E-Rate Open Data Course 1: Open Data Overview September 28, 2023

Disclaimer

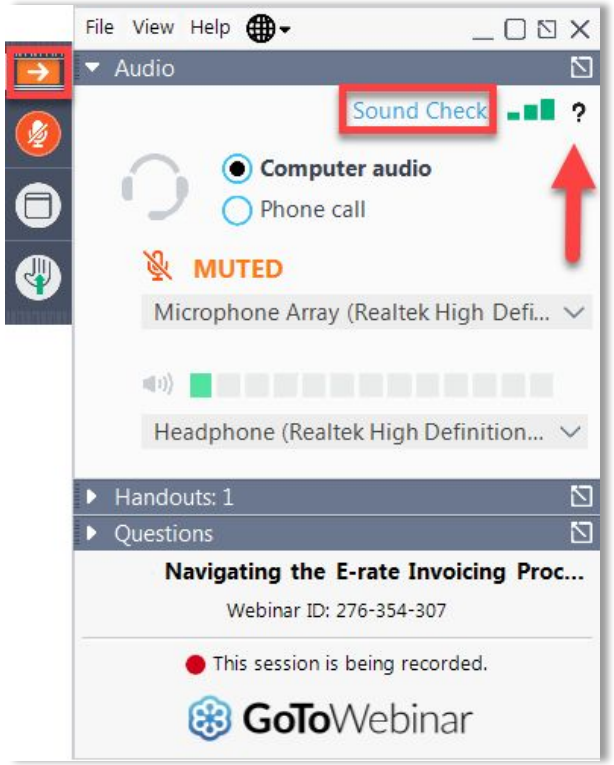
To accommodate all attendees, real-time closed captions will be present during this presentation. We apologize in advance for any transcription errors or distractions. Thank you for your support.

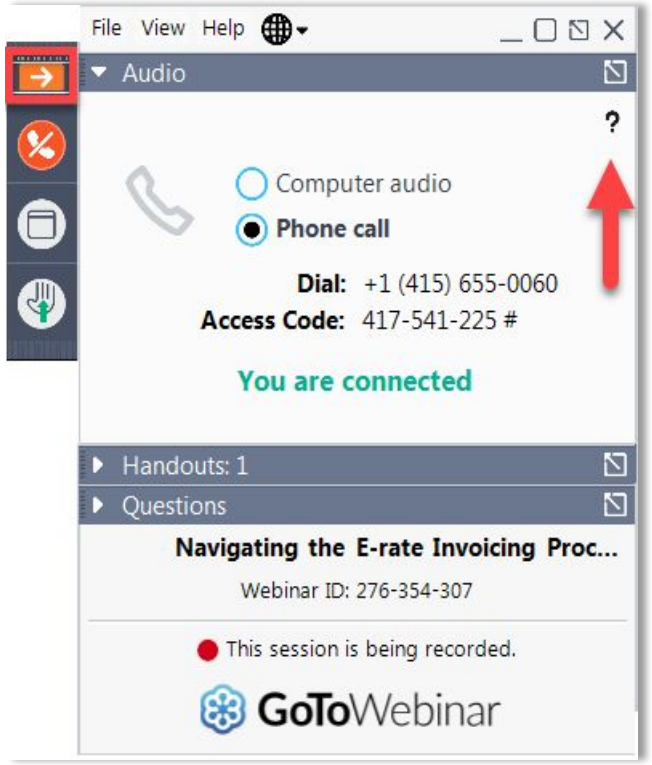
Housekeeping

- Audio is available through your computer's speakers.
- The audience will remain on mute.
- Enter questions at any time using the "**Questions**" box.
- If your audio or slides freeze, restart the webinar.
- A copy of the slide deck is in the "**Handouts**" section of webinar panel.

Housekeeping – Technical Issues

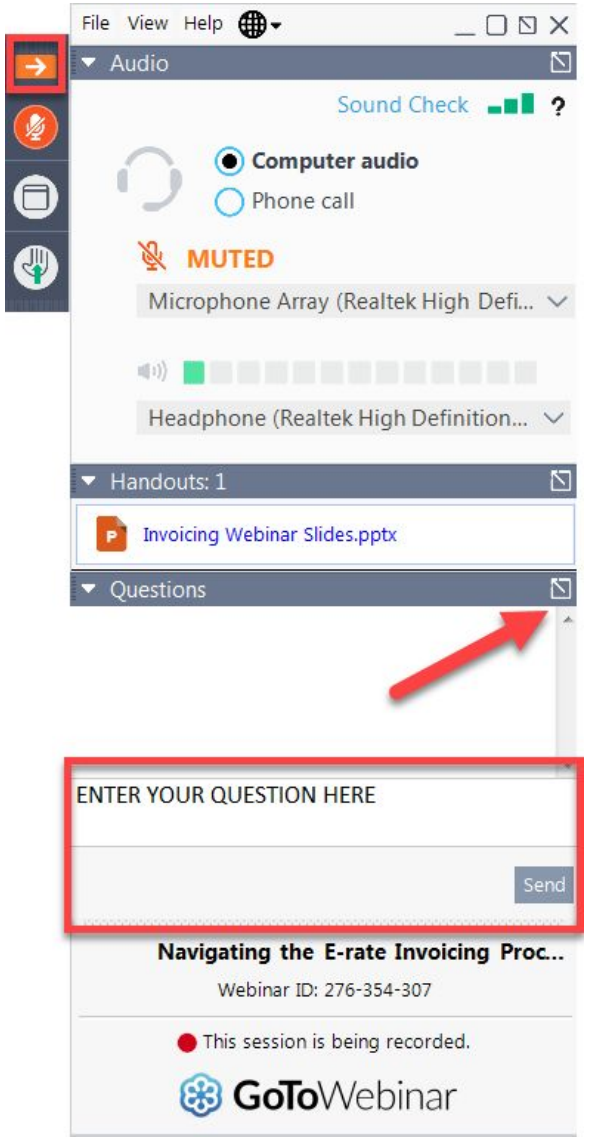
- Use the **Sound Check** link and click question mark icon for audio help.
- Exit webinar and click the check system requirements link in the event confirmation email to determine whether your computer meets the requirements to see and hear the webinar.
- If issues persist, call 833-851-8340 to troubleshoot with GoToWebinar.





