E-Rate Program Overview

Provides funding to help schools and libraries obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access.

Eligible Applicants
Public and private schools (K-12), libraries, and groups of schools and libraries (e.g., consortia, school districts, library systems), as well as Tribal schools, libraries, and Tribal college and university (TCU) libraries that also serve as a public library.

Eligible Services
Schools and libraries are eligible for discounts between 20% and 90% of the costs of eligible equipment and services. The applicant pays the remaining share (e.g., a 90% applicant pays $100 on a $1,000 request). *Discount varies based on the school or library’s level of poverty, urban/rural status, and the type of service.

Contact Us
Ready to start or need help? Reach out to the E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC) at (800) 203-8100, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

Examples of Common/Frequent Purchases

Top C1 Purchases:
- Leased lit fiber
- Internet access provided over fiber or copper
- Commercially available internet access
- Cable provider internet
- Satellite internet

Top C2 Purchases:
- Internal Connections: Cabling, routers, switches, modems, wireless access points, right to use licenses
- BMIC: repair and upkeep of eligible IC
- MIBS: Managed Wi-Fi agreements

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FY2023 Program Cap $4.8B

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