achacoso, Sarah – *by telephone*
 Aldridge, Mary – *by telephone*
 Allison, Sarah
 Ayer, Catriona
 Babin, Hunter – *by telephone*
 Bauman, Sarah – *by telephone*
 Benham, Cathy – *by telephone*
 Bettelyoun, Shawanna – *by telephone*
 Campos, Rosy – *by telephone*
 Borg, Jeanenne
 Braxton, Carolyn
 Calhoun, Mitch
 Carroll, Kathy – *by telephone*
 Claxton, Naomi
 Cleveland, John – *by telephone*
 Corra, Kristen – *by telephone*

Kellogg & Sovereign LLC
 West Virginia Department of Education
 USAC
 USAC
 TCI
 Utah Education and Telehealth Network
 CSM Consulting, Inc
 E-Rate & Educational Services, LLC
 Federal Funding Advisor, LLC
 USAC
 USAC
 USAC
 Federal Funding Advisor, LLC
 USAC
 Federal Funding Advisor, LLC
 Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband
 Coalition
 Southern Ohio Health Care Network
 Epic Communications
 USAC
 State Library of Iowa
 Education Plus LLC
 USAC
 E-Rate Online, LLC
 USAC
 Infinity Communications
 Federal Funding Group
 E-Rate Central
 Hoover Technology Consulting, LLC
 CMS Consulting, Inc.
 KB & Associates, LLC

Corriher, Kim – *by telephone*
 Enos, Rosemary – *by telephone*
 Faunce, Donna
 Frazier, Trish – *by telephone*
 Germann, Lorrie – *by telephone*
 Goode, Vernell
 Grimmer, Brian – *by telephone*
 Havivi, Daniel – *by telephone*
 Herring, Corinna – *by telephone*
 Hines, Tracy – *by telephone*
 Hofmann, Kerri – *by telephone*
 Hoover, Roy – *by telephone*
 Josephs, Fred – *by telephone*
 Kerr, James – *by telephone*

Action Item #aSL01 10/27/2025

Attachment A

Minutes of July 28, 2025

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NAME**COMPANY**

Kerr, Mia – <i>by telephone</i>	KB & Associates, LLC
King, Ryan	USAC
Kriete, Debra – <i>by telephone</i>	South Dakota Department of Education
Martin, Rebecca – <i>by telephone</i>	Sound E-Rate
McGahagan, Annemarie – <i>by telephone</i>	Institute for Digital Health & Innovation –
	UAMS-e-Link
Morales, Eduardo – <i>by telephone</i>	E-RATE ONLINE
Morgan, Meredith	USAC
Morris, Christine – <i>by telephone</i>	Ohio Public Library Information Network
Nuzzo, Patsy	USAC
Old Crow, Alexa – <i>by telephone</i>	Funds for Learning
Rovetto, Ed	USAC
Rutledge, Karen – <i>by telephone</i>	AdTec, Inc.
Sadirkhanova, Sabina – <i>by telephone</i>	USAC
Schrader, Theresa – <i>by telephone</i>	Broadband Legal Strategies, LLC
Smith, Chris	USAC
Starker, Ian – <i>by telephone</i>	GCI
Staurulakis, Chresanthe	USAC
Tennyson, Janelle – <i>by telephone</i>	Cisco
Turner, Trey – <i>by telephone</i>	Espy Services
Vadas Gregory	FCC
Vander Horst, Frank – <i>by telephone</i>	Yavapai County Education Service Agency
Wallace, Michael – <i>by telephone</i>	University of Arkansas for Medical Science-
	Institute for Digital Health & Innovation
Whalen, Taylor – <i>by telephone</i>	ProInfoNet
Yarman, Don – <i>by telephone</i>	Ohio Public Library Information Network

OPEN SESSION

All materials from ***Open Session*** can be found on the [USAC website](#).

a1. Consent Items. Ms. Gregory presented this item for consideration.

A. Approval of Schools and Libraries Committee meeting minutes of April 28, 2025.

B. Approval of moving all ***Executive Session*** items into ***Executive Session***:

- (1) **i4.** Information on One USAC Audit and Assurance Audit Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Report. USAC management recommends that this item be

discussed in *Executive Session* because it relates to ***specific internal controls and/or confidential company data*** that would constitute a discussion of internal rules and procedures.

- (2) **a3.** Consideration of a Contract Award for Schools and Libraries (E-Rate) Business Processing Outsourcing Services. USAC management recommends that this item be discussed in *Executive Session* because this matter relates to USAC's ***procurement strategy and contract administration***.
- (3) **i5.** E-Rate Business Update (*Continued, if needed*). USAC management recommends that this item be discussed in *Executive Session* because it relates to ***specific internal controls and/or confidential company data*** that would constitute a discussion of internal rules and procedures.

On a motion duly made and seconded, and after discussion, the Committee adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, that the Schools & Libraries Committee of the USAC Board of Directors hereby approves: (1) the Committee meeting minutes of April 28, 2025; and (2) discussion in *Executive Session* of the items noted above.

- a2. Approval of Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism 4th Quarter 2025 Programmatic Budget and Demand Projection for the August 1, 2025, FCC Filing.** Mr. Davis presented this item for consideration. The presentation included a written report on USAC management's recommendations for the Schools and Libraries Mechanism 4th Quarter 2025 programmatic budget and demand projection for the August 1, 2025, FCC Filing.

On a motion duly made and seconded, and after discussion, the Committee adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee approves a 4th Quarter 2025 Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism direct program budget of \$9.53 million and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee directs USAC staff to submit a collection requirement of \$9.53 million for Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism administrative costs in the required August 1, 2025 filing to the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of the Committee; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee, having reviewed at its meeting on July 28, 2025, the 4th Quarter 2025 Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism demand estimate of \$651.89 million, hereby directs USAC staff to proceed with the required August 1, 2025, filing to the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of the Committee. USAC staff may make adjustments if the total variance for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism is equal to or less than \$10 million or may seek approval from the Committee Chair to make adjustments if the total variance is greater than \$10 million, but not more than \$25 million.

- i1. E-Rate Business Update.** Mr. Davis presented PowerPoint slides to the Committee covering the following items:
 - Q2 2025 Accomplishments
 - Q3 2025 Plans
 - Cybersecurity Pilot Program Update
- i2. E-Rate Business Update (*Continued*).** This item was provided for *information purposes only*. No discussion was held. Ms. Gregory noted that the Schools and Libraries materials listed below would be made public and posted to the USAC website.
 - Roadmap
 - Appendix A: Program Metrics
 - Appendix B: Glossary of Terms
- i3. Information on 17 USAC Audit and Assurance Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Reports.** This item was provided for *information purposes only*. No discussion was held. Ms. Gregory noted that the Schools and Libraries Audit Briefing Book would be made public and posted to the USAC website.

At 11:31 a.m. Eastern Time, on a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee moved into ***Executive Session*** for the purpose of discussing confidential items. Only members of the Board, FCC, and USAC staff were present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- i4. Information on One USAC Audit and Assurance Division Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism Beneficiary Audit Report.** This item was provided for *information purposes only*. No discussion was held.
- a3 Consideration of Contract Award for Schools and Libraries (E-Rate) Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Services.** Mr. Beyerhelm

presented this item to the Committee recommending a contract award for E-Rate Business Process Outsourcing Services.

On a motion duly made and seconded, and after discussion, the Committee adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Schools and Libraries Committee of the USAC Board of Directors, having reviewed the recommendation of USAC management, authorizes USAC management to award a contract for E-Rate Business Process Outsourcing Services to Ernst & Young LLP, subject to required Federal Communications Commission approval. The contract will be firm-fixed price (FFP) for a total not-to-exceed (NTE) amount of \$17,555,412.47 (plus applicable taxes) over a fifteen (15) month base term consisting of a three (3) month stand-up period followed by a twelve (12) month period of performance, with the ability to exercise four (4) additional one-year option terms with an overall NTE price amount of \$73,356,104.23. Exercise of options to extend the contract beyond the initial fifteen (15) month base term are subject to additional required FCC and Committee approvals.

