## Introduction to the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)

2018 Applicant Training



1. What is the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)?

## AGENDA

- 2. Logging into EPC
- 3. New Users: Terms and Conditions
- 4. My Landing Page
- 5. Navigation Bar
- 6. Your EPC Entity Profile

# What is the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)?

#### **Poll the Audience -**

- Who in the audience has logged into EPC?
- Who in the audience is an Account Administrator?
- Who in the audience has User rights in EPC?
- Who has no idea?



### **E-RATE PRODUCTIVITY CENTER (EPC)**

- What is EPC?
  - Account and application management portal
  - Manage program processes, receive notifications, and contact customer service.
- What can you do in EPC?
  - File most program forms
  - Maintain a list of your related entities
  - Update entity information
  - Account Administrators can add users on their organization's account and assign them rights (permissions) to file program forms.



#### **E-RATE PRODUCTIVITY CENTER (EPC)**

• What web browsers are supported by EPC?

Browser	Comments
Microsoft Edge	Microsoft Edge is only supported on Windows 10 operating systems.
Microsoft Internet Explorer 11	Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 is supported on Windows operating systems. Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 is supported on Windows 8.x tablet. Running Internet Explorer in Enterprise or Document Mode to emulate older browser versions is not supported.
Mozilla Firefox	Mozilla Firefox updates automatically. EPC supports the most recent stable version of Mozilla Firefox.
Google Chrome	Google Chrome updates automatically. EPC supports the most recent stable version of Google Chrome.
Apple Safari	Safari is only supported on Mac operating systems.

## **Logging into EPC**

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#### Step 1:

Go to EPC:

• <u>https://portal.usac.org/suite/</u>



#### Step 1:



### **Step 2: Logging In**

- Tips for Entering your Username
  - Type in your username instead of copying and pasting.
  - Enter it in **all lowercase**.
  - Make sure there are no spaces or erroneous characters in the username.
  - Check for typos.

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Username	
Password	
Remember me on this computer	
Forgot your password?	SIGN IN

### **Step 2: Logging In (Continued)**

- Tips for Creating your Password
  - Be at least eight characters
  - Has not been used in the previous four passwords
  - Contains at least one numeral (0 through 9)
  - Contains at least one special character (such as !, \$, #, %)
  - Contains at least one uppercase letter (A through Z)
  - Contains at least one lowercase letter (a through z)



### **Step 2: Logging In (Continued)**

- Forgot your Password?
- Enter the email address associated with the account (the EPC username).
- Click SEND EMAIL.
- You will receive email from portal@usac.org, subject "Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Password Reset".

User	name
Pass	word
Re	member me on this computer
Forgo	your password?
Fo	Universal Service Administrative Co.
Fo	Universal Service Administrative Co. Tgot Password

### **New Users: Terms and Conditions**

#### **NEW EPC USERS: Terms and Conditions**

- In order to access EPC functions, every user must accept Terms & Conditions.
- New user accounts are considered inactive and will not have access to anything within EPC until the Terms & Conditions are accepted.
- When a new user is created from an organization, the new user will not appear under the organization's profile until they have accepted the Terms and Conditions.



# **DEMO NEW EPC USERS: Terms and Conditions**

- Once you are created as a new user in EPC:
  - Log in to EPC
  - Once you are logged in, you will be routed to your News screen.
  - Click Tasks (1) on the top left corner



## **DEMO** NEW EPC USERS: Terms and Conditions

News Tasks (1) Ro	cords Reports Actions	Appian
Universal Service	Click here to send a task 1	
Assigned to Me > Sent by Me Starred 😭		
STATUS <b>Open X</b>		
DEADLINE Overdue Today Within 7 days		

## **DEMO** NEW EPC USERS: Terms and Conditions

- Read the Terms of Service
- Click the Accept button at the bottom of the screen.
- You will now be able to access your EPC user account and your organization's account!

ews	Tasks (1)	Records	Reports	Actions
🖺 SA'	VE DRAFT			
Col	mplete	Terms	of Serv	/ice Agreement
Please Terr	agree to the follo	owing Terms of .	Service before g	aining access to EPC.

Last Updated October 20, 2017

#### EPC ACCESS AGREEMENT

This EPC Access Agreement ("Agreement") applies to the E-rate Productivity Center and all E-rate Productivity Center-related systems and networks (collectively "EPC") provided by the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"). Applan Corporation's ("Applan") business process management software suite and associated documentation (collectively the "Software") is a part of EPC. EPC was created in support of the federal Universal Service Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism (also known as the "E-rate Program") that helps entities such as eligible schools and libraries obtain telecommunications at affordable rates.

USAC allows four types of subscribers to access and use EPC, each of which is a "Subscriber" for purposes of this Agreement: (1) applicants ("Applicants"), (2) service providers ("Service Providers"), (3) consultants ("Consultants"), and (4) United States government agencies ("Agency" or "Agencies"), excluding the Federal Communications Commission. This Agreement defines the relationships between both USAC and (i) the Subscriber, and (ii) each person who accesses EPC as authorized by and on behalf of the Subscriber. Both Subscriber and each person who accesses EPC as authorized by and on behalf of the Subscriber are referred to as "you" (and variations such as "you") in this Agreement.

#### 6. Confidentiality of the Software

(a) General. As between the parties, the Software and associated data base contains confidential and proprietary information of USAC and its licensors. You agree not to use the Software except as expressly set forth herein and to maintain reasonable procedures to prohibit the unauthorized disclosure, duplication, misuse or removal of the Software. You agree not to disclose the Software to any third party. Without limiting the foregoing, you agree to use the same procedures and degree of care to avoid unauthorized disclosure or use of the Software as you use to protect your own similar information, but in no event using less than a reasonable degree of care.

(b) Exceptions. The foregoing restrictions will not apply to information that (i) is known to you at the time of communication from USAC or its licensors, (ii) has been rightfully received by you from a third party authorized to make such communication without restriction, (iv) has been independently developed by you as evidenced by your written records, or (v) is required to be disclosed pursuant to a subpoena or other validly issued administrative or judicial process, provided that you must give USAC sufficient notice of such disclosure to allow USAC and its licensors a reasonable opportunity to object to and take necessary legal action to prevent such disclosure. Notice must be provided to USAC's Client Service Bureau at 1-888-203-8100.

7. Miscellaneous. Each party is an independent contractor and nothing herein will be deemed to constitute the parties as partners, agents or joint ventures. Any disputes or claims that you may bring against USAC under or related to this Agreement must be brought consistent with the requirements of 47 C.F.R Part 54, Subpart I. This Agreement (including without limitation notices and any other USAC documentation referenced herein) embodies the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous and contemporaneous agreements, understandings and arrangements, with respect to the subject matter hereof.

ACCEPT

DECLINE

## **My Landing Page**

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#### Ask the Audience -

• What functions can be performed from your landing page?



#### **DEMO SLIDE My Landing Page**

Velcome, Consortium-20	versal Service ninistrative Co.		Funding Change Website	Request Report   FCC Form 470 Service Substitution   Hurrica   Contact Us   Help	)   FCC Form 471   FCC Fo ne Impact Designation	rm 486   Appeal   FCC Form 500   SPIN Manage Organizations   USAC
Notifications	Plasse solect a value		•	Status 👔 💿 All		
Funding Year     Select a Funding Year			•	<ul> <li>Generated</li> <li>Not Generated</li> </ul>	ł	
Notification	Description	Issued Date		Generated By	Generated	On
		No	items available			
My Entities						
Entity		Entity Number		City	State	Zip Code
Consortium-200085		11547		The City	MD	20850

#### **DEMO SLIDE** My Landing Page: Notifications

#### Notifications

Notification Type	Please select a value		•	Status ② • All		
Funding Year	Select a Funding Ye	ear	•	Not Generated		
Notification		Description	Issued Date	Generated By	Generated On	
			No items available			

- Notifications
  - Applicants can view their decision letters (FCDL, FCC Form 486 Notification Letters, FCC Form 486 Certification, etc.) by funding year.

