



Tribal Outreach

FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and FCC Tribal Listening

October 20, 2021

Dear Tribal Stakeholder,

This email contains information about the FCC [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) (NPRM), 86 FR 57097, and a related FCC Listening session. The FCC welcomes your comments and participation.

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 86 FR 57097

On October 14, 2021, the FCC published a [NPRM](#), 86 FR 57097, in the Federal Register.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Communications Commission propose to update the definition of library in the Commission's rules to provide clarity regarding the eligibility of Tribal libraries and promote increased participation of underrepresented Tribal libraries in the E-rate Program. The Federal Communications Commission seeks to address a longstanding issue that has impeded Tribal libraries in seeking E-rate support.

DATES: Comments are due on or before November 15, 2021, and reply comments are due on or before November 29, 2021.

See the [Notice](#) for a details on how to submit comments to the FCC.

Please note that USAC and the E-rate program cannot accept or process your submissions.

FCC Listening Session

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

2 p.m. ET

Pre-register via [email](#)

The Federal Communications Commission's Office of Native Affairs and Policy and the Wireline Competition Bureau will host a Listening session for Tribal leaders, staff, and outreach partners to inform participants about the Commission's efforts to increase Tribal libraries' participation in the E-rate Program.

This interactive, one-hour session will discuss a [NPRM](#) adopted on October 1, 2021, which proposes to update the definition of libraries in its rules to clarify that Tribal libraries are eligible to participate in the Commission's E-Rate program. The also solicits input on other steps the Commission could take to encourage and support Tribal schools and libraries' participation in the E-Rate Program.

To register, please send an email with your name, contact information, and Tribal affiliation to OctoberSessionLibraries@FCC.gov. Pre-registration will allow full interactive participation via WebEx.

A [Public Notice](#), DA-21-1303, published on October 15, 2021 contains more information about the event.

Questions or Suggestions?

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