- i5. **E-Rate Business Update.** Mr. Davis provided an update on the Cybersecurity Pilot Program and Wi-Fi on Buses.

OPEN SESSION

At 12:07 p.m. Eastern Time, the Committee moved out of *Executive Session* and immediately reconvened in *Open Session*, at which time Ms. Gregory reported that, in *Executive Session*, the Committee voted on item a3 and discussed item 15.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee adjourned at 12:07 p.m. Eastern Time.

/s/ Erin Williams
Assistant Secretary

**Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Committee Meeting**

ACTION ITEM

**Approval of Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism
1st Quarter 2026 Programmatic Budget and
Demand Projection for October 31, 2025, FCC Filing**

Action Requested

The Schools & Libraries Committee (Committee) of the USAC Board of Directors (Board) is requested to approve a 1st Quarter 2026 (Q1 2026) programmatic budget and demand projection for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism for submission to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in USAC's October 31, 2025, quarterly filing.

Discussion

On a quarterly basis, USAC is required to submit to the FCC each program's budget¹ and projected demand for the upcoming quarter.²

Funding Requirement

USAC estimates the Q1 2026 funding requirement for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism as follows:

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¹ See 47 C.F.R. § 54.715(c).

² See 47 C.F.R. § 54.709(a)(3).

Table A. Program Funding Requirement

<i>(in millions)</i>	Q4 2025	Increase/ (Decrease)	Q1 2026	Notes
Steady State:				
Program Funding Requirement	\$528.68	\$100.00	\$628.68	See Notes 1 and 2, and Table B
New Requirements:				
N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Funding Requirement	\$528.68	\$100.00	\$628.68	
Prior Period Adjustments (difference between projections and actuals):				
Billings	\$5.21	\$1.47	\$6.68	
Interest Income	(0.16)	0.00	(0.16)	
Bad Debt Expense	(4.44)	(1.59)	(6.03)	
Total Prior Period Adjustments	\$0.61	(\$0.12)	\$0.49	
USAC Administrative Expenses	\$22.60	(\$2.84)	\$19.76	See Table C
Total Funding Requirement	\$551.89	\$97.04	\$648.93	

Note 1: The Program Funding Requirement represents one-quarter of the collections required to meet the projected demand for Funding Year 2025 of \$3,014.72 million, net of adjustments for denials and cancellations. Per FCC guidance, USAC originally carried forward \$500 million to Funding Year 2025. Based on further guidance provided by the FCC in September 2025, USAC applied an additional \$100 million in unused Schools & Libraries (E-Rate) program funds to offset the \$628.68 million projected E-Rate program demand for Q4 2025. See Table B below for additional details.

Note 2: Table B is an annual schedule that is typically updated once a year for the April Board meeting. This table has been updated to reflect the additional \$100 million in unused funds applied to Q4 2025 demand.

Table B. Funding Year 2025 Program Funding Requirement and Roll Forward

<i>(in millions)</i>	Fund Year 2025
Total Requested (In Window)	\$3,224.72
Decrease for Denials/Cancellations (based on 5 yr. average)	(303.71)
Increase for Out of Window Apps (based on 5 yr. average)	93.71
Estimated Demand	\$3,014.72
Less Roll Forward Available to Offset Collections	
Remaining Available Funds from Prior Fund Year	\$550.12
Reserved Funds, Net Change	
a. Pending Applications to Process	(32.47)
b. Unliquidated Obligations (ULOs)	57.97
c. Appeals Reserve - USAC Appeals	47.24
d. Appeals Reserve - FCC Appeals	(22.87)
e. Reserve for future use (per FCC guidance)	0.00
f. Unpaid Invoices	0.00
Total Roll Forward	\$600.00
Funding Year 2025 Collection Requirement	\$2,414.72

Based on the projected burn rate, USAC estimates the following Q1 2026 programmatic budget:

Table C. Quarterly Programmatic Budget

<i>(in millions)</i>	Q4 2025 Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	Q1 2026 Budget	Notes
Direct Program Costs				
Employee Expenses	\$2.74	(\$0.55)	\$2.19	
Professional Services	3.39	0.12	3.51	
General & Administrative	0.00	0.00	0.00	See Note 3
Total Direct Program Costs	\$6.13	(\$0.43)	\$5.70	
Direct Assigned Costs				
Employee Expenses	\$0.98	(\$0.04)	\$0.94	
Professional Services	1.81	(0.02)	1.79	
General & Administrative	0.61	0.07	0.68	See Note 3
Total Direct Assigned Costs	\$3.40	\$0.01	\$3.41	
Total Direct Program & Direct Assigned Costs	\$9.53	(\$0.42)	\$9.11	
Common Allocated Costs	\$13.07	(\$2.42)	\$10.65	
Total Programmatic Budget	\$22.60	(\$2.84)	\$19.76	

Note 3: General & Administrative expenses include computer support & maintenance and meetings & conferences.

A comparison of actual expenditures to the budget for the nine months ending September 30, 2025, is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Recommendation

USAC management recommends that the Committee approve the Q1 2026 budget and projection of demand as proposed.

Recommended Schools & Libraries Committee Actions

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLVED, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee approves a 1st Quarter 2026 Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism direct program budget of \$9.11 million and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee directs USAC staff to submit a collection requirement of \$9.11 million for Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism administrative costs in the required October 31, 2025 filing to the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of the Committee; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee, having reviewed at its meeting on October 27, 2025, the 1st Quarter 2026 Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism demand estimate of \$648.93 million, hereby directs USAC staff to proceed with the required October 31, 2025, filing to the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of the Committee. USAC staff may make adjustments if the total variance for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism is equal to or less than \$10 million or may seek approval from the Committee Chair to make adjustments if the total variance is greater than \$10 million, but not more than \$25 million.

ATTACHMENT 1

Schools and Libraries Administrative Costs and Headcount
Comparison of Actual Expenditures and Headcount to the Budget for the
Nine Months Ending September 30, 2025

<i>(\$ in millions)</i>	FTE Actual	FTE Budget	FTE Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Direct Program Costs						
Employee Expenses	60	67	7	\$6.65	\$7.09	\$0.44
Professional Services (Note 4)				11.98	12.61	0.63
General & Administrative (Note 5)				0.02	0.02	0.00
Total Direct Program Costs				\$18.65	\$19.72	\$1.07
Direct Assigned Costs						
Employee Expenses	20	18	(2)	\$2.79	\$2.66	(\$0.13)
Professional Services (Note 4)				6.48	5.27	(1.21)
General & Administrative (Note 5)				2.17	1.68	(0.49)
Total Direct Assigned Costs				\$11.44	\$9.61	(\$1.83)
Total Direct Program & Direct Assigned Costs	80	85	5	\$30.09	\$29.33	(\$0.76)
Common Allocated Costs (Note 6)				\$31.70	\$35.90	\$4.20
Total Programmatic Budget				\$61.79	\$65.23	\$3.44

Note 4: Direct Program Professional Services include business process outsourcing (BPO). Direct Assigned Professional Services include E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) operations & maintenance, beneficiary & contributor audit program audits, and IT contract labor.

Note 5: General & Administrative expenses include computer support & maintenance, printing & postage, and meetings & conferences.

Note 6: Common costs include costs not directly attributable to a program and are allocated based on the Cost Allocation Methodology, which allocates costs based 50% on direct program costs in the prior year and 50% on program demand in the prior year. Actual common allocated costs reflect a reduction for costs allocated to the appropriated programs.

**Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Committee Meeting**

ACTION ITEM

Consideration of Funding Year 2026 Application Filing Window Dates

Action Requested

The Schools & Libraries Committee (Committee) of the USAC Board of Directors (Board) is requested to authorize USAC to open the Funding Year (FY) 2026 FCC Form 471 application filing window no earlier than January 2026, and to close the window no earlier than March 2026.

