

[View](#) this email as a web page.



Universal Service  
Administrative Co.

Tribal Outreach

## June 2023 USAC Tribal Nation Newsletter

June 30, 2023

[Universal Service Administrative Company](#)'s (USAC) July Tribal Teleconference will be in-person. USAC will join the FCC in Ferndale, Washington from July 12-13, 2023, for the [FCC Tribal Workshop](#). If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the Office of Native Affairs and Policy at [tribal.events@fcc.gov](mailto:tribal.events@fcc.gov). We hope to see you there!

On June 30, 2023, the FCC released [Order DA 23-571](#), waiving various provisions of the Lifeline, Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), E-Rate, Rural Health Care (RHC), and High Cost rules for those FCC programs' participants and for USF contributors located in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands in response to the damage caused by Typhoon Mawar. To learn more, see [FCC Order DA 23-571](#).

USAC is interested in hearing from you about how we can improve our monthly Tribal Teleconferences and what subjects or topics you would like to learn about or have questions about. Please email all suggestions, questions, and comments to [TribalLiaison@usac.org](mailto:TribalLiaison@usac.org).

### E-Rate

#### **Filing the FY 2023 FCC Form 486**

After applicants have received a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) with a positive funding commitment and services have started for the funding year, applicants must [file an FCC Form 486](#) (Receipt of Service Confirmation and Children's Internet Protection Act Certification Form). The FCC Form 486 notifies USAC that services have started and invites the applicant to certify the status of their compliance with the [Children's Internet Protection Act](#) (CIPA) requirements.

Under certain circumstances, you can file the FCC Form 486 before services have started. In order to file the form early, you must be able to accurately complete the certifications on the form.

The following are some reminders of the certifications you must be prepared to complete if you are filing your FCC Form 486 early.

#### **CIPA Reminders**

Your local administrative authority-- i.e., the relevant authority with responsibility for the administration of the school or library -- must report CIPA compliance status.

- If you are the administrative authority for the school or library and you are also the billed entity, you will certify your CIPA compliance status on your FCC Form 486.
- If you are the administrative authority but not the billed entity -- for example, if you are a member of a consortium and the consortium files for discounted equipment and services on your behalf -- you will certify your CIPA compliance status on the [FCC Form 479](#) (Certification by Administrative Authority to Billed Entity of Compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act Form) and provide a copy of that form to your consortium leader. Your consortium leader must keep copies of FCC Forms 479 on file from all of its members before it can accurately complete the appropriate CIPA certifications on the FCC Form 486 on behalf of its members.

You can also refer to the [CIPA page](#) on the USAC website for additional information about these requirements.

### Service Start Dates and Contracts

You must have confirmed with your service provider(s) that the service(s) for your approved funding commitments will start on or before July 31 of the funding year. You must also confirm that those services will be provided to the eligible entities identified on the Funding Request Numbers (FRNs).

In addition, you certify that there are signed contracts or legally binding agreements covering all of the services listed on the FCC Form 486, except for services provided under a tariff or on a month-to-month basis.

### Authorization to Submit

You must certify that you are authorized to submit the FCC Form 486 on behalf of the billed entity; that you have examined the form; and that to the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, all statements of fact provided on the form are true.

You can review the text of all the certifications on the FCC Form 486 after you have completed the required information on the form. Please review the certifications carefully to make sure they are accurate as of the start of the receipt of discounted equipment and services. Do not forget to check the Early Filing box, if submitting the form before the services have started.

Starting August 1, early filing is no longer available. Beginning on August 1, you must wait until services have actually started before you can file your FCC Form 486.

### FY 2023 Invoicing Begins on July 1

After USAC has processed your [FCC Form 486](#), you or your service provider can begin invoicing USAC for the discounted share of costs for the approved eligible equipment and services. View USAC's February 10, 2022 [webinar slides](#) for details and key reminders about the E-Rate invoicing process.

## Rural Health Care (RHC) Program

The RHC team will be hosting their FY 2024 Kick-Off webinar on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. ET, where they will review best practices, filing requirements, and important details for rural health care providers -- [Register](#).

To learn more about RHC program rule changes, important reminders, RHC Connect updates, and online tools, please check out the [June 2023 RHC Newsletter](#).