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.
  - Click the box with the arrow above the questions box to expand it and see all written answers.
  - Write in full sentences.
  - Ask one question at a time.
  - Ask questions related to webinar content.



E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC)

Call us at (888) 203-8100

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET

Create a customer service case in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC):

1. Log in to EPC.
2. Select the **Contact Us** link from the upper right menu on the landing page.

MEET THE TEAM

Lorenzo Sanchez

Lead Data Analyst | E-Rate

Thomas Nesbitt

Director | E-Rate

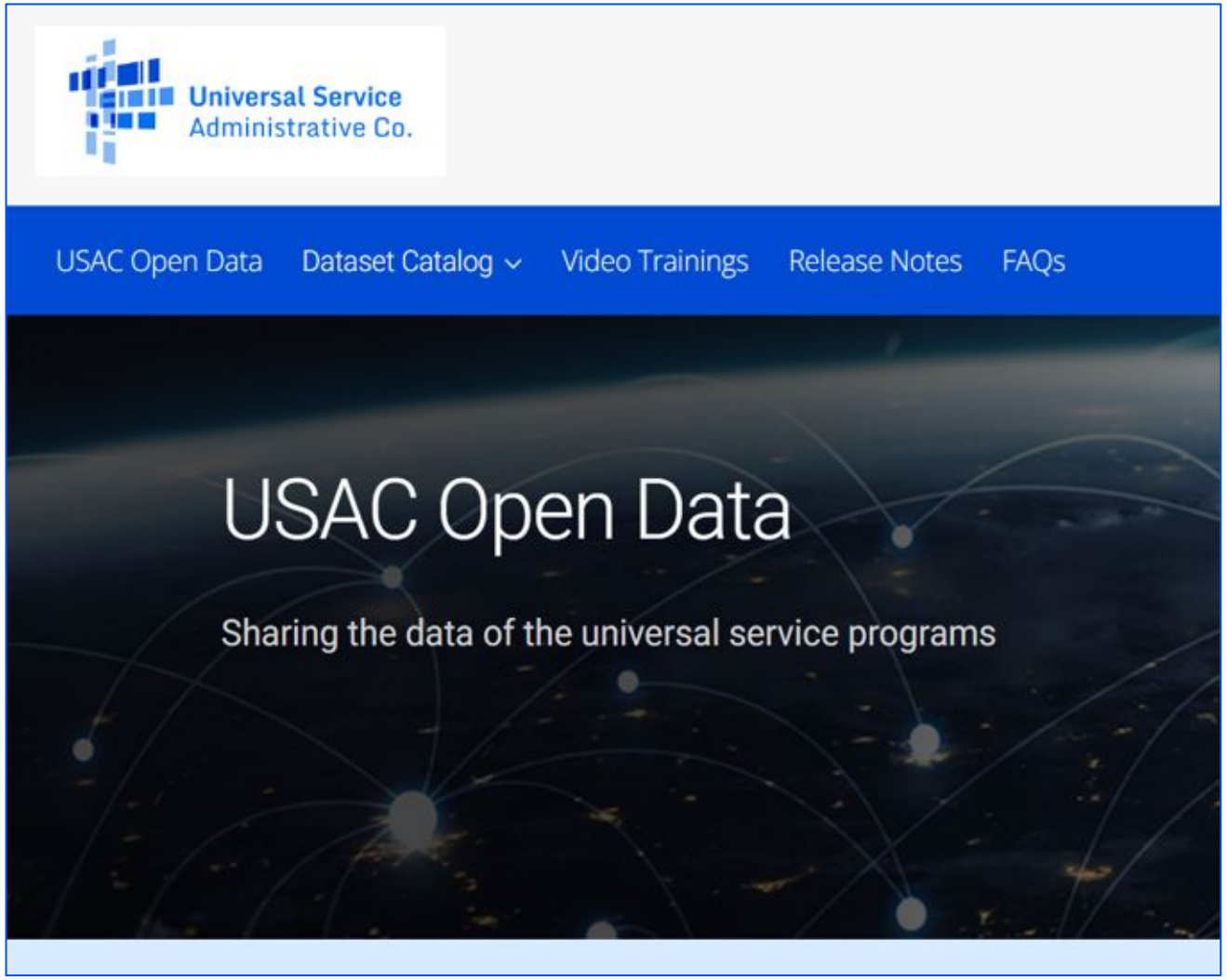
Available for Public Use

What we will cover

- Open Data introduction
- Learn to navigate the open data platform
- Explain the various open data sets and tools available
- Search for tools
- Walk through a tool use case
- Review additional resources

What is Open Data?

- USAC's Open Data is a web portal where you can access:
  - Raw data submitted by universal service program participants
  - Self-service tools connected to USAC data
- As part of USAC's Open Data initiative, we make this data open and accessible to the general public.
  - Anyone is free to use, re-use, and redistribute the data in our datasets



What is it for?