Discussion

A Funding Year 2026 filing window, opening no earlier than January 2026 and closing no earlier than March 2026, will provide a reasonable time period for applicants to submit their FCC Form 471 funding applications. The application filing window has typically been opened in the first quarter of the calendar year, which strikes a balance between giving applicants time to complete their competitive bidding reviews and providing USAC time to review the applications so that funding decisions can be issued before the school year starts. We used this same timeframe for FY2025, and USAC was able to issue funding commitments for over 96.1 percent of workable applications by September 1, 2025. While many factors play a role in the timely issuance of funding decisions, a key factor in past funding years has been opening and closing the application filing window in the first quarter.

USAC is requesting approval to open the FY2026 application filing window no earlier than January 2026, and to close the window no earlier than March 2026. This timeframe aligns with the FCC Form 471 application filing window dates over the past few years and will help USAC to issue timely funding commitments.

Section 54.502(f) of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) rules mandates that the application filing window cannot open until at least sixty (60) days after the release of the Eligible Services List (ESL) by the FCC.¹ The FCC issued a public notice seeking comments on the proposed Funding Year 2026 ESL on September 30, 2025.² The FCC had not issued the FY2025 ESL as of October 27, 2025.

USAC management recommends that the Committee approve the requests discussed in this briefing paper, subject to the requirements of sections 54.502(f) and 54.507(c) of the FCC's rules.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.502(f).

² See *Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment on Proposed Eligible Services List for the E-Rate Program*, WC Docket No. 13-184, Public Notice, DA 25-921 (Sep. 30, 2025).

Recommended Schools & Libraries Committee Action

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLVED, that the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee accepts the recommendation of USAC management to open the Funding Year 2026 application filing window no earlier than January 2026 and to close the Funding Year 2026 FCC Form 471 application filing window no earlier than March 2026, subject to the requirements of sections 54.502(f) and 54.507(c) of the FCC's rules; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that upon consultation with the Committee Chair, USAC management is authorized to adjust the Funding Year 2026 application filing window opening and closing dates, as circumstances may warrant and in accordance with section 54.507(c) of the FCC's rules.



Schools and Libraries Committee

E-Rate Business Update

Open Session

October 27, 2025

Agenda

- Funding Year (FY) 2025 Commitment Results
- Q3 2025 Accomplishments
- FY2026 Readiness
- Q4 2025 Plans
- Cybersecurity Pilot Program Update

Funding Year 2025 Commitment Results

- FY 2025 Administration: Processed 90.8 percent (34,864 of 38,407) of FY2025 applications and 68 percent of requested dollars (\$2,259 million of \$3,331 million).
 - 86.4 percent of Fiber applications completed (1,121 of 1,297); 55.6 percent of requested dollars reviewed (\$176.8 million of \$318.2 million).
 - 77.1 percent of Consortia applications completed (1,518 of 1,968); 30 percent of requested dollars reviewed (\$117.3 million of \$396 million).
 - 466 Tribal applications submitted in FY 2025 requesting \$83.7 million; 373 Tribal applications committed for \$33.3 million.

Q3 2025 Accomplishments

- Authorized disbursements of \$674 million for all funding years in Q3 2025 compared with \$710.8 million in Q3 2024.
- Training and Outreach
 - USAC staff attended the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 17-20, 2025, to provide school and library applicants with opportunities to ask questions about program requirements for FY2026.
 - USAC held its first 2025 in-person training September 9 in Denver and subsequently in Washington, D.C. on September 16 with over 400 attendees for both including 200 virtual participants for the D.C. session. The sessions covered current topics in the E-Rate life cycle including submitting FCC Form 471 applications for FY2026, the PIA review and selective review processes, responding to PIA inquiries, and next steps after receiving a positive funding decision from USAC.
 - USAC held four webinars in Q3 2025 including two Open Data sessions and two fall training sessions covering E-Rate overview and the pre-commitment process.

FY2026 Readiness

- FY2026 FCC Form 471 Filing Window Preparations
 - Opened administrative window October 15 ahead of FY2026 window to allow for entity updates
 - EPC system updates for FY2026
- Training and Outreach
 - Conduct training for FY2026 in the fourth quarter
 - Continue Tribal Library E-Rate Assistance Program (T-LEAP) outreach activities
- Administrative Preparations in Progress
 - Deployed FY2026 FCC Form 470 on July 1 (complete)
 - Category Two (C2) budget updates for FY2026-2030 cycle
 - Eligible Services List
 - PIA procedure updates for FY2026
 - FY2026 window filing date approvals

Q4 2025 Plans

- FY2025 Administration
 - Continue work to complete reviews of all workable E-Rate FCC Form 471 applications by December 31.
- Continue processing prior-year applications, appeals, commitment adjustments, and other program transactions.
- Continue deploying enhancements to invoicing and post-commitment functions in EPC.
- Assist Tribal Library Pilot Program applicants during the review process and help applicants understand and comply with newly established rules for participation in E-Rate.
- Q4 2025 Training
 - Deliver on 2025 E-Rate training plan, including fall training webinars (Category Two Budgets, EPC Admin Window, Post-Commitment, and Invoicing), and filing window training to prepare for FY2026 window opening in January 2026.

Cybersecurity Pilot Program Update

- The FCC Form 484 Part 1 application filing window was open from Sept. 17 to Nov. 1, 2024.
 - USAC received 2,729 applications requesting more than \$3.8 billion.
 - The FCC selected 707 applicants to proceed to the next phase of the Pilot Program (submitting Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2). Seventeen applicants have withdrawn their projects.
 - 654 Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 applications have been submitted.





