Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program

May 19, 2025

Pilot FCC Form 471

The Pilot FCC Form 471 application filing window opened on **March 18, 2025, at 8 a.m. E.T.** and will close on **September 15, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. E.T.** Pilot participants may request Pilot Program funding using the Pilot FCC Form 471 after they complete the competitive bidding process and select their service provider(s). All program participants must submit a Pilot FCC Form 471 during the window to receive Pilot Program funding for their eligible cybersecurity services and equipment. For more information, visit the [Pilot FCC Form 471 webpage](#).

USAC hosted a training on the Pilot FCC Form 471 on **March 25, 2025** to walk participants through the process to request funding and highlight key features of the Pilot FCC Form 471. Visit the [Webinars webpage](#) to view the webinar recording and [slides](#).

USAC will provide ongoing resources and training to help all participants understand the Pilot Program requirements, complete necessary forms, and successfully participate in the program.

Competitive Bidding and the Pilot FCC Form 470

Unless eligible for a competitive bidding exemption, Pilot Program participants must conduct a fair and open competitive bidding process to identify and request the cybersecurity equipment and services they need for the Pilot, so that potential service providers can review those requests and submit bids in response to them. Participants begin the competitive bidding process by submitting and certifying the Pilot FCC Form 470 in the Cybersecurity Pilot Program portal. Pilot Program participants must wait at least 28 days from the date the Pilot FCC Form 470 is certified and posted on USAC's website before entering into a legally binding agreement or contract with a service provider(s). This date is known as the Allowable Contract Date (ACD).

USAC hosted a training on February 4, 2025, to walk participants through the competitive bidding process and requirements and highlight key features of the Pilot FCC Form 470. Visit the [Webinars webpage](#) to view the webinar recording and [slides](#).

Pilot participants can begin the competitive bidding process now. For more information about the process, please visit the [Competitive Bidding webpage](#) on USAC's website.

Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2

All Pilot participants were required to complete and submit the Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 1 to indicate their interest in being selected for the Pilot Program. As a selected participant in the Pilot Program, you are now required to complete and submit the second part of the FCC Form 484 application, i.e., the Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2. Part 2 of the Pilot FCC Form 484 collects more detailed cybersecurity data and Pilot project information from Pilot participants than Part 1 of the form. The data gathered on the form will help the FCC evaluate whether, and to what extent, it should use the Universal Service Fund (USF) to support the cybersecurity needs of eligible schools and

libraries going forward.

As a reminder, due to the sensitive nature of the cybersecurity-related information collected on Parts 1 and 2 of the FCC Form 484, the FCC will treat the information collected as presumptively confidential under its rules and withhold it from routine public inspection. The FCC also will not share the information collected on the form with other federal agencies for incident reporting or compliance purposes.

The Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 is now available in the Cybersecurity Pilot Program portal and must be submitted by **September 15, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. E.T.** Pilot participants cannot receive a funding commitment decision letter (FCDL) until their Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 is submitted to USAC. Participants who fail to timely submit a Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 and/or the Pilot FCC Form 471 will be subject to removal from the Pilot Program.

USAC hosted a Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 training on February 13, 2025. Visit the [Webinars webpage](#) to view the webinar recording and [slides](#).

For more information, visit the [Pilot FCC Form 484 webpage](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

*1.5 Q: When will Pilot funding be available to purchase cybersecurity equipment and services? Will funds be available beginning July 1, 2025, like in the E-Rate program?

A: Pilot funds will be available as soon as a Pilot participant receives a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) from USAC and has successfully completed Part 2 of the FCC Form 484 application. Unlike the E-Rate program, the Pilot does not utilize specific funding years, so participants need not wait until a specific date (e.g., July 1, 2025) to purchase cybersecurity equipment and services, provided they have otherwise completed the necessary requirements. Pilot participants and service providers will be able to request reimbursement after the receipt or delivery of eligible cybersecurity services and/or equipment through the Pilot Program.

The earliest service delivery start date for the Pilot Program is March 18, 2025, i.e., the first day of the FCC Form 471 application filing window. The last date to receive service is three years from the date of the first FCDL for each funding request number (FRN). See 47 CFR §§ 54.2001(c) and 54.2008(d). See also FAQs 1.5a, 1.8, and 4.3.

*1.5a Q: What start/end dates should I use when preparing the FCC Form 471?

A: For month-to-month services, Pilot participants should use their actual service delivery start and end dates on the form. For contracted services, Pilot participants should use their contract start and end dates on the form. The earliest service delivery start date for the Pilot Program is March 18, 2025, i.e., the first day of the FCC Form 471 application filing window.

Be sure to review the FCC's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage, which is consistently updated to address new questions raised and reflect the current status of the program. New and updated FAQs are marked with an asterisks.

Key Dates

January 17, 2025: Pilot FCC Form 470 and Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2 became available in the Cybersecurity Pilot Program portal.

March 18, 2025: Pilot FCC Form 471 application filing window opened.

July 1, 2025: Last date to voluntarily withdraw from the Pilot Program.

August 18, 2025: Deadline to submit the Pilot FCC Form 470.

September 15, 2025: Pilot FCC Form 471 application filing window closes and deadline to submit the Pilot FCC Form 484 Part 2.

Stay Connected

USAC will share information, resources, and training opportunities throughout the Pilot Program. If you received this email, you are signed up for ongoing program outreach.

If you have additional contacts who you would like to receive information about trainings, program updates, and deadline reminders – or if this email was forwarded to you – please sign up for program outreach. Please note that signing up for email outreach will not change your contact settings in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) or the Cybersecurity Pilot Program portal.

Need Help? Contact Us!
Call us at (888) 203-8100 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. E.T. or submit a case in EPC.