

The E-Rate Program: Tips for New Tribal Applicants



Eligibility Information for Tribal Libraries

A Tribal library is eligible for E-Rate support if a Tribal government entity designates a library as a Tribal library through Tribal Resolution, charter or ordinance, a letter from the Tribal Council, or a similar document. A Tribal Library must demonstrate that it has characteristics of a library, including **regularly scheduled hours, staff, and materials for library users.**

Tribal college and university (TCU) libraries that serve as public libraries in their communities are also eligible for E-Rate support.

Additional Support for Tribal and TCU Libraries

With the establishment of the Tribal Library E-Rate Advocacy Program (T-LEAP), Tribal and TCU libraries can receive direct support in navigating the E-Rate application process, including one-on-one assistance when preparing applications, applying to the program, and receiving E-Rate support.

Interested libraries can [apply here](#) or contact the Tribal Liaison at TribalLiaison@usac.org.

Ready to Begin?

Follow the steps below to prepare your E-Rate program application:

- 1 Obtain an [FCC Registration Number](#).
- 2 Obtain a [Billed Entity Number \(BEN\)](#) and create a user profile in the [E-Rate Productivity Center \(EPC\)](#).
- 3 Designate your entity's Tribal status and provide your Tribal affiliation in EPC. Watch this [instructional video](#) to learn how.

Contact Us

Ready to start or need help? Reach out to the E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC) at (888) 203-8100, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

When calling, you must provide the name and contact information for the staff member(s) who will serve as the Account Administrator(s).



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