

FY2025-2026 FCC Form 470 Services Guiding Statements Table

Starting with Funding Year 2022, the FCC Form 470 includes guiding statements to help applicants request E-Rate eligible services and/or equipment for the upcoming funding year. The following tables provide a quick way to reference the options provided in the form along with guiding messages.

Please see footnotes for additional information where provided.

Category One

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select “I seek bids for internet access and/or data transmission service.” Next, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|---|---|--|
| Internet Access and Data Transmission Service | I seek bids for Internet access and data transmission service (provided over any combination of transmission medium, e.g., fiber-only networks, fiber/non-fiber hybrid networks, or non-fiber networks such as cable, DSL, copper, satellite, microwave or wireless). | I seek bids for internet access and data transmission services, whether offered by one service provider(s) as a bundled package or offered by one or more service providers as independent services. ¹ |
| Cellular Data Plan/Air Card Service | I seek bids for Internet access and data transmission service (provided over any combination of transmission medium, e.g., fiber-only networks, fiber/non-fiber hybrid networks, or non-fiber networks such as cable, DSL, copper, satellite, microwave or wireless). | I seek bids for data plans or wireless adapters (Air Cards) for mobile devices for commercial wireless service for a school or library that does not have an existing broadband internal connection (e.g., for use on a library bookmobile without a fixed connection). ² |

¹ Applicants can use the narrative field on the FCC Form 470 and/or their RFP, if applicable, to provide additional details regarding their service need requirements.

² Cellular data plans and air cards for mobile devices are eligible for on-premises use only in instances when the school or library seeking support demonstrates that the individual data plans are the most cost-effective option for providing internal broadband access for mobile devices at schools and/or libraries (e.g., for use on a library bookmobile that cannot use a fixed connection).

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select “I seek bids for internet access and/or data transmission service.” Next, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|---|---|--|
| Standalone Internet Access Service | I seek bids for internet access without data transmission service and will arrange for separate data transmission service if required. ³ | N/A |
| Standalone Data Transmission Service | I seek bids for data transmission service only (i.e., that does not include internet access service). ⁴ | I seek data transmission service without internet access service. |
| Leased Dark Fiber and Leased Lit Fiber | I seek bids for data transmission service only (i.e., that does not include internet access service). ⁵ | I seek to lease capacity, e.g., a specific number of dark fiber strands or capacity over a leased lit network that will be used for data transmission service. |
| Self-Provisioned Network (Applicant Owned and Operated Network) and Services Provided Over Third-Party Networks | I seek to build my own network. | N/A |

³ This is not a commonly selected service option. It does not include transport service, which may be needed to deliver Internet access to the school or library building.

⁴ This service option does not include Internet access service. If this option is selected, the applicant will have to request Internet access service separately.

⁵ This service option does not include the modulating equipment needed to light the dark fiber; applicants are responsible for requesting modulating equipment separately.

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select “I seek bids for internet access and/or data transmission service.” Next, choose the following: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Mobile Service | I seek bids for mobile service for use on school buses. | While these options appear on the form, these services are no longer eligible for E-Rate discounts.⁶ |
| Off-Premises Wi-Fi Hotspots | I seek bids for wireless Internet services that can be delivered with a Wi-Fi hotspot for off-premises use. | |

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| C1 Network Equipment | I seek bids for Category One network equipment or maintenance and operations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I own or lease my own network or network capacity and seek bids for the electronics to make the network functional. • I seek bids for school bus Wi-Fi network equipment. • I seek bids for Wi-Fi hotspots for off-premises use. |

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| C1 Maintenance & Operations | I seek bids for Category One network equipment or maintenance and operations. | I own or lease my own network and seek bids for maintenance and operations of the connections. |

⁶See FY2025 Amended Eligible Services List, DA 25-920 (WCB rel. Sept. 30, 2025). The FCC rescinded the eligibility of school bus Wi-Fi service, including the equipment needed to provide such service on school buses, in a Declaratory Ruling adