



## Monthly E-Rate Tribal e-Newsletter

February 5, 2021

Dear Tribal Stakeholder,

### FCC Seeks Comment On Using E-rate Funding To Support Remote Learning

On February 1, 2021, the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau released a Public Notice [DA 21-98](#) seeking comment on several petitions requesting emergency relief to use E-rate program funds to support remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Comments are due on or before **February 16, 2021**, and reply comments are due on or before **February 23, 2021** in WC Docket No. 21-31. For information on filing comments and reply comments, please refer to the Public Notice.

## FCC Forms 470 & 471 Webinar Series

The [Funding Year \(FY\) 2021 Application Filing Window](#) opened on January 15, 2021 and will close on March 25, 2021. February 25, 2021 is the latest date that you can certify an FCC Form 470 for FY2021 and still have time to wait the required 28 days and certify your FCC Form 471 before the window closes on March 25 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

Join us for the upcoming two-part webinar series for Tribal applicants. Over the course of the series, the E-rate program staff will walk through the steps for filing FY2021 FCC Forms 470 and 471. Each session will include Q&A opportunities.

All sessions will be recorded and closed to the press. No cost is associated with attendance at this virtual series or any USAC E-rate training.

### Session 1: FCC Form 470 Walkthrough Demo

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**  
**4:00 p.m. ET**

## [Register](#)

Join us for the first webinar in the series designed to walk applicants through the steps for filing an FY2021 FCC Form 470. The webinar will include a step-by-step demonstration of filing the form and will be followed by a Q&A session.

- **Recommended for:** Tribal E-rate Applicants
- **E-rate Experience Level:** All levels

To prepare for the webinar, we recommend that you review the [E-rate program's website](#):

- Brand new to E-rate? Learn how to [Get Started](#).
- Learn more about the [FCC Form 470](#) and [Eligible Services](#).
- Review the steps in the application process:
  - Step 1: [Competitive Bidding](#)
  - Step 2: [Selecting a Service Provider](#)
- Follow the step-by-step guides offered in the [instructional video series for FCC Form 470](#).
- [Subscribe](#) to the weekly Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program News Brief. It provides tips to help you through the application process and other timely information.
  - SL News Brief: [January 8, 2021](#)
  - SL News Brief: [January 15, 2021](#)

## Session 2: FCC Form 471 Walkthrough Demo

**Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

**4:00 p.m. ET**

[Register](#)

Join us for the second webinar in the series designed to walk applicants through an FY2021 FCC Form 471. It will include a step-by-step demonstration of filing the form and a Q&A session.

- **Recommended for:** Tribal E-rate Applicants
- **E-rate Experience Level:** All levels

To prepare for the webinar, we recommend that you review the [E-rate program's website](#):

- Brand new to E-rate? Learn how to [Get Started](#).
- Learn about [FCC Form 471](#).
- Review the steps in the application process:

- Step 3: [Applying for Discounts](#)
- Follow the step-by-step guides offered in the [instructional video series for FCC Form 471](#).

## More Resources

### E-rate Office Hour Webinars: Recorded and Upcoming

During the FY2021 application filing window, USAC will conduct a series of office hour webinars that will focus on E-rate topics related to FCC Forms 470 and 471.

Below is the schedule of webinars for January and February showing the topic, the time, the recommended audience, the recommended E-rate experience level, and the specific materials that attendees should review in advance of the webinar. Please note that you will need to register to watch a recording of past events.

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Materials to Review</b>
<a href="#">Watch the Recording</a>	Eligible Services	Applicants and service providers	Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">FY2021 Eligible Services List</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">Watch the Recording</a>	Eligible Services	Applicants and service providers	Beginner/Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Eligible Services webinar</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">FY2021 Eligible Services List</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">Watch the Recording</a>	FCC Form 470 and Competitive Bidding	Applicants and service providers	Beginner/Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">FCC Form 470 video series</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">LCP page</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Pre-Commitment Process webinar</a></li> </ul>
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. ET <a href="#">Register</a>	Service Provider Selection and FCC Form 471	Applicants and service providers	Beginner/Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">FCC Form 471 video series</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Pre-Commitment Process webinar</a></li> </ul>

### More Recorded Webinars

USAC offers more resources to help you navigate through the application process. The full list of recordings for this year's E-rate fall training series is available on the [E-rate Tribal Training page](#). Below is a selected list of relevant webinars.

- **E-rate Productivity Center (EPC) Demo:** Join us for a walkthrough of the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC), the account and application management portal for the E-rate program.
  - [Watch a recording](#)
- **Pre-Commitment Process:** During this webinar, we discuss the E-rate Pre-Commitment Process (getting started, competitive bidding, applying for discounts, and Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review).
  - [Watch a recording](#)
  - [Webinar slides](#)
- **Category Two (C2) Budgets:** During this webinar, we discuss C2 budgets. We provide an overview of C2 budgets and C2 budget guidance for FY2021.
  - [Watch a recording](#)
  - [Webinar slides](#)
- **Post-Commitment Process:** During this webinar, we discuss the E-rate Post-Commitment Process and other post-commitment activities, including starting services, the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), service substitutions, appeals, and more.
  - [Watch a recording](#)
  - [Webinar slides](#)
- **Post-Training FAQ Session for Tribal Applicants:** During this session, USAC answered the questions and concerns generated from the nine-part E-rate Training Series.
  - [Watch a recording](#)

## Important Resources

The weekly Schools and Libraries (E-rate) program [News Brief](#) provides tips to help you through the application process and other timely information.

### News Brief: [January 29, 2021](#)

- Change to Invoice Review Process
- Upcoming Webinars
- January 27 Eligible Services Webinar Recording
- February 25 Invoicing Deadline Information

### News Brief: [January 22, 2021](#)

- January 27 Eligible Service Webinars for Advanced Users and Beginners
- FY2021 FCC Form 471 Bulk Upload Templates

**News Brief: [January 15, 2021](#)**

- Office Hour Webinars – List and Registration
- Preparing for the FY2021 Filing Window

**News Brief: [January 8, 2021](#)**

- Learn Section Updates
- Admin Window Closes January 13, 2021, FY2021 Filing Window Opens January 15, 2021
- Designating your Tribal Status
- System Ideas and Enhancements Documents

## E-rate Program Technical Assistance

All USAC customer support centers remain open, including the Client Service Bureau (CSB). Please be patient if you experience longer than usual wait times with our customer service teams as circumstances continue to change.

You have two options for requesting assistance:

- Open a customer service case in the [E-rate Productivity Center \(EPC\)](#); or
- Call the CSB at (888) 203-8100. CSB is operational Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. ET.

**Questions or Suggestions?**

Contact USAC Tribal Liaison, **Kraynal Alfred**, at [TribalTraining@usac.org](mailto:TribalTraining@usac.org) or (202) 572-5733.