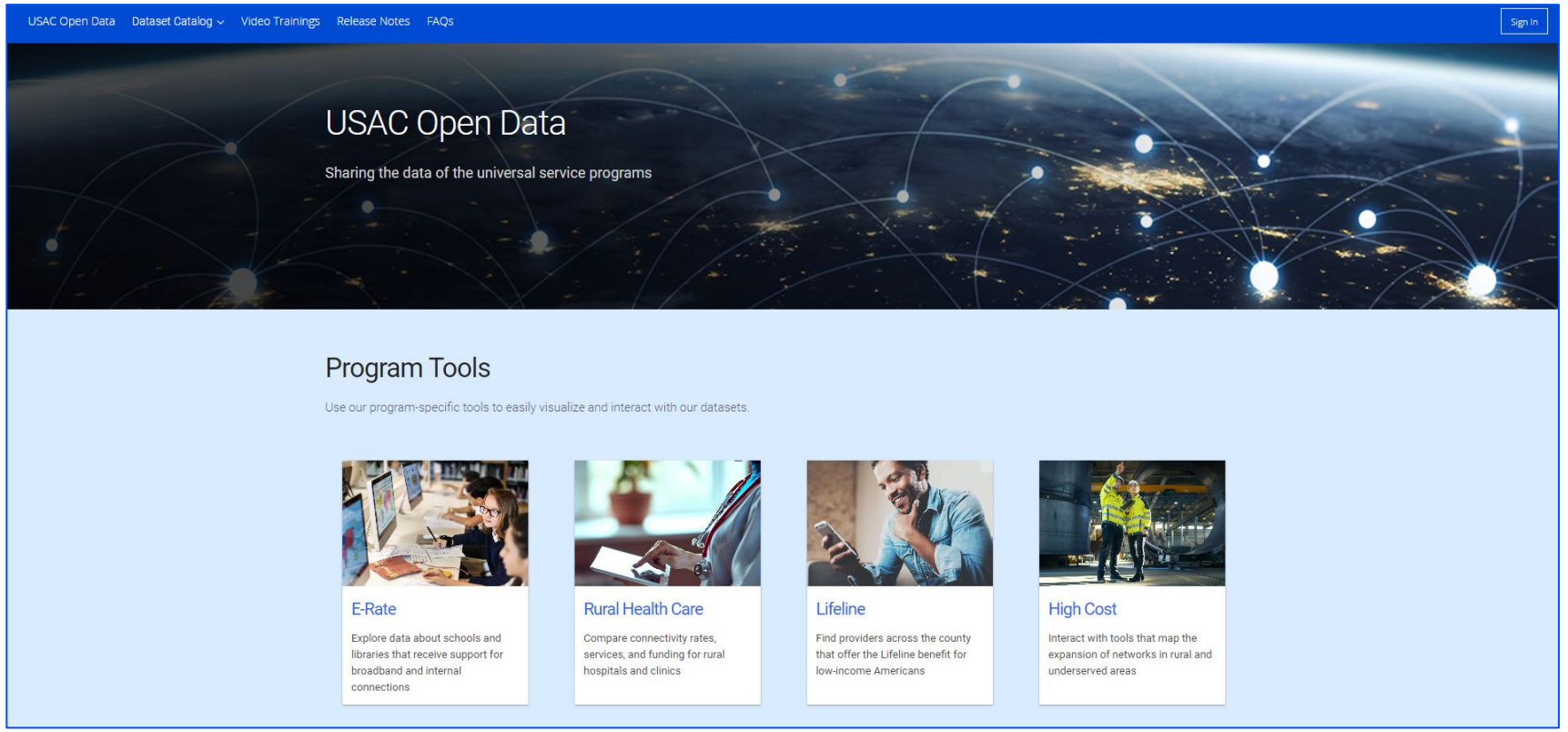
- Make universal service fund program data available to the public in an equitable and reliable way
- Provide transparency, visibility, and self-service in a highly secure platform
- Help stakeholders answer universal service fund program questions using the available data

How does Open Data accomplish this for E-Rate?

- Provides E-Rate data related to:
  - FCC Form 470 (competitive bidding)
  - FCC Form 471 (request for discount on services and funding commitments)
  - FCC Forms 472/474 (reimbursements)
  - Category 2 FY2021+ budgets
  - E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) related data
- Allows searching large datasets of aggregated E-Rate information using a variety of filters
- Allows creating customized reports and visualizations
- Provides data export options in multiple formats including Excel

