Eligible Services

2020 Applicant and Service Provider Training
November 6, 2020
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HOUSEKEEPING – WEBINAR PANEL

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• The **slide deck** is available when you click the arrow to expand the “**Handouts**” tab.

• A recording of this webinar will be available after the event via the registration link.
HOUSEKEEPING – Q&A

• There will be a live Q&A session focused on today’s topics.

• Tips for submitting questions:
  • Use the “Questions” box in your webinar control panel anytime during the presentation.
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  • Write in full sentences.
  • Ask one question at a time.
  • Ask questions related to webinar content.
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1. Log in to EPC.
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MEET OUR TEAM

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AGENDA

1. Eligible Services
2. Early Installation
3. Basic Fiber Concepts
Eligible Services
Eligible Services

Category One (C1)
Data Transmission and/or Internet Access

- No budget (limit) on funding request

Category Two (C2)
Internal Connections, Managed Internal Broadband Services, and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

- Budget (limit) on funding request
- Budget covers a five-year period
Eligible Services

Category One includes services needed to support broadband connectivity to eligible schools and/or libraries.

Eligible services include:

• Data Transmission and/or
• Internet Access services
Examples of Category One (C1) services include:

- Leased lit fiber or leased dark fiber
- Internet access
- Satellite service
- DS-1 (T-1), DS-3 (T-3), etc.
- DSL
- Broadband over power lines
Category Two includes services needed for broadband connectivity within schools and/or libraries, and services needed to bring broadband into and provide it throughout schools and libraries.

There are three service types:

• Internal Connections
• Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections
• Managed Internal Broadband Services
Examples of **Category Two (C2)** services include:

- Routers, switches, and modems
- Cabling
- Access points for a local area network or wireless local area network
- Basic maintenance of eligible equipment
- Managed internal broadband services (e.g., managed Wi-Fi)
Category One (C1) services are not limited in cost as long as they are cost-effective.

Category Two (C2) services are limited by a pre-discount cost ceiling ("Category Two budget")

- Budget period is five years.
- Budget is calculated based on:
  - Schools: number of full-time and part-time students in the school
  - Libraries: square footage of the library branch
Eligible Services List (ESL)

• Each year, the FCC releases a list of services that are eligible for the upcoming funding year at least 60 days before the opening of the application filing window.

• The ESL for each funding year provides general guidance on what products and services are eligible under the E-rate program for the upcoming funding year.
Eligible Services List (ESL)

• The ESL also provides helpful information such as eligibility conditions for each category of service for each specified funding year.

• Applicants can only receive funding for eligible products or services that are being used for educational purposes.
The Eligible Services List for FY2021 will be posted on the USAC website on the Eligible Services List web page when it becomes available. (This will occur at least 60 days prior to the opening of the FY2021 application filing window.) This page also contains Eligible Services Lists for previous funding years.
Eligible Services – Recurring Services

- **Recurring services** are services that are billed on a monthly basis – (e.g., broadband internet access service.)

- Recurring services must be received during the funding year to be eligible for E-rate funding.

- For FY2020, this means that recurring services must be received between July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
Eligible Services – Non-Recurring Services

- **Non-recurring services** are one-time charges for services and/or equipment that are delivered and installed at eligible locations (e.g., wiring, other cabling or wireless installations and equipment).

- Applicants and service providers have until September 30 of the relevant funding year to deliver and install non-recurring C2 services.

- For FY2020, this means non-recurring C2 services can be delivered from July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

- This service delivery deadline can be extended under certain circumstances.
Early Installation
Early Installation

What is early installation?

• Some **Category One** non-recurring components can be installed as early as January 1, prior to the July 1 start of the funding year, if certain conditions are met.

• **Category Two** non-recurring services can be installed beginning the April 1 before the funding year.
Early Installation

What is early installation?

Early installation for non-recurring **Category One** services can occur provided the following conditions are met:

- Construction begins after selection of the service provider;
- The service provider must be selected pursuant to an FCC Form 470 posting;
- A Category One recurring service must depend on the installation of the infrastructure; and
- The Category One recurring service’s actual start date is on or after July 1 of the funding year.
Early Installation

What is early installation?

NOTE: The invoices (BEAR or SPI) cannot be dated before July 1 of the funding year.

Additional Reminder: Funding is not guaranteed until USAC makes a commitment.
Early Installation

What is early installation?

• Early installation of non-recurring **Category Two** services:
  
  • Services cannot start until **after the 28-day competitive bidding** process is completed and the service provider is selected.
  
  • Funding is not guaranteed until USAC makes a commitment.
Basic Fiber Concepts
Introduction to Fiber

Types of eligible fiber

1. Leased lit fiber
   The applicant pays a monthly fee to the service provider who provides the fiber, the connections, the network equipment, and the data transport and/or internet access service. The service provider also manages and maintains the network.

2. Leased dark fiber
   The applicant leases a portion of a fiber network owned by a service provider and pays separately for the network equipment, maintenance and operations, and data transport and/or internet access service over that fiber.

3. Self-provisioned network
   (next slide)
3. Self-provisioned network

Applicant ownership of a high-speed broadband network. The applicant hires a vendor to construct the network or a portion of the network, and thereafter completely or partially owns and maintains that network or portion. An E-rate eligible entity may share the services and equipment used to construct and/or operate a self-provisioned network supported by E-rate funding with an ineligible third-party entity so long as the ineligible third-party entity pays its fair share of the costs, i.e., its pro-rata portion of the undiscounted costs of the network.

Note: Although included as a fiber option, a self-provisioned network may utilize technologies other than fiber. The applicant owns the network that it hires a service provider to construct. The applicant must pay for the network equipment, pay to maintain the network, and pay for any data transport and/or internet access services separately.
What is Network Equipment?

Network Equipment includes the electronics and equipment necessary to make a Category One fiber service functional.
Fiber – Network Equipment

What is Network Equipment?

A single piece of Network Equipment (also called basic terminating equipment) is eligible under Category One.

• The single piece must be located at the demarcation – the point at which the service provider would start to check if service were interrupted.

Other pieces of Network Equipment can be eligible as Category Two Internal Connections.
HOUSEKEEPING – Q&A

• **Review for the Q&A session**

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