



Schools and Libraries (E-Rate)

USAC Home | Schools and Libraries Program | Latest News | **News Archive**


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:

12/23/2014 – E-rate Program Funds Available for Carry Forward from Prior Funding Years

In [this letter](#) , USAC notifies the FCC of the E-rate Program funds available for carry-forward based upon FCC guidance concerning maintenance of cash reserves.

12/23/2014 – Urban/Rural Tools Now Available

Two new tools are now available on the Schools and Libraries Program's [Search Tools](#) web page: the [Urban/Rural Lookup Tool](#) and the [Urban/Rural Status Reports by State Tool](#). These tools will help you:

Locate the urban/rural status for an individual school or library.


Find out if a school district or library system is eligible for an urban/rural discount by locating the urban/rural status of its member schools or libraries.

Identify schools and libraries whose addresses must be updated in order for USAC to determine their urban/rural status.

For more information, refer to the instructions for each tool. You can find the appropriate set of instructions to the right of the tool name on the [Search Tools](#) page.

Note: If you are having difficulty accessing the Urban/Rural Status Reports using a mobile device, switch to a non-mobile device such as a desktop.

12/22/2014 – Second E-rate Modernization Order Released

On December 19, the FCC issued the [Second E-rate Modernization Report and Order](#)  (Order) and Order on Reconsideration. Building on the E-rate Modernization Order adopted by the FCC in July, the improvements to the program adopted in this Order seek to close the high-speed connectivity gap between rural schools and libraries and their urban and suburban counterparts, and provide sufficient and certain funding for high-speed connectivity to and within all eligible schools and libraries. The FCC takes these actions to ensure the continued success of the E-rate program as it transitions from supporting legacy services to focusing on meeting the high-speed broadband connectivity needs of schools and libraries consistent with the recently adopted program goals and long-term connectivity targets.

12/22/2014 – USAC Closed from December 24 at 2:00 PM EST through December 26

In observance of the upcoming holiday, USAC will close at 2:00 PM EST on Wednesday, December 24, and remain closed on both Thursday and Friday, December 25-26, 2014.


This closure includes the Schools and Libraries Program's Client Service Bureau (CSB), and the Rural Health Care Program's RHC Help Desk.

USAC will re-open on Monday, December 29, and respond to all inquiries at that time.

12/17/2014 – Apply Online Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, December 19

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:59 PM EST Friday, December 19, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

12/11/2014 – FCC Continues E-rate Program Reboot to Meet the Needs of 21st Century Digital Learning

Today the FCC adopted an Order aimed at closing the connectivity gap by making more funding available for libraries and schools to purchase broadband connectivity capable of delivering gigabit service over the next five years. The Order also provides schools and libraries additional flexibility and options for purchasing broadband services to enable schools and libraries to meet their Internet capacity needs in the most cost-effective way possible. For more information, please see the [FCC Press Release](#) .

12/9/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, December 11

USAC's [E-File](#) system, including Rural Health Care's My Portal, will be unavailable Thursday, December 11, from 9:00-11:59 PM EST, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

12/2/2014 – Join the E-rate Program for a Series of Webinars on FY2015 Topics

Join the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program throughout December and January for a series of webinars on Funding Year 2015 topics. Please

register for each webinar individually:

Register here: [FCC Form 470 Demo](#)
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
3:00 PM EST

Register here: [Eligible Services](#)
Tuesday, December 16, 2014
3:00 PM EST

Register here: [Program Compliance](#)
Thursday, December 18, 2014
3:00 PM EST

Register here: [Category Two Budgets](#)
Tuesday, January 6, 2015
3:00 PM EST

Register here: [Discount Calculations](#)
Thursday, January 8, 2015
3:00 PM EST

Register here: [Urban/Rural Tool](#)
Tuesday, January 13, 2015
3:00 PM EST

Please note: Due to the large size of our virtual audience, the presenters will not accept live questions during the presentation. All webinars will be recorded and will be available for viewing a day after the original webinar presentation, in the Schools and Libraries Program's [Online Learning Library](#).

Need Help?

More information about the [E-rate Modernization Order](#) is available on the USAC website. If you have any questions about the webinar, please contact [USAC Outreach](#).