Schools and Libraries Committee

E-Rate Business Update

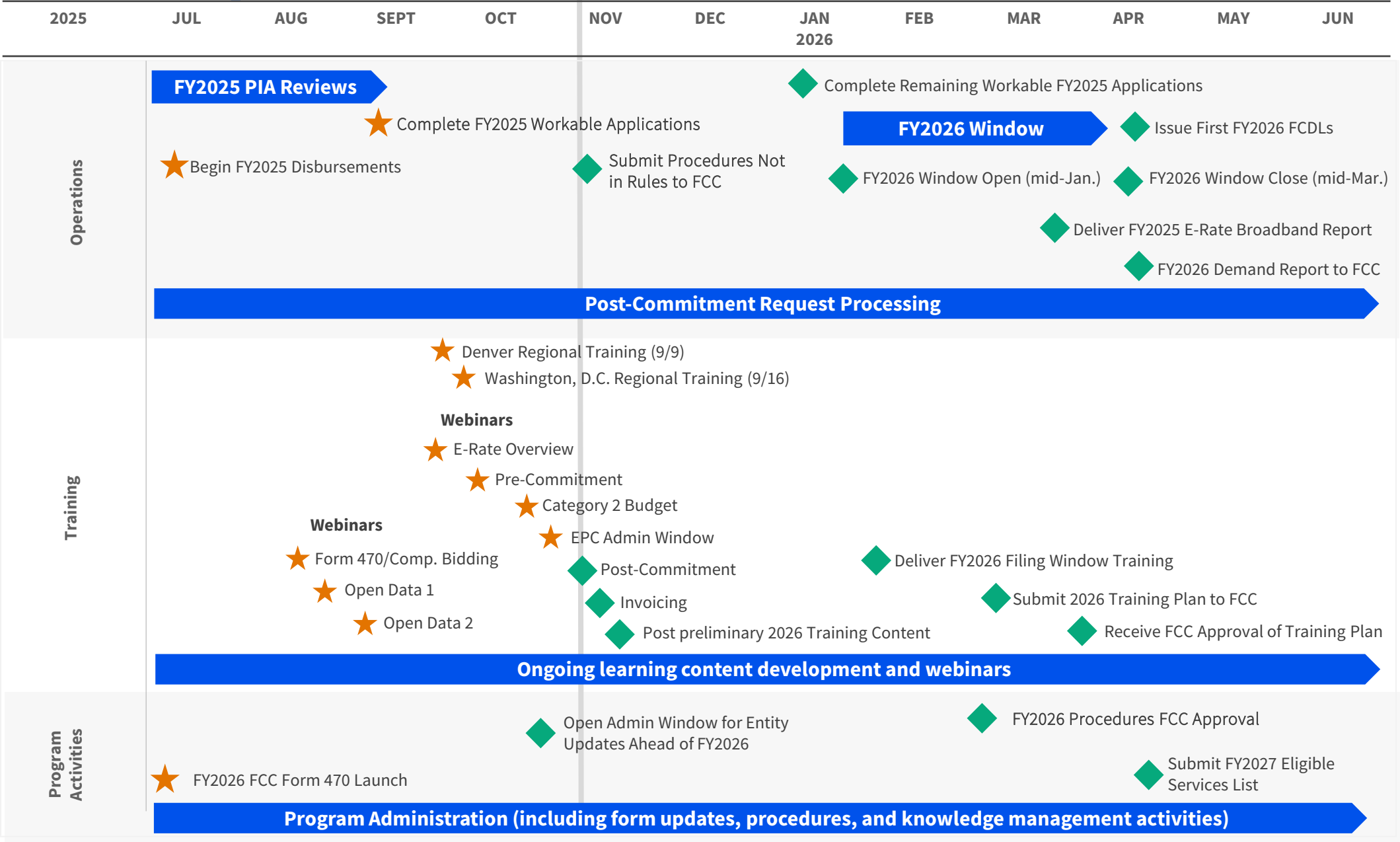
Open Session – Information Only

October 27, 2025

Agenda

- Roadmap
- Appendix A: Program Metrics
- Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

Roadmap



Milestone Legend

- ▲ At Risk
- ◆ On Track
- ★ Completed

Appendix A: E-Rate Program Metrics

E-Rate Pre-Commitment (Data through September 30, 2025)

Fund Year			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Requested	2025	Demand	37,651	693	63		38,407
		Requested Dollars	\$3,234,454,746	\$70,872,034	\$26,029,707		\$3,331,356,487
		Avg. Days Outstanding	191	175	44		189
	2024	Demand	35,386	697	11	3	36,097
		Requested Dollars	\$3,242,693,277	\$85,080,886	\$226,451	\$80,933	\$3,328,081,547
		Avg. Days Outstanding	555	543			555
Committed	2025	Reviewed Apps.		27,538	7,326		34,864
		Reviewed Dollars		\$1,462,886,952	\$795,686,137		\$2,258,573,090
	2024	Reviewed Apps.	315	29,365	5,029	1,281	35,990
		Reviewed Dollars	\$186,840,217	\$1,951,911,457	\$788,075,350	\$310,474,096	\$3,237,301,119

Appendix A: Program Metrics (Continued)

E-Rate Post-Commitment (Data through September 30, 2025)

			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Submitted	2025	Invoice Counts	70,554	67,167	75,985		213,706
		Invoice Dollars	\$608,200,926	\$561,737,764	\$836,720,288		\$2,006,658,978
	2024	Invoice Counts	68,764	68,283	74,457	70,616	282,120
		Invoice Dollars	\$796,018,074	\$598,892,366	\$850,304,021	\$721,618,008	\$2,966,832,469
Disbursed	2025	Invoice Counts	67,265	67,861	69,691		204,817
		Invoice Dollars	\$448,923,224	\$546,569,770	\$672,879,829		\$1,668,372,823
	2024	Invoice Counts	70,456	66,554	71,663	73,323	281,996
		Invoice Dollars	\$679,810,871	\$554,635,770	\$710,247,822	\$670,355,633	\$2,615,050,096

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FCDL	Funding Commitment Decision Letter
FY	Funding Year
PIA	Program Integrity Assurance
SL	Schools and Libraries