# **DEMO SLIDE** My Landing Page: My Entities

#### **My Entities**

Entity	Entity Number	City	State	Zip Code
Testing SD 123	19554	Lake Oswego	OR	97034
quiz	19700	test	VA	12345
Egret Quiz	19701	Chesapeake	VA	23320

- My Entities
  - For applicants: My Entities will display all entities you have rights to access.
  - For consultants: My Clients will display all client entities associated with the consulting firm.

#### **DEMO SLIDE** My Landing Page: Customer Service Cases

- Customer Service Cases
  - You will see all the customer service cases you have opened.

	Горіс	Nickname	Status	Date Created
1424	Online Navigation Help	FCC Form Review	Pending Customer	5/21/2018 12:02 PM EDT
1425	Online Navigation Help	FCC Form Help	Closed	5/21/2018 12:03 PM EDT
1426	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:03 PM EDT
1427	Online Navigation Help	Finding Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:04 PM EDT
1428	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:05 PM EDT
1429	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Pending	5/21/2018 12:06 PM EDT
1430	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:06 PM EDT
1431	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:08 PM EDT
1432	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:08 PM EDT
1433	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Pending Customer	5/21/2018 12:09 PM EDT
1434	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:10 PM EDT
1435	Other	Finding FCC Forms	Closed	5/21/2018 12:11 PM EDT
1436	Online Navigation Help	Finding FCC Forms	Pending	5/21/2018 12:11 PM EDT

#### ~ Customer Service Cases

#### **DEMO SLIDE** My Landing Page: FCC Forms and Post-Commitment Requests

FCC Forms and Post-Commitment Requests

<ul> <li>FCC Forms</li> <li>Post-Commitment Re</li> <li>Form Type</li> <li>Funding Year</li> </ul>	equests FCC Form 470 Select a Funding Year	• 	∙ ∙	Certified	
Nickname		Application Number		Funding Year	Status
		No	tems available		

- FCC Forms and Post Commitment Requests
  - Users can view all of their FCC Forms by funding year.
    - FCC Form 470, FCC Form 471, FCC Form 486, FCC Form 500

## **EPC Navigation Bar**

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#### **EPC Navigation Bar**

News Tasks (3) Records Reports Actions



- Made up of five tabs:
  - News
  - Tasks
  - Records
  - Reports
  - Actions

#### **EPC Navigation Bar – News**



- Populate notifications on actions taken in EPC
- Entity Changes
- Successful application submissions
- All USAC Notifications (e.g., Funding Commitment Decision Letter)

### **EPC Navigation Bar – Tasks**



- Tasks populate notifications that require action by the user.
  - Leaving an incomplete form (whether voluntary or accidental) will populate a task.
  - Completing data entry on a form will populate a task to certify the form.
  - PIA inquiries will populate a task.

#### **EPC Navigation Bar – Records**



- Contains all the records within EPC
  - All Entities
  - Applications
  - Customer service cases

#### **EPC Navigation Bar – Reports**



- This tab allows users to view various Reports depending on their rights in EPC.
  - My Submitted Modification Requests (RAL)
  - My Landing Page

#### **EPC Navigation Bar – Actions**

- This tab allows users to take various Actions depending on their rights in EPC.
  - Create a Customer Service Case (Contact Us)
  - Create a Whistleblower Case
  - Search and Export Certified FCC Forms 470 and 471

## **Your EPC Entity Profile**

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#### Ask the Audience -

• How can you navigate to your EPC profile?



# EPC Entity Profile – How do I get there from My Landing Page?

My Landing	g Page versal Servio ninistrative (	ce Co.		Funding Request Repo Change   Service Subs Website   Contact Us	rt   FCC Form 470   FCC titution   Hurricane Imj Help	Form 471   FCC Form bact Designation   M	n 486   Appeal   FCC Form 500   SPIN lanage Organizations   USAC
Notifications Notification Type Funding Year	Please select a value Select a Funding Ye	ear	•	Status 🥹	<ul> <li>All</li> <li>Generated</li> <li>Not Generated</li> </ul>		
Notification		Description	Issued Date	Generated	Ву	Generated On	1
			No item	s available			
My Entities							
Entity		Entity	Number	City	State	2	Zip Code
Consortium-200085		11547		The City	MD		20850
~Customer Sei	vice Cases						
Case ID	Тор	ic	Nickname	Status		Date Created	

# EPC Entity Profile – How do I get there from the Records tab?



#### **EPC Entity Profile – Account Administrator View**



#### **EPC Entity Profile – Full Rights User View**

News Tas	sks (3)	Records	Reports	Actions							Appia	
Records / Ap	oplicant Entit	ties	122			0=D1						
#19004 - Tesuing SD 123								MAN	IAGE ORGANIZATION RELATI			
Summary	Custome	er Service	Modifications	Additional Information	Discount Rate Co	Contracts	FCC Forms FRN Appea	ls News Related Actions		Create FCC Form 470		
										Create FCC Form 471		
Organiz	Organization Details								Create FCC Form 486			
organization becans										Manage Contracts		
Name Testing SD 123							Applicant Type Sch	Create Appeal				
Entity	Entity Number 19554 Status Active					ve	Create SPIN Change Request					
FCC Reg	FCC Registration 1234567890 Number							Create Service Substitution Request				
Contact	Inform	ation								Create FCC Form 500		
Contact	. morn	ation								Hurricane Impact Designatio	n	
Physical	l Address	2455 Country	Club Rd				Phone Number 123	-456-7898				
		Lake Oswego	, OR 97034				Email					
Mailing Address 2455 Country Club Rd Lake Oswego, OR 97034						Website URL						

#### Ask the Audience -

- What is the difference between the Account Administrator's rights and a regular user?
- Who can be an Account Administrator?



# EPC Entity Profile: Parent-Child Relationship (School District or Library System)

- To see if other entities are linked to your organization, use the Additional Information Tab.
- For Example: A School district would like to know if the correct schools are linked to them in EPC.
  - Click Additional Information.
  - Under category selected **Related Organizations**.
  - Under Relationship Type select **Related Entities**.

lews Tas	sks (436)	Records	Reports	Actions								🚺 Аррі
Records / Applicant Entities #19555 - Testing School 123												
Summary	Custome	r Service 🛛 🛚	Nodifications	Additional Information	Category Two Budget	Contracts	FCC Forms	FRN Appeals	News	Related Actions		
	Category	Related Orga	nizations			•						
Relation	Relationship Type     Related Entities											
Entities	5											
Entity Num	nber			Entity Name			City	St	tate		Zip Code	
No items available												

#### **EPC Entity Profile: Contracts**



- From your Entity Profile Page.
- Click Contracts
- All contracts that were completed in EPC will populate.
  - To enter a contract into EPC select Manage Contracts.

Records / Applicant Entities	
#19554 - Testing SD 123	CREATE FCC FORM 470 CREATE FCC FORM 471 CREATE FCC FORM 486
Summary Customer Service Modifications Additional Information Discount Rate Contracts	FRN Appeals News Related Actions
Category Select an Option 🗸	

 To find information on FCC Forms 470, 471, 486 or 500 by funding year, use the FCC Forms tab on your Entity Profile

**EPC Entity Profile: FCC Forms** 

#### **EPC Entity Profile: FRN Appeals**



• To find information on all appeals submitted by the entity use the FRN Appeals tab.

e

#### **EPC Entity Profile: News**



 To view recently issued decision letters (Funding Commitment Decision Letters, FCC Forms 486 Notification Letters, etc.) for this entity use the News tab.

#### **Pop Quiz-**

- What are the 3 areas you can locate your Funding Commitment Decision Letter?
- Where can you find your Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) inquiries?
- Who can create a new entity?
- Who can manage user permissions?
- If all fails who can help you?