For questions about the E-rate Program, contact us via [Submit a Question](#) or call the Client Service Bureau at (888) 203-8100.

11/26/2014 – USAC Closed Thursday, Schools and Libraries Client Service Bureau Closed Thursday and Friday

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, USAC's Washington, DC office is closed Thursday, November 27, 2014. Please note that the Schools and Libraries Program's Client Service Bureau (CSB) will be closed on both Thursday and Friday, November 27-28, 2014.

11/20/2014 – Special Edition News Brief - Update on the FY2015 FCC Form 470

The [11/20/14 Special Edition issue](#) of the News Brief is now available. Receive E-rate Program tips, deadline reminders, and answers to your questions in this weekly newsletter. [Subscribe](#) to it and receive it each week in your inbox.

11/20/2014 – Apply Online Maintenance Tonight Starting at 7:00 PM EST

The Schools and Libraries Apply Online page will be unavailable from 7:00 PM EST Thursday, November 20, to 2:00 AM EST Friday, November 21, so that USAC can deploy the [FY2015 FCC Form 470](#).

Online filers please note:

If you have started an FY2014 FCC Form 470 online and you have not completed it by 7:00 PM EST tonight, you must start over using the FY2015 version of the form.

If you have already posted an FY2014 FCC Form 470 online and you have not certified it, you do not need to post a new form. However, we suggest that you certify your form by 7:00 PM EST tonight.

If you certify online using the FY2014 version of the form before the FY2015 version is posted, you will not need to re-certify your form, and you may cite that form on FY2015 FCC Form 471 funding requests.

If you certify online after the FY2015 version is available, you will use the FY2015 version of the certification to certify your form.

If you certify on paper and we cannot complete data entry of your certification by 7:00 PM EST tonight, you will be required to re-submit your certification using the FY2015 version of the certification page.

If you filed on paper using the FY2014 version of the form and we have not completed data entry of your form by 7:00 PM EST tonight, you will have to file your form online.

11/12/2014 – Apply Online Outage Due to System Maintenance Starting Friday, November 14

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools, will be unavailable from 6:00 PM EST Friday, November 14 through 6:00 PM EST Sunday, November 16 for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, or search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

11/11/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, November 13

USAC's [E-File system](#) will be unavailable **Thursday, November 13th, from 9:00 - 11:59 PM EST**, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

11/10/2014 – Webinar on November 13: E-rate Modernization Order

All participants in the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program are invited to join USAC for a webinar this Thursday, November 13, about the major changes resulting from the E-rate Modernization Order. Register here: [E-rate Modernization Order Webinar](#)

USAC's E-rate Program staff is planning to conduct more outreach webinars that will discuss additional topics in-depth. These events will be announced via the [SL News Brief](#) and in the Latest News section of the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program homepage.

10/28/2014 – FCC Releases FY2015 Eligible Services List report and Order

On Tuesday, October 28, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission released a Report and Order ([DA 14-1556](#) ) releasing the Eligible Services List for Funding Year 2015.

10/17/2014 – Apply Online Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, October 17

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT Friday, October 17, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

10/8/2014 – RESOLVED - USAC's Customer Service Line Is Currently Down

The issue with USAC's Customer Service Line has been resolved.

Original Message

USAC's Customer Service Line (888) 641-8722 is currently down. Please contact via email at [Customer Support](#) until this issue is resolved. Thank you!

10/1/2014 – 2014 Applicant Training Agenda and Presentations Available

The [2014 Applicant Training agenda and presentations](#) are available.

9/22/2014 – Draft FCC Forms 470 and 471 Submitted to OMB

The FCC is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for updates to the 2015 FCC Forms 470 and 471 based on guidance from the E-rate Modernization Order. To review the draft forms and instructions, or read the FCC's Federal Register notice of its submission to the OMB, visit the [E-rate Modernization Order information page](#).