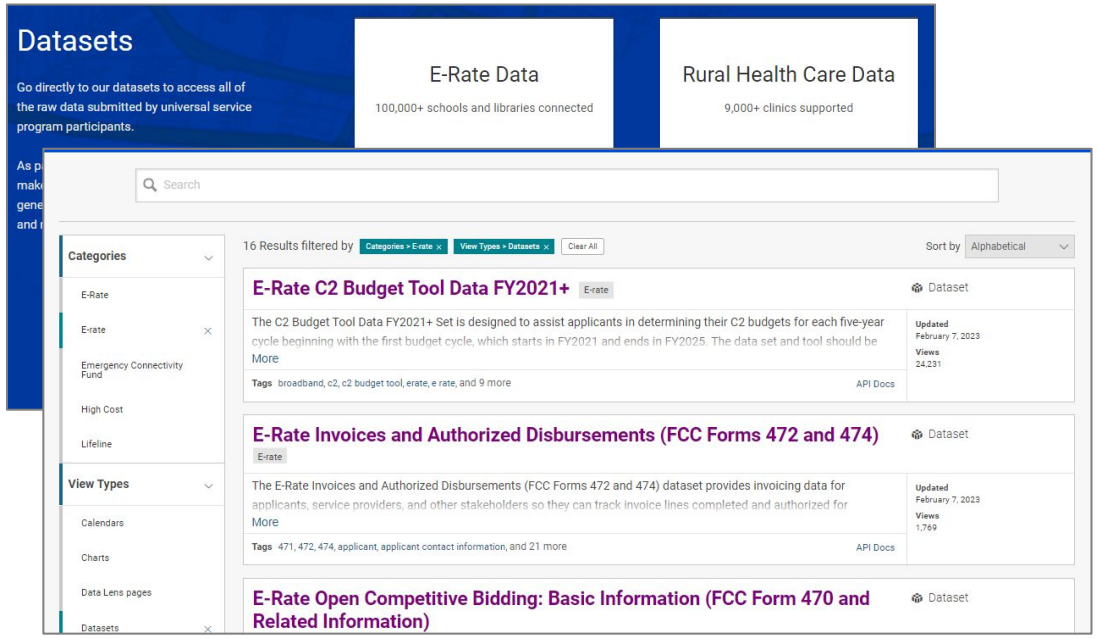
How to access Open Data

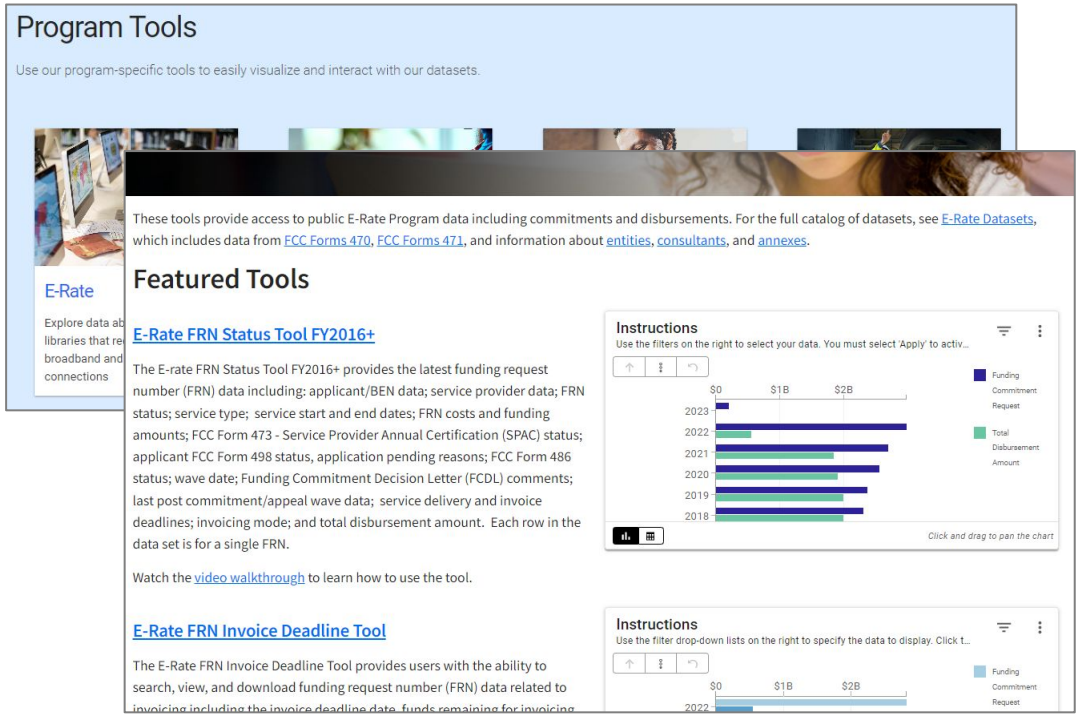
Access USAC Open Data Website: https://opendata.usac.org/



Datasets and tools

Open Data Datasets vs. Tools: How do they differ?



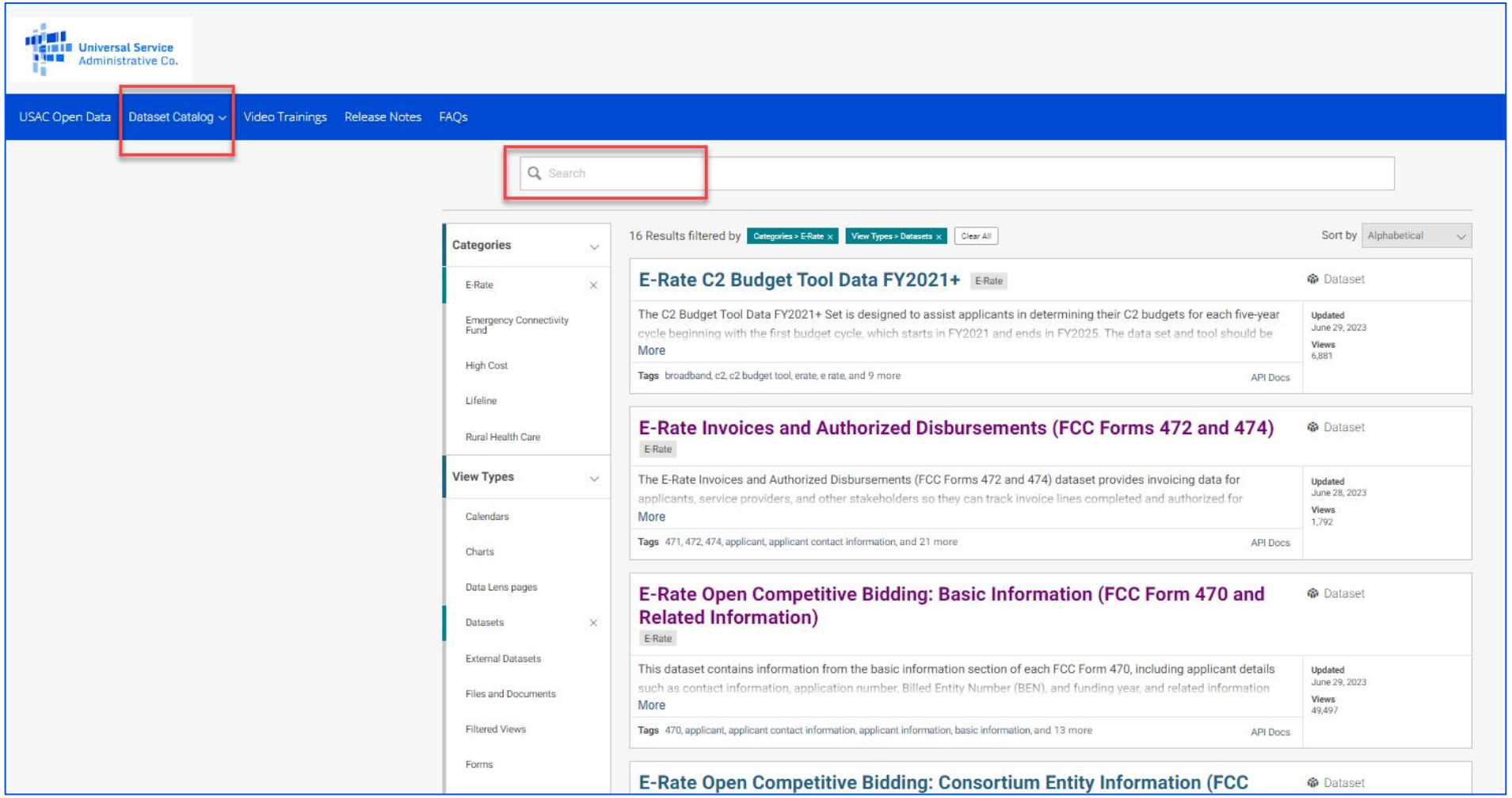


Key E-Rate Open Data tools

Datasets	Tools
E-Rate Supplemental Entity Information	• E-Rate Entity Search Tool
E-Rate Request for Discount on Services: FRN Status (FCC Form 471 and Related Information)	• E-Rate FRN Status Tool FY2016+ • E-Rate FRN Invoice Deadline Tool
E-Rate Request for Discount on Services (all datasets)	• E-Rate FCC Form 471 Download Tool
E-Rate Invoices and Authorized Disbursements (FCC Forms 472 and 474)	• E-Rate Invoice Disbursements Data Lookup Tool
E-Rate C2 Budget Tool Data FY2021+	• E-Rate C2 Budget Tool FY2021+

Search Open Data for E-Rate assets

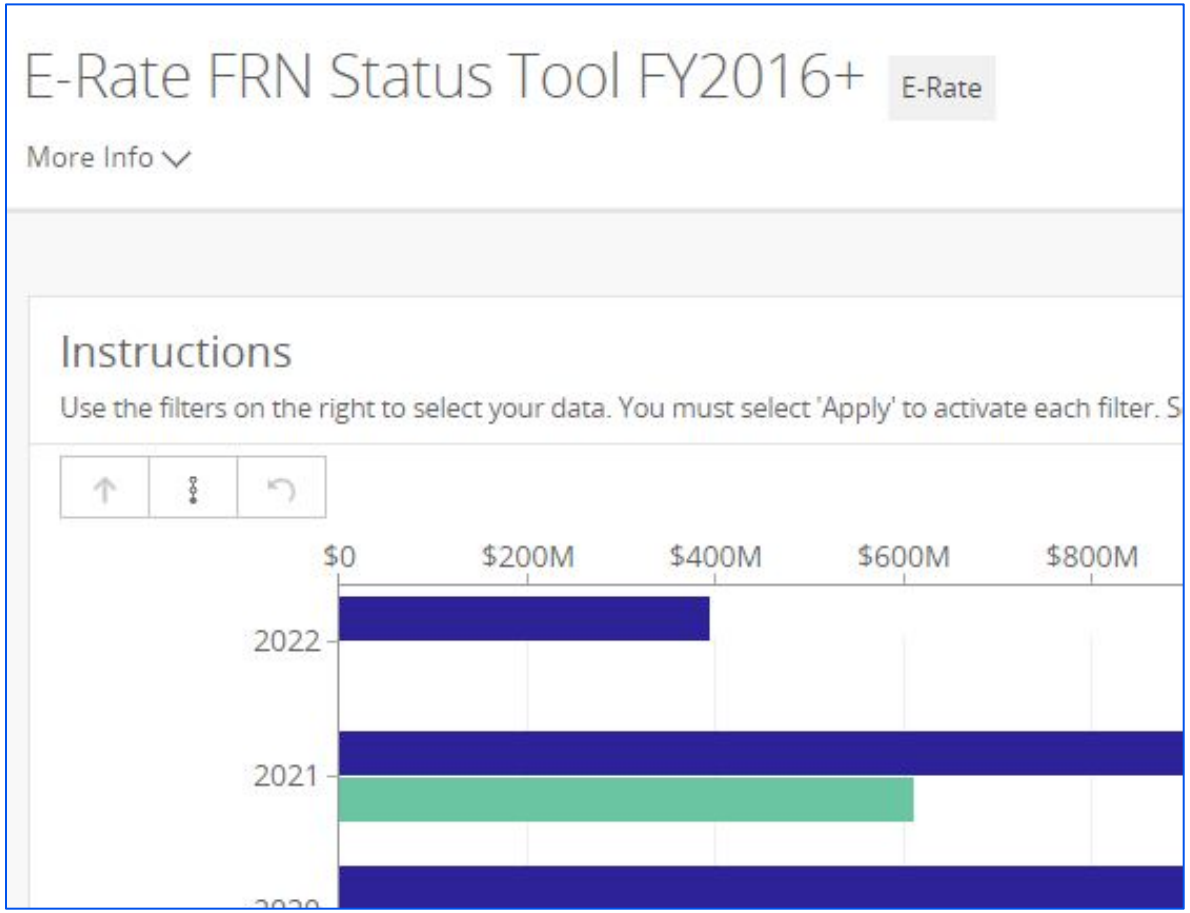
Dataset Catalog: https://opendata.usac.org/browse?category=E-Rate



Demo: E-Rate FRN Status Tool FY2016+

Use Case [E-Rate FRN Status Tool FY2016+] **:**

As an applicant, what is the status of all funding requests I've submitted for the most recent funding year?

