

# July Tribal Teleconference: Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program

July 9, 2024

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# Housekeeping

- Use the “Audio” section of your control panel to select an audio source and connect to sound.
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- All participants are on mute.
- Use the “**Raise Your Hand**” button to be unmuted and ask a question to the team!

**Raise your hand here!**

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**Ask questions here!**

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# Meet Our Team



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# Upcoming Dates

- Rural Health Care
  - July 17, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET – FY2025 Kick-Off Webinar - [Register](#).
- E-Rate
  - August 2, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET – Competitive Bidding – [Register](#).
- Lifeline
  - July 10, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET – Avoiding Common Audit Findings – [Register](#).

# **Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program Overview**

# Pilot Program Overview

- FCC established a three-year Pilot Program to provide up to \$200 million in Universal Service Fund support to participating eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries, to defray the costs of eligible cybersecurity services and equipment.
- Pilot Program will evaluate the effectiveness of using USF funding to support cybersecurity services and equipment to protect school and library broadband networks and data.

## Pilot Program Eligibility

- Schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries, that are eligible for support under the [E-Rate Program](#) can participate in the Pilot Program.
- Prior or current E-Rate participation is not a requirement to be eligible to apply for the Pilot Program.



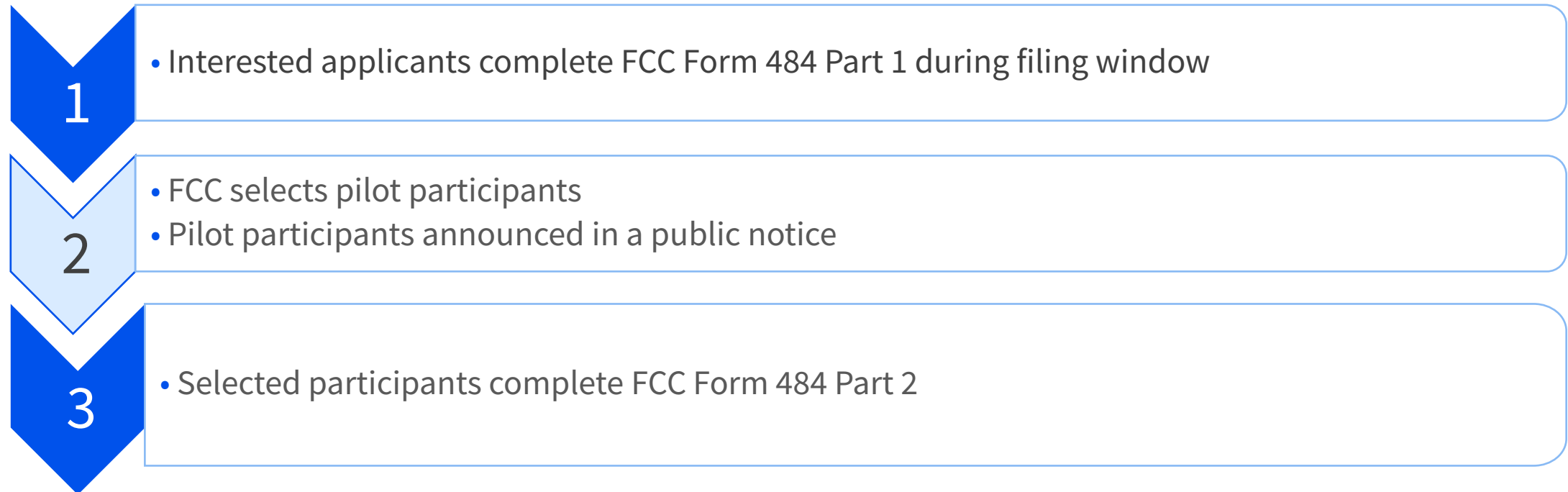
# Pilot Program Eligibility

- Participant may seek reimbursement for a wide variety of cybersecurity services and equipment, subject to per-student/per-library budgets
- Four general categories of eligible services and equipment:
  - Advanced/next generation firewalls;
  - Endpoint protection;
  - Identity protection and authentication; and
  - Monitoring, detection and response.
- [Pilot Eligible Services List](#) (P-ESL) contains a non-exhaustive list of the types of eligible services and equipment