9/9/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, September 11

USAC's E-File system, including the Rural Health Care Program's My Portal system, will be unavailable Thursday, September 11, from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

8/13/2014 – Apply Online Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, August 15

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT Friday, August 15, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

8/13/2014 – FCC Releases E-rate Modernization Order Staff Report and Online Maps of Fiber Connectivity

On August 12, 2014, the FCC issued [Public Notice DA 14-1177](#) ) that releases two items, a [staff report](#) ) and [online maps of fiber connectivity](#), designed to provide a concise view of a portion of the large amount of data in the E-rate Modernization proceeding. This is consistent with the Commission's efforts in this proceeding to provide open, user-friendly data to all parties.

8/12/2014 – Special Edition News Brief - Highlights of the E-rate Modernization Order


The [08/12/14 Special Edition](#) issue of the News Brief is now available. Receive E-rate Program tips, deadline reminders, and answers to your questions in this weekly newsletter. [Subscribe](#) to it and receive it each week in your inbox.

8/11/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, August 14

USAC's [E-File](#) system, including the Rural Health Care Program's [My Portal](#), will be unavailable Thursday, August 14, from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.


8/7/2014 – FCC Issues Public Notice on the Draft Eligible Services List for FY2015

On August 4, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a [Public Notice](#) ) (DA 14-1130) establishing the comment period for the Funding Year 2015 Eligible Services List.

Comments on the draft Eligible Services List, which is attached to the Public Notice, are due to the FCC on or before September 3, 2014. Reply comments are due to the FCC on or before September 18, 2014. For information on filing comments with the FCC, please refer to the [Public Notice](#) .

This proceeding is limited to determining what specific services are eligible under the FCC's current rules; it is not intended to be a vehicle for changing any eligibility rules.

7/23/2014 – FCC Adopts Landmark E-rate Modernization Order

The Federal Communications Commission adopted an [E-rate Modernization Order](#) ) that will expand Wi-Fi networks in schools and libraries across America. The new rules are the next major step in a comprehensive modernization of the E-rate Program, the first such effort since the program's creation 18 years ago. The program increases focus on the largest and most urgent need—closing the Wi-Fi gap—while transitioning support away from legacy technologies to 21st Century broadband connectivity, ensuring E-rate Program money is spent smartly, and improving program administration. The reform will expand Wi-Fi to more than 10 million students in 2015 alone.

For more information, read the [FCC's press release](#) ) or read the [FCC's quick fact sheet](#) .

7/16/2014 – Apply Online Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, July 18

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT Friday, July 18, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

7/8/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, July 11

USAC's [E-File](#) system, including Rural Health Care's My Portal, will be unavailable Friday, July 11, from 9:00 PM to 11:59 PM EDT for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, and Rural Health Care programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

6/16/2014 – Reminder: Early Filing for FCC Form 486

Applicants can file the FCC Form 486 before services start if they have received a funding commitment, if their services will start in the month of July, and if they can accurately make all the relevant certifications at the time they certify the FCC Form 486.

Note that applicants filing FCC Form 486 before July 1 MUST check the early filing box (Item 6a) in order to successfully file this form.

6/10/2014 – Registration Open for E-rate Program Applicant Trainings

This fall, join USAC for an all-day training focused on applicants who participate in the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program. [Register Today!](#)

5/21/2014 – System Maintenance: 9:00-11:59 PM EDT Friday, May 23

The [Apply Online](#) page, including [Submit a Question](#), online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:59 PM EDT Friday, May 23, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

5/8/2014 – USAC Issues First Funding Wave for FY2014

On Thursday, May 15, USAC will issue notification letters for the first funding wave for Funding Year (FY) 2014. This wave will include over \$607 million in Priority 1 funding commitments for over 14,600 applications. This compares to over \$128 million in funding commitments issued in the first funding wave for FY2013 on May 29, 2013.

Also, the first FY2014 wave will contain over six times the number of applications requesting broadband services compared to the first wave of FY2013, and will include commitments to large, medium and small applications for both schools and libraries.

[Read the press release](#) .

5/8/2014 – FCC Form 486 for FY2014 Available May 15



The FCC Form 486 for FY2014 will be [available for online filing](#) starting Thursday, May 15. FCC Form 486 Notification Letters will start going out soon after the first forms are filed.

Applicants can file the FCC Form 486 early (before services have started) if:

1. They have received a Funding Commitment Decision Letter with a positive funding commitment,
2. Their services will start in the month of July, and
3. They can accurately make all of the certifications required on the form.