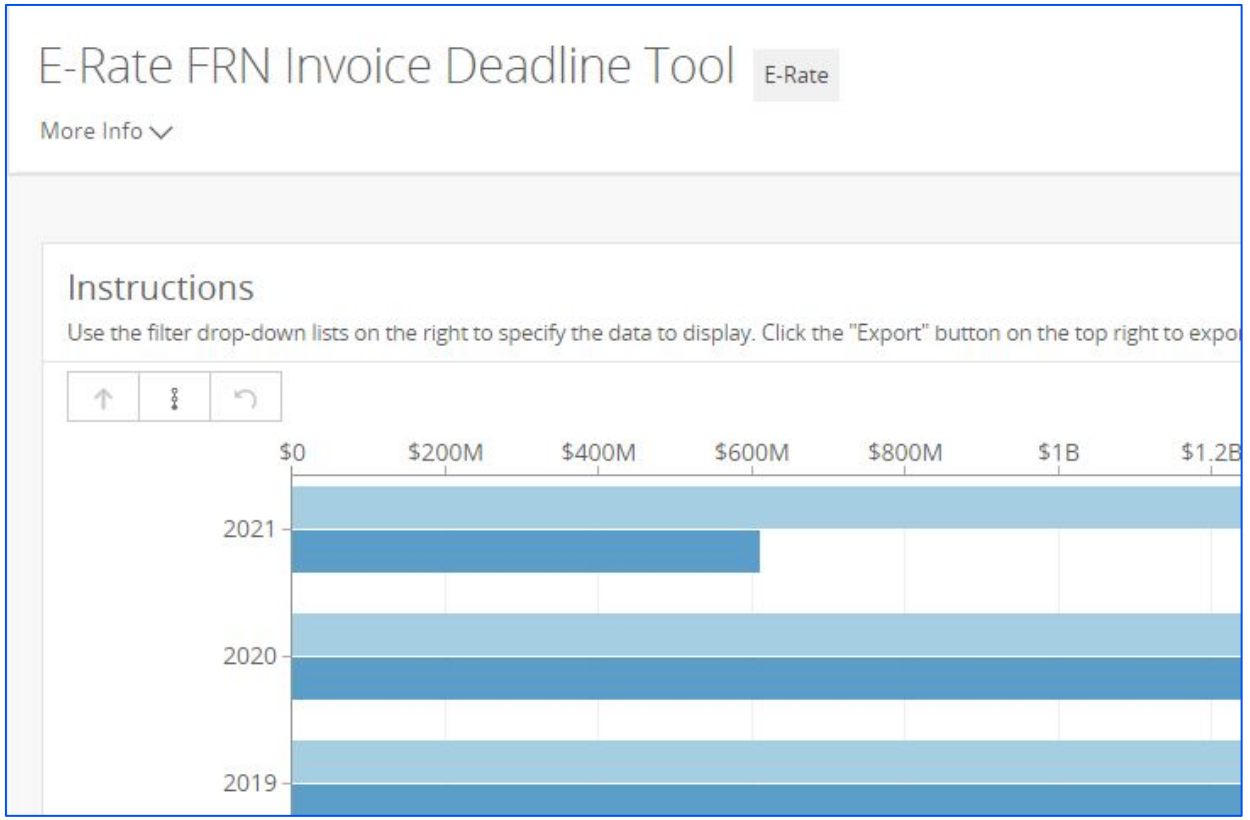


Demo: E-Rate FRN Invoice Deadline Tool

Use Case E-Rate FRN Invoice Deadline Tool**:**

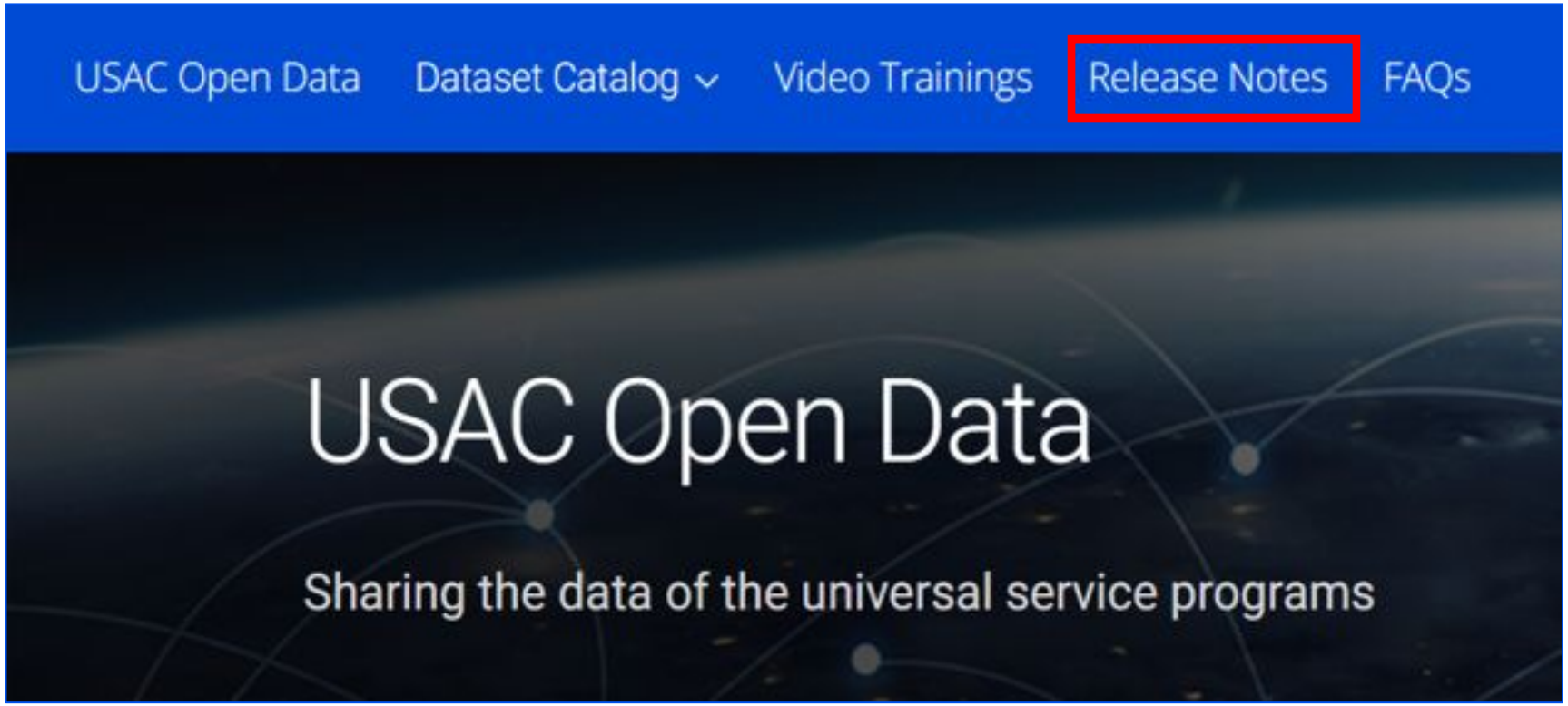
As a service provider, how much funding is remaining for funding requests where we are listed as the service provider and that are:

- Invoicing ready, not expired, and with SPI as the invoicing method? What are the invoicing deadlines?