**Questions?**

# **Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Application Process Overview**

# Pilot Program Application Process



## Pilot Program Participant Selection

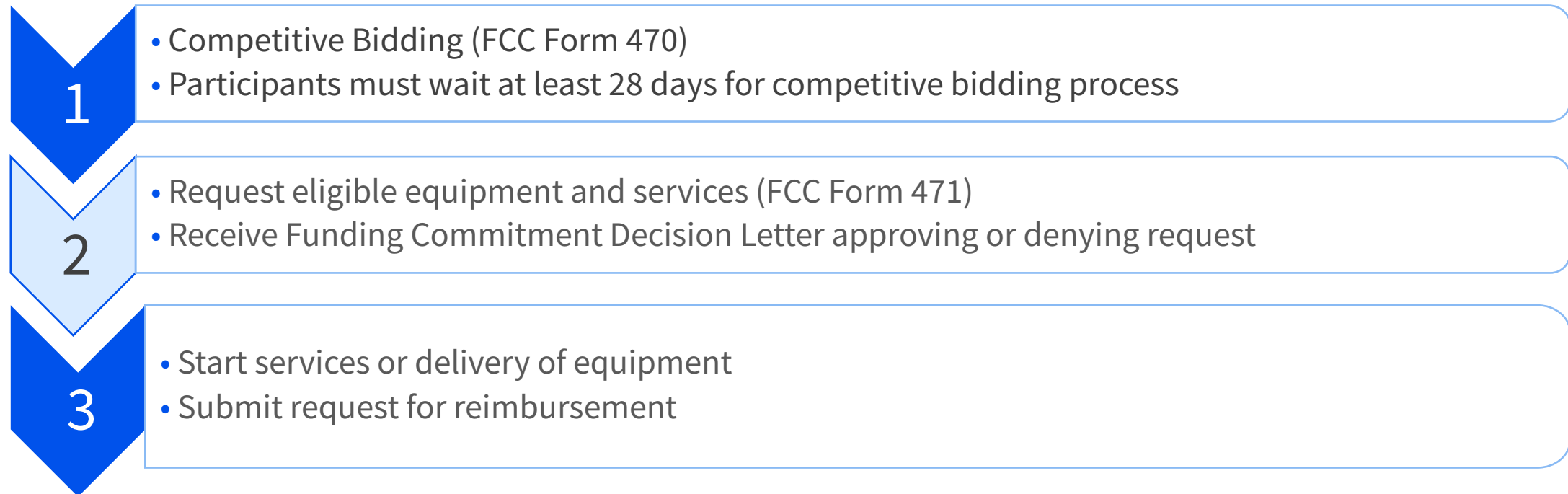
- To facilitate the inclusion of a diverse set of Pilot projects and to target Pilot funds to the populations most in need of cybersecurity support, the FCC will award support to a combination of large and small and urban and rural schools, libraries, and consortia, with an emphasis on funding proposed Pilot projects that include low-income and Tribal applicants.

# **Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Process for Participants**

# Pilot Program Process for Participants

- Pilot Program will follow processes established in E-Rate program
  - Complete the competitive bidding process to solicit bids and procure the requested cybersecurity services and equipment, unless subject to a competitive bidding exemption.
  - Submit requests for services and equipment and receive a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) approving or denying their funding requests.
  - Select whether to invoice USAC directly (BEAR method) or have the service provider do so (SPI method)
  - After delivery of services/equipment, participants and service providers may submit requests for reimbursement from the Pilot Program.

# Pilot Program Process for Participants





**Questions?**

# **Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Get Ready**

# Pilot Program Get Ready

- The Pilot Program application process (FCC Form 484) will open this fall
- Begin evaluating your school or library's cybersecurity needs
  - Set goals and objectives for participation
  - Identify risks the Pilot Program can help address
  - Determine cybersecurity experience and expertise
  - Identify designated cybersecurity officer or senior staff member
  - Catalogue services and equipment to be purchased

# Pilot Program Get Ready

- Obtain or confirm registrations are up to date:
  - [FCC Registration Number](#)
  - [USAC Billed Entity Number](#)
  - [E-Rate Productivity Center \(EPC\) User Registration](#)
  - [SAM.gov registration](#)
- Confirm eligibility for payment
  - [FCC Red Light Status](#)
  - [U.S. Treasury Do Not Pay List](#)
- Review other Federal Resources
  - Department of Homeland Security's [Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency](#)
  - Department of Education [Cybersecurity Preparedness](#)

**Questions?**

# **Schools & Libraries Cybersecurity Stay Informed**

# Pilot Program Stay Informed

- FCC & USAC will host [Pilot Program trainings](#)
- [Sign up for Pilot Program emails](#)
- [FCC Cybersecurity Website](#)
- [USAC Cybersecurity Pilot Program Website](#)

**Thank You!**



**\*Note:** Photo is optional and interchangeable.





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Administrative Co.**