5/6/2014 – May 27 Deadline for Item 21 Attachments and FCC Form 471 Certifications

Each year, USAC issues two sets of letters – one to applicants that filed an FCC Form 471 online before the close of the filing window but did not complete the certification process, and the other to remind applicants to submit their Item 21 Attachments. Both sets of letters were issued today, May 6. Appropriate actions must be taken on or before May 27, 2014.

To check whether or not you need to take action, review the [List of FY2014 FCC Forms 471 Not Yet Certified](#)  and the [List of FRNs for FY2014 Missing Item 21 Attachments](#) . Note that these lists are static – you can find information at the top of each list about the dates the entries on the lists were identified and which forms or FRNs are included.

What do I do if I receive a Notification of FCC Form 471 with No Certification?

You must certify your FCC Form 471 on or before May 27 if you have not already done so. If you do not meet this deadline, the form will be considered out-of-window. You can certify an FCC Form 471 online or on paper.

The list of uncertified FCC Forms 471 contains all forms that were timely filed but not certified as of 9:30 AM EDT on May 5, 2014. The list is in alphabetical order by state.

If you believe your form has been certified, go to the [View 471 Status tool](#), enter your Billed Entity Number and choose FY2014, and review the search results. If you have any questions, please call our Client Service Bureau (CSB) at (888) 203-8100.

What do I do if I receive an Item 21 Attachment Urgent Reminder Letter?

You must submit an Item 21 Attachment for each of your Funding Request Numbers (FRNs) on or before May 27, 2014 if you have not already done so. FRNs that are missing Item 21 Attachments or have Item 21 Attachments submitted after May 27 will be denied for being out-of-window.

The list of FRNs contains all FY2014 FRNs in the USAC database that we believe are missing Item 21 Attachments. This list is in alphabetical order by state. The first tab is A-F, the second is G-K, the third is L-P, and the fourth is R-Z.

Your FRN will be on the list if:

You did not file an Item 21 Attachment and should have filed one.

You started an Item 21 Attachment online but did not submit it by May 5, 2014. (Clicking the "Save and Exit" button does not submit your attachment.)

You submitted an Item 21 Attachment by email, fax, or on paper, but you did not correctly identify the FRN, the FCC Form 471 application number, or both in time for USAC to log it by April 17.

Your Item 21 Attachment and the Item 21 Attachment Urgent Reminder Letter crossed in the mail.

If you believe your FRN is on this list in error because you have submitted an Item 21 Attachment online, go to the [Item 21 Attachment tool](#) ; enter your Billed Entity Number, FCC Form 471 application number, and security code; and click "Continue." If an FRN shows any status other than "submitted online," click the status, complete your attachment, and click the "submit" button. This action will complete the process and submit your attachment.

If you believe your FRN is on this list in error because you have submitted an Item 21 Attachment by email, fax, or paper, first review your copy of the submission for accuracy. You can then call the Client Service Bureau (CSB) at (888) 203-8100 to check the status of your submission. Be sure to have your FCC Form 471 application number, the method of submission (email, fax, or paper), and the date of submission.

4/30/2014 – Certain Online Forms Unavailable Due to System Maintenance: Friday, May 2 through Saturday, May 3

Certain online forms will be unavailable beginning Friday, May 2 at 8:00 PM through Saturday, May 3 at 5:00 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Including forms in the:

- High Cost Program system,
- Lifeline Program system,
- Rural Health Care Program My Portal system, and
- Schools and Libraries Program Apply Online system.


These online forms will not be accessible for eligible telecommunications carriers, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, search for certain forms online, and use online applications or tools.

The FCC Forms 499-A/Q, FCC Form 498, and the NLAD system will still be available. We apologize for any inconvenience.

4/17/2014 – USAC Provides Demand Estimate for Funding Year 2014 to FCC

On April 17, 2014, the Schools and Libraries Program of the USAC reported to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that \$4.825 billion in requested funding has been estimated for schools and libraries seeking discounts for Funding Year 2014. This estimate is based on the dollars requested in 45,731 applications received or postmarked on or before March 26, 2014, the close of the FY2014 FCC Form 471 application filing window.

There are several factors that will reduce ultimately the funds requested from the estimated level. First, USAC will find duplicate funding requests as these funding applications are reviewed and processed. Second, USAC's efforts to assure that funds are committed only for eligible services and equipment for use by eligible entities with the appropriate discount rate and are otherwise consistent with FCC rules, will further reduce the demand estimate.

For detailed information, please refer to the [FY2014 Demand Estimate](#) .

4/10/2014 – System Maintenance: 9:00-11:00 PM EDT Friday, April 11

The Apply Online page, including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable from 9:00-11:00 PM EDT Friday, April 11, for system maintenance. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

4/3/2014 – Certain Online Forms Unavailable Due to System Maintenance: Saturday, April 5

Certain online forms will be unavailable Saturday, April 5, from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Including forms in the:

- High Cost Program system,
- Lifeline Program system,
- Rural Health Care Program My Portal system, and
- Schools and Libraries Program Apply Online system.

These online forms will not be accessible for eligible telecommunications carriers, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, search for certain forms online, and use online applications or tools.


The FCC Forms 499-A/Q and FCC Form 498 will still be available.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

4/3/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Friday, April 4

The E-File system, including the Rural Health Care Program's My Portal, will be unavailable Friday, April 4, from 9:00-11:00 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

4/1/2014 – 2013 USAC Annual Report Now Available

USAC's [2013 Annual Report](#)  highlights USAC's efforts to provide support and guidance for program participants as they navigate ongoing changes in the landscape of universal service. With responsiveness and flexibility, USAC worked in 2013 to show beneficiaries a clear path towards affordable access to telecommunications and Internet services.

3/27/2014 – CANCELED - Certain Online Forms Unavailable Due to System Maintenance: Saturday, March 29

CANCELED - Certain online forms will be unavailable Saturday, March 29, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM EDT, for system maintenance. Including forms in the:

High Cost Program system,
 Lifeline Program system,
 Rural Health Care Program My Portal system, and
 Schools and Libraries Program Apply Online system.

These online forms will not be accessible for eligible telecommunications carriers, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, search for certain forms online, and use online applications or tools. The FCC Forms 499-A/Q and FCC Form 498 will still be available, including the FCC Form 499-A due on April 1st. We apologize for any inconvenience.

3/27/2014 – Update on Demand Estimate Preparation

As of the close of the FY2014 application filing window last night (at 11:59 PM EDT), the following are totals at that point in time. It should be noted that these numbers are not final as we need to receive, finish data entry, and total all applications postmarked by the close of the filing window that were mailed to us. That process will take more than two weeks.

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Total
Number of applications	38,480	8,543	47,023
Funding requested	\$2.643 billion	\$2.225 billion	\$4.868 billion


Number of online item 21 attachments filed: 89,837

These preliminary numbers include all FCC Forms 471 that were either complete or certified as of the close of the window plus all paper forms that had finished the data entry process. In the next few weeks, we expect to receive and process more paper applications that were postmarked on or before the window close.

3/27/2014 – You Can Still File Your Item 21 Attachment

This notice is to remind applicants that they are still able to submit Item 21 attachments online or by email, by fax, or on paper. To submit online, go to the Apply Online page, click the "Item 21 Attachment" button, enter your Billed Entity Number, FCC Form 471 application number, and security code, and enter your data.

Filing an Item 21 attachment immediately after the window closes will not disadvantage your application nor cause your application to be considered as outside the window. However, we encourage you to file your Item 21 attachments as soon as possible.

[FCC Order DA 11-88](#) , released January 14, 2011, directs USAC to inform applicants in writing of any missing Item 21 attachments and give them 15 calendar days after receipt of the written notice to submit the missing Item 21 attachments. These letters will be issued in the next few weeks.


3/26/2014 – Online Item 21 Attachment Update

The amount of traffic on the online system has decreased significantly. If you would like to file your Item 21 attachment online tonight, this would be a good time to do so. We apologize for any inconvenience.

3/26/2014 – System Slowness for Filing Online Item 21 Attachments

Some applicants have been experiencing slowness and/or timeouts when trying to file the online Item 21 attachment on the USAC website. Even though there may be delays, we are continuing to receive online Item 21 attachments as our system is NOT "down." Because usage is always very high on the last day of the filing window, we suggest that applicants who are experiencing difficulty file at off-peak times, specifically, after 5:00 PM EDT today or tomorrow.

Applicants also have the opportunity to file online Item 21 attachments after the window closes and your Item 21 attachment will not be considered "out of the window."

[FCC Order DA 11-88](#) , released January 14, 2011, directs USAC to inform applicants in writing of any missing Item 21 attachments and give them 15 calendar days after receipt of the written notice to submit the missing Item 21 attachments. Filing an Item 21 attachment after the window closes – e.g., as early as tomorrow – will not disadvantage the application.

Note that the other online forms and functions – for example, the online FCC Form 471 – have NOT been affected and are continuing to operate normally.

3/26/2014 – FY2014 Filing Window Statistics Updated Daily

In order to keep you informed about applications submitted during the FY2014 application filing window, check back here each day to find updates on high-level data from FCC Forms 471 filed both online and on paper.

Category	FY2014	FY2013*
Certified Applications Filed	36,308	45,210
Total Requested	\$3,428,453,406	\$4,978,880,862
Priority 1 (P1)	\$1,917,910,770	\$2,675,792,904
Priority 2 (P2)	\$1,493,273,388	\$2,188,877,235
Total P1/P2	\$17,269,248	\$114,210,723
Percent P1	55.9%	53.7%
Percent P2	43.6%	44.0%

*FY2013 data cumulative as of April 19, 2013

These statistics are updated on a daily basis.

3/20/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, March 20

The E-File system, including Rural Health Care's My Portal, will be unavailable Thursday, March 20, from 10:00-11:59PM EDT, for system

maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

3/18/2014 – Client Service Bureau Extended Hours For Last-minute Filers

The Client Service Bureau (CSB) is once again offering extended hours during the last week of the filing window. CSB is generally busiest on weekdays between 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM EST, so we suggest you call them at (888) 203-8100 before or after those times, or during this coming weekend.

Here is a list of CSB's extended hours for the FY2014 filing window:

Day	Date	Open	Close
Saturday	March 22	9:00 AM EDT	6:00 PM EDT
Sunday	March 23	9:00 AM EDT	6:00 PM EDT
Monday	March 24	8:00 AM EDT	8:00 PM EDT
Tuesday	March 25	8:00 AM EDT	10:00 PM EDT
Wednesday	March 26	8:00 AM EDT	11:59 PM EDT

3/17/2014 – USAC's Washington, DC Office Closed, Monday, March 17, 2014

Due to inclement weather, USAC's Washington, DC office is closed today, Monday, March 17, 2014. Please note that the Schools and Libraries Client Service Bureau (CSB) will remain open.

3/14/2014 – Online FCC Form 471 Will Be Unavailable from Midnight Tonight to 2:00 AM EDT Saturday

Each year, shortly before the filing window closes, USAC reboots its Apply Online systems to enhance the performance of the network in preparation for the large volume of online FCC Forms 471 that come in during the last few days of the window.

The [Apply Online system](#) will be unavailable for approximately two hours – from midnight tonight, Friday, March 14 to 2:00 AM EDT Saturday, March 15. We suggest that applicants do not try to access the system or file forms during this time as your session may be terminated and your data lost.

3/6/2014 – "470 No 471" Email Notifications Issued

Each year, USAC sends a notification to applicants that have timely posted an FCC Form 470 to the USAC website but not yet filed an FCC Form 471 funding request citing that FCC Form 470.

On March 6, USAC prepared an email to each FCC Form 470 contact person or authorized person with a timely posted FCC Form 470 not cited on any FCC Form 471 Block 5 funding request (Item 11 on the form) as of March 3. For each unique email address, this email contained all affected FCC Form 470 application numbers and all Entity Numbers.

If the contact person email address appeared in Item 6e of the form, the email was sent to the contact person.

If the contact person email address was blank but the authorized person email address appeared in Item 27f of the form, the email was sent to the authorized person.

