



## Schools and Libraries (E-Rate)

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### LATEST NEWS

#### News Archive

USAC's News Archive gives you access to all announcements related to the Schools and Libraries Program as they were made throughout the years. The archives will be updated as new announcements are made.

Select a Year:

#### 12/16/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, December 16, 2011, 8 PM to 11 PM EST for scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

#### 12/9/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, December 9, 2011 at 7pm EST to Saturday, December 10, 2011, 1pm for scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

#### 11/28/2011 – View the Current SL Weekly NewsBrief

Click to read this week's issue of the Schools and Libraries NewsBrief.

#### 11/22/2011 – FY2012 Form 471 Application Filing Window Dates Announced

The FCC Form 471 application filing window for Funding Year 2012 will open at noon on Monday, January 9, 2012 and will close at 11:59 PM EDT on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. The filing window will be open for 72 days. Be sure to review the [FY2012 Eligible Services List](#)  for details on products and services that are eligible for E-Rate discounts in FY2012, and continue to check the USAC website for additional details. We will issue the customary letter to the field around the time that the FCC Form 471 application filing window opens to provide filing information and deadline reminders related to the window. Meanwhile, keep the following in mind:

You can file an FCC Form 470 now if you are ready to do so; you don't need to wait for the window to open. To file an FCC Form 470 online, go to the Apply Online page and click on the "Create Form 470" button.

You must wait 28 days after the FCC Form 470 is posted to the USAC website before you can close your competitive bidding process, select a service provider, sign a contract (if applicable), and submit an FCC Form 471. If you issue an RFP after the FCC Form 470 is posted, you must wait 28 days from the release of the RFP to select a service provider.

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 is the last day to post an FCC Form 470 to the USAC website or issue an RFP and still complete all of these actions before the window closes.

If you file your FCC Form 470 on paper, we need to receive it by Tuesday, February 14, 2012 to give us time to complete data entry before February 21, 2012.

Item 21 attachments to the FCC Form 471 must be submitted by the close of the filing window. **If you file your Item 21 attachment online, you must click on the "Submit" button at the bottom of the last page before the window closes. Otherwise your Item 21 Attachment will not be sent to us.**

You can find additional program guidance documents in the [Reference Area](#).

#### 11/17/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, November 18, 2011 at 8:00 PM ET until 11:00 PM ET for scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

#### 11/17/2011 – FY2012 Eligible Services List

[FY2012 Eligible Services List](#) 

#### 10/20/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, October 21, 2011 at 8pm EDT until 11PM EDT for scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

#### 10/5/2011 – FCC Approves Funding FY2011 P2 at 90%

USAC expects FY2011 Priority 2 commitments to start with Wave 18. For more information on funding commitments, please continue to watch the weekly [Schools and Libraries News Briefs](#).

**9/28/2011 – FY2012 Eligible Services List Released**

On September 28th, the FCC has released the [eligible services list](#) (ESL) for funding year 2012 for the schools and libraries universal service program (E-rate). The ESL identifies the services and products that are eligible for E-rate funding. In the ESL Public Notice, the FCC proposed minor changes and other edits to the ESL to provide clarifications or additional information only, and did not change the eligibility status of any services in the E-rate program. By this order, the FCC adopts most of the clarifications proposed in the ESL Public Notice, with some minor modifications as described in [DA-1160](#).

**9/19/2011 – First FY2010 Wave with P2 Commitments at 80%**

On Wednesday, September 21, USAC will issue FY2010 Wave 67 Funding Commitment Decision Letters. This is the first wave to include commitments for approved Priority 2 (Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance) funding requests at the 80% discount level.

Reviews of FY2010 Priority 2 FRNs at discount levels below 80% will begin soon. Be sure to monitor the preferred mode of contact you indicated on your Form(s) 471 and respond promptly to PIA requests for information.

**9/16/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance to Apply Online**

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, September 16, 2011 at 8pm EDT until 12AM EDT due to scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

**8/29/2011 – USAC is Open for Business**

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**8/24/2011 – FCC Authorizes Additional Funds for FY2010 and FY2011**

FCC Authorizes Additional Funds for FY2010 and FY2011

**8/19/2011 – Scheduled System Maintenance to Apply Online**

The Apply Online page including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Friday, August 19, 2011 at 8pm EDT until 12AM EDT due to scheduled system maintenance. During this time users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

**6/27/2011 – FCC Establishes Comment Period for FY2012 Eligible Services List**

On June 24, 2011 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Public Notice ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2011/db0624/DA-11-1096A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2011/db0624/DA-11-1096A1.pdf)) establishing the comment period for the Funding Year 2012 Eligible Services List (ESL).

Comments on the draft ESL, which is attached to the Public Notice, are due to the FCC on or before July 15, 2011. Reply comments are due to the FCC on or before July 25, 2011. For information on filing comments with the FCC, please refer to the Public Notice.

The Public Notice includes a summary of the changes being contemplated. The FCC has also included a redlined version of the ESL which highlights each of the specific proposed changes. The edits to the ESL provide clarifications or additional information, and are not intended to change the level of eligibility for services from the previous funding year.

**6/14/2011 – USAC Releases First Commitments for FY2011 in Schools and Libraries Program**

[Download Release](#)

**4/14/2011 – USAC Provides Demand Estimate for Funding Year 2011 to FCC**

On April 12, 2011, the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) reported to the Federal Communications Commission that \$4.31 billion in requested funding has been estimated for schools and libraries seeking discounts for Funding Year 2011. This estimate is based on the dollars requested in 44,139 applications received or postmarked by March 24, 2011, the close of the Form 471 application filing window. There are several factors that will reduce ultimately the funds requested from the estimated level. First, while efforts have been made to eliminate duplicate requests, inevitably we will discover more duplication as we process these applications. Second, USAC's efforts to assure that funds are committed only for eligible services, for use by eligible entities with the appropriate discount rate, and are otherwise consistent with program rules, will further reduce the demand. For detailed information, please refer to the [FY2011 Demand Estimate](#) [PDF].

**4/13/2011 – Never In, Never Out: Window Filing Requirements**

Never In, Never Out: Your Form 471 Certification and Item 21 Attachments are window filing requirements. Submit them now from the [Apply Online](#) page. For more information review the [March 25, 2011, News Brief](#).

**3/17/2011 – Have a question? Client Service Bureau (CSB) offering extended hours.**

CSB is generally busiest on weekdays between 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. EDT, so we suggest you call them at 1-888-203-8100 before or after those times or during this coming weekend.

Here is a list of CSB's extended hours for the FY2011 filing window:

Day	Date	Open	Close
Saturday	March 19	9:00 AM	6:00 PM EDT
Sunday	March 20	9:00 AM	6:00 PM EDT
Monday	March 21	8:00 AM	8:00 PM EDT
Tuesday	March 22	8:00 AM	8:00 PM EDT
Wednesday	March 23	8:00 AM	8:00 PM EDT
Thursday	March 24	8:00 AM	12:30 AM EDT on March 25

**2/22/2011 – FY2011 Form 470 Deadline -- Thursday, February 24**

Submit [Form 470 online](#) now. If you have not yet submitted your Form 470, do so online as soon as possible. The last possible day to post a Form 470 for FY2011 and still timely file a Form 471 is Thursday, February 24, 2011.