## Lifeline and ACP

### Review of Lifeline Tribal 2Q2023 Training

Thank you to all who attended Lifeline's 2Q2023 Tribal training. The webinar provided a step-by-step overview on how to resolve application errors in the Lifeline application system. If you were unable to attend the training, you may review the presentation [here](#).

Join our next quarterly Lifeline Tribal training for an overview of how to apply for the Lifeline benefit. [Register here](#) for the September 2023 quarterly Tribal training.

### Tribal Entity Access to the National Verifier

Lifeline provides Tribal partners with access to the National Verifier to help consumers submit online Lifeline applications, upload eligibility or other documentation (as needed), and track the status of their applications. Complete the [Tribal access request form](#) in order to gain access. For detailed directions and more information on how to receive access to the system, review the [Account Types](#) page.

**Note:** A Tribal Access Request form must be completed for each user and each user must be assigned to a Tribal-NV account type. Tribal agency leader sign-off is required for all new users.

### Applying for the ACP Is Easier Than Ever

Thanks to our collective efforts, the ACP is now reaching over 18.5 million households.

On June 7, USAC released enhancements to the ACP's online consumer application to make applying and enrolling

easier than ever before. These changes build upon updates released in recent months.

### New Enrollment Reminders

Consumers who qualify for the ACP will receive additional emails reminding them to contact an internet service provider (ISP) to get enrolled and start receiving their benefit. After a consumer's application is approved, they will receive up to four reminders if they have yet to enroll with an ISP. These reminders will be sent 3, 10, and 25 days after a consumer's application is approved. A final reminder will be sent one week before their application expires.

### Hidden CAPTCHA

The CAPTCHA (Completely Automated Public Turing Test to Tell Computers and Humans Apart) on the National Verifier portal has been updated so users no longer need to select the "I'm not a robot" checkbox or answer verification questions.

This enhancement reduces the steps a consumer must take to sign in to their account and complete their online application. Service providers will also no longer have to complete a CAPTCHA to enter the National Verifier portal.

### Training and Resources

Find upcoming trainings and other resources on the [Lifeline Learn](#) page or [ACP Learn](#) page on USAC's website.

To make sure you are receiving the latest information, please sign up for [USAC's newsletter](#) and, if you would like to be an outreach partner for the ACP, sign up at [fcc.gov/acp](https://fcc.gov/acp).

To learn more about ACP or Lifeline program updates, please review the [April 2023 Lifeline Newsletter](#) or the [May 2023 ACP Newsletter](#).

## Key Dates and Trainings

### E-Rate

- No upcoming webinars at this time. To view prior webinars, please visit the E-Rate [webinar page](#) or the [E-Rate Tribal-specific trainings](#).
- Although the FY2023 application filing window has closed, you can begin planning for FY2024. The FY2024 FCC Form 470 will be available starting on July 1, 2023. Please reach out to USAC's Tribal Liaison at [TribalLiaison@usac.org](mailto:TribalLiaison@usac.org) if you would like additional information about starting the process to apply for E-Rate support.

### RHC

- Wednesday, July 5, 2023, RHC will host the FY2024 RHC Kick-Off webinar at 2 p.m. ET – [Register](#).

### Lifeline/ACP

- Wednesday, July 12, 2023, Lifeline will host their July 2023 Monthly Webinar at 3 p.m. ET – [Register](#).

## USF Program Technical Assistance

The USAC Customer Service Center (CSC) provides customer service for all USF programs. Visit the [Contact USAC](#) page to get in touch with specialized agents trained to answer your program-specific questions.

### Questions or Suggestions?

Contact the USAC Tribal Liaison at [TribalLiaison@usac.org](mailto:TribalLiaison@usac.org).

The information contained in this electronic communication and any attachments and links to websites are intended for the exclusive use of the addressee(s) and may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering this communication to the intended recipient, be advised you have

7/5/23, 10:14 AM

view.outreach.usac.org/?qs=f105d178248c24ef86c8cca11ac949d235ae04c8187e3de86fec28e12c22adbed116558272633b350db...

received this communication in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies of this communication and any attachments.

This email was sent to: [TribalTraining@usac.org](mailto:TribalTraining@usac.org). Please do not reply to this email.

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

USAC | 700 12th Street NW, Suite 900 | Washington, DC 20005  
[www.usac.org](http://www.usac.org) | © 1997- 2023 USAC | All Rights Reserved | [USAC Privacy Policy](#)