Each Form 470 featured at least one of these addresses.

3/3/2014 – USAC's Washington, DC Office Closed, Monday, March 3, 2014

Due to inclement weather, USAC's Washington, DC office is closed today, Monday, March 3, 2014. Please note that the Schools and Libraries Client Service Bureau (CSB) will remain open.

2/28/2014 – Registration Open for 2014 Service Provider Trainings

This spring, join USAC in Tampa or Los Angeles for a training focused on service providers who participate in the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program. The training will cover general topics for service providers.

Register early! Space is limited. Both service provider trainings present the same information, so please select only one. Registration is complimentary.

2/27/2014 – Special Edition News Brief - FY2014 Funding Decisions, Help Us Help You

The [02/27/14 Special Edition issue of the News Brief](#) is now available. Receive E-rate Program tips, deadline reminders, and answers to your questions in this weekly newsletter. [Subscribe](#) to it and receive it each week in your inbox.

2/27/2014 – Update on Priority 2 Commitments for FY2013

On February 7, 2014, the USAC Schools & Libraries Committee approved a resolution that authorized USAC to deny all FY2013 Priority 2 (Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance) requests at the 90 percent discount level upon FCC approval. On February 24, the FCC authorized USAC to proceed. These denials will start with FY2013 Wave 41, dated March 5, 2014.

Previously USAC had been authorized to deny all Priority 2 applications at the 89 percent discount level and below. As a result, USAC will fund no Priority 2 applications for FY2013.

2/26/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: Thursday, February 27

USAC's [E-File system](#), including Rural Health Care's My Portal, will be unavailable Thursday, February 27, from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM EST, for

system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

2/24/2014 – FCC Form 470 Deadline is Wednesday, February 26

February 26, 2014, is the deadline to post an FCC Form 470 on USAC's website.

Applicants who post an FCC Form 470 on February 26th will have just enough time to meet the 28-day competitive bidding requirement to then submit their FCC Form 471 and Item 21 Attachment(s) on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, when the filing window closes.

For more information see [Step 2: Competitive Bidding](#) on the USAC website, or use the [Submit a Question tool](#) to contact the Client Service Bureau.

The Special Edition News Brief from [February 7](#) also provides helpful reminders for applicants.

2/13/2014 – USAC's Washington, DC Office Closed, Thursday, February 13, 2014

Due to inclement weather, USAC's Washington, DC office is closed today, Thursday, February 13, 2014. Please note that the Schools and Libraries Client Service Bureau (CSB) will remain open.

1/22/2014 – E-File Outage Due to System Maintenance: 9:00 PM EST Friday, January 24 to Noon Saturday, January 25

USAC's [E-File system](#), including Rural Health Care's My Portal, will be unavailable Friday, January 24, from 9:00 PM EST through noon on Saturday, January 25, for system maintenance. Online forms will not be accessible for contributors, service providers, or participants in the High Cost, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries programs. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.

1/21/2014 – USAC's Washington, DC Office Closed, Tuesday, January 21, 2014

Due to inclement weather, USAC's Washington, DC office is closed today, Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Please note that the Schools and Libraries Client Service Bureau (CSB) will remain open.

1/15/2014 – Training Site System Maintenance: 7:30 AM Wednesday, January 15 to 9:00 PM EST Friday, January 17

The Schools and Libraries Program [training site](#) will be unavailable from 7:30 AM Wednesday, January 15 through 9:00 PM EST Friday, January 17 to upload the revised FCC Forms 470, 471, and 486. During this time, users will not be able to access the training site. We apologize for any inconvenience.

1/9/2014 – Special Edition News Brief - FY2014 Window Opens Today

The FY2014 application filing window for the FCC Form 471 opened at noon EST today and closes at 11:59 PM EDT on Wednesday, March 26, 2014. The window will be open for 77 days.

1/2/2014 – System Maintenance: 8:00 PM to 11:59 PM EST Thursday, January 2

The Apply Online page, including Submit a Question, online forms, and most search tools will be unavailable Thursday, January 2 from 8:00 PM through 11:59 PM EST to upload the revised FCC Form 486. During this time, users may be unable to file, certify, and search for certain forms online.