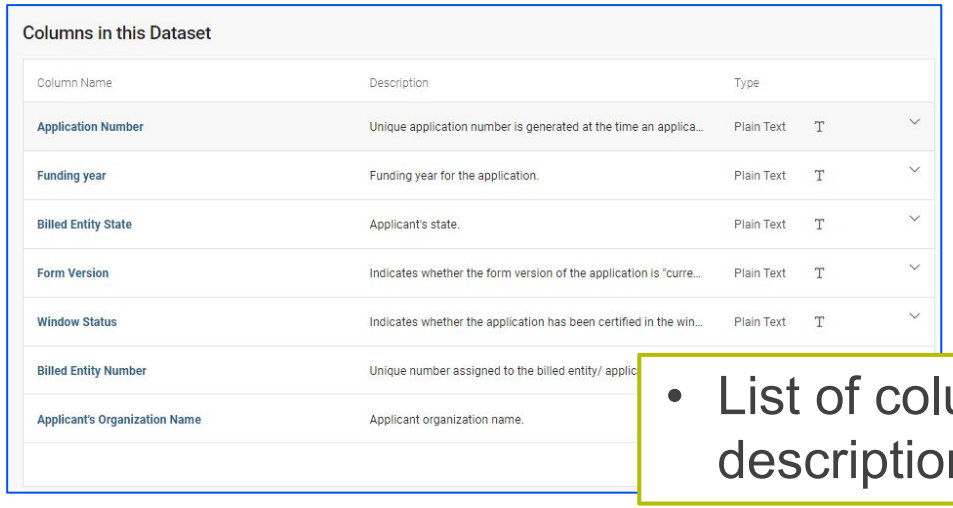
Open Data Resources

- You can find a list of all major Open Data updates (new assets, enhancements, and resolved issues) in our Release Notes page

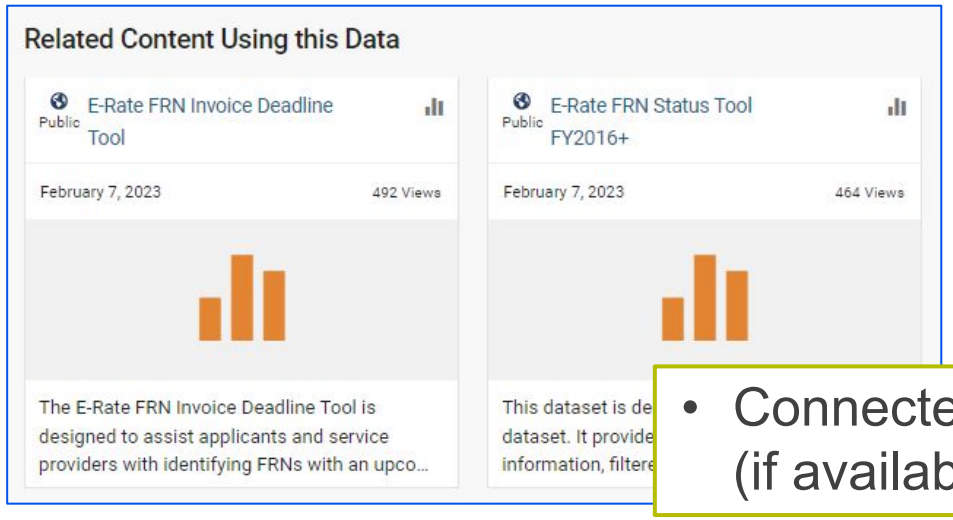


Dataset resources

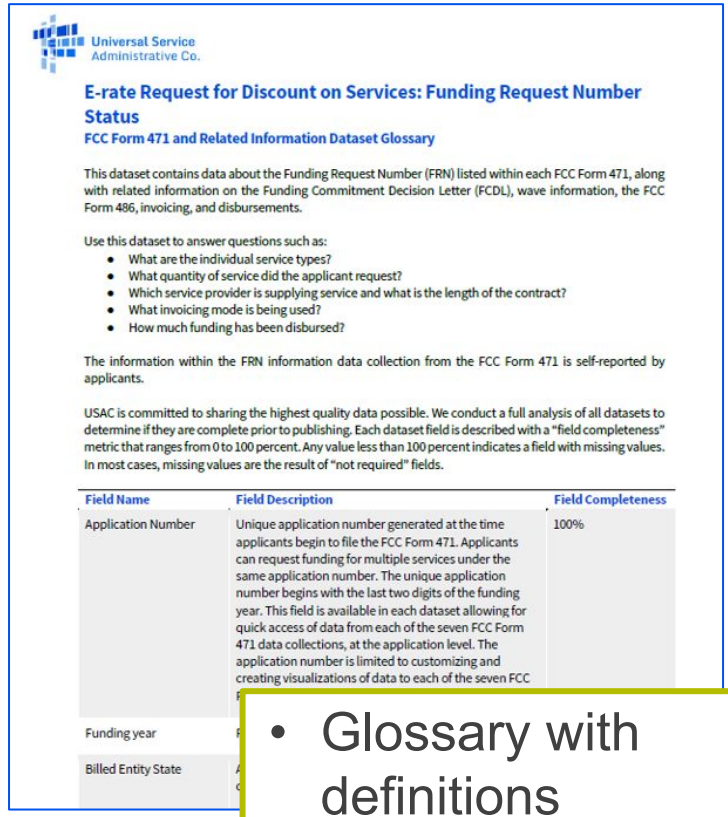
Each Dataset includes the following resources:



- List of columns with short descriptions



- Connected tools (if available)

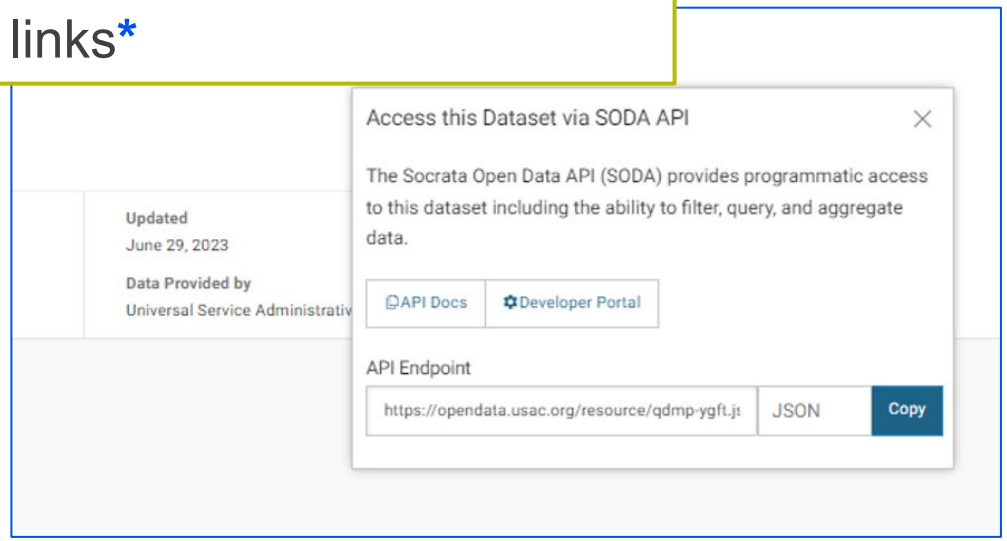


- Glossary with definitions

Dataset resources (contd.)

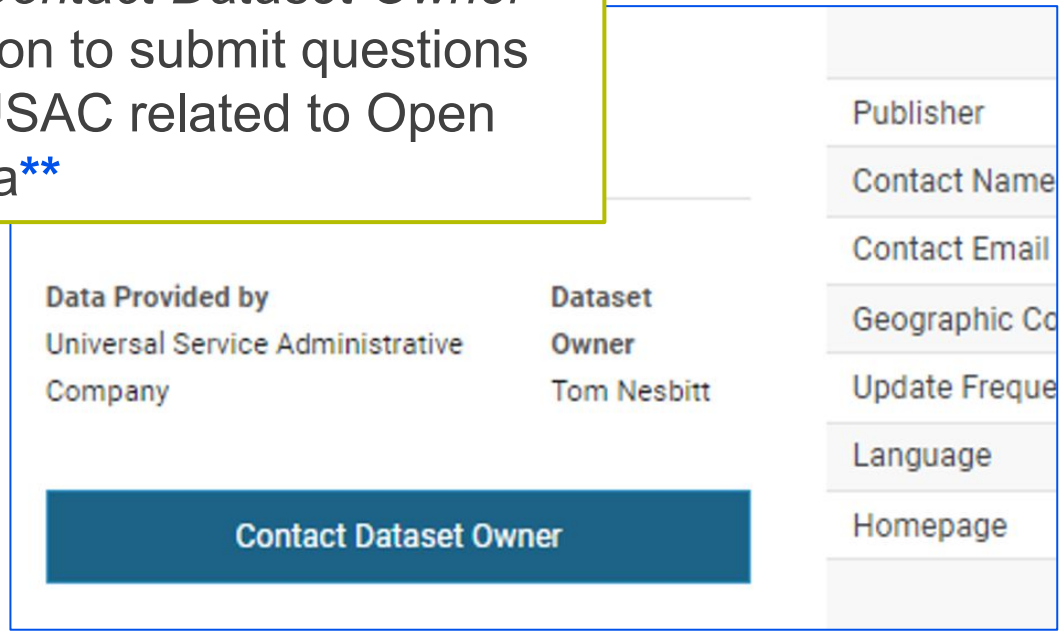
Each Dataset includes the following additional resources:

- Developer and API documentation reference links*



*For developer/API questions, contact the Socrata support team at: https://support.socrata.com/hc/en-us/requests/new

- A "*Contact Dataset Owner*" button to submit questions to USAC related to Open Data**



**For E-Rate program or application specific questions, contact the program team directly. See https://www.usac.org/e-rate/contact-us/

Available for Public Use

Open Data Webinar Part 2

Uses for custom reports

Creating an Open Data account

Demo: Creating a custom report

Uses for visualizations

Demo: Creating a simple chart visualization

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Questions?

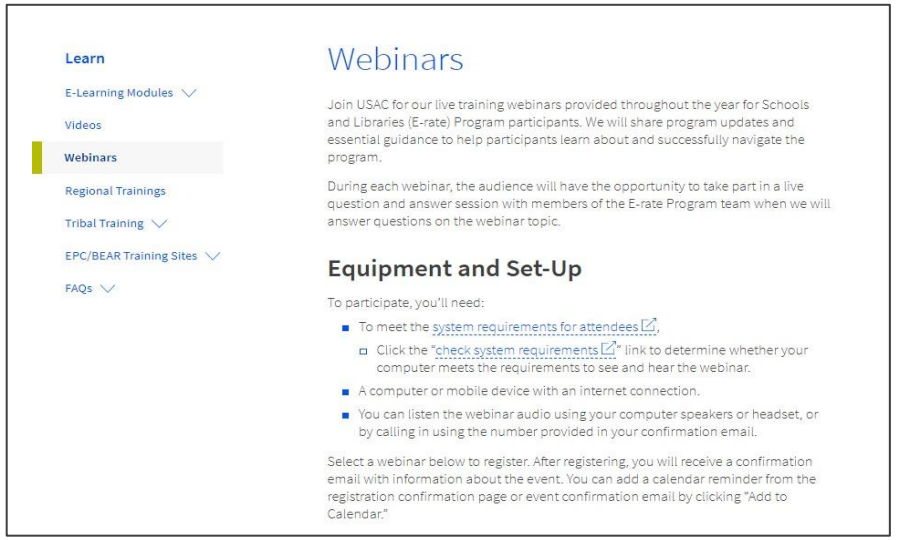
UPCOMING WEBINARS

Our next webinar is on:
10/03/23 at 2 p.m. ET

Topic: 2023 Fall Training E-Rate Program Overview

Recommended for: Applicants and Service Providers

E-Rate Experience Level: All



Go to the E-Rate **Webinars** page for additional information.

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- A survey will appear on your screen at the end of the webinar.
- If you are not able to complete the survey today, one will be emailed to you within one to two business days.
- We appreciate your feedback!

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Thank You!

Universal Service
Administrative Co.

Key Terms

Term	Definition
Dataset	A set of numbers or values that relate to a specific topic
Tool	A user-friendly interface that facilitates viewing or exporting data from datasets
Raw data	Data that has not been altered or processed for use
Self-service	A system of serving oneself without needing assistance from another person
Open Data Assets	Any object within Open Data including datasets and tools

Key Terms

Term	Definition
Open Data Assets	Any object within Open Data including datasets and tools
Use case	When or why someone would utilize a process
Aggregated	Grouped numbers or values
Filter	Feature to remove unwanted information, leaving the user with only the information they want to view
API	An application programming interface (API) allows two applications to communicate with each other usually via code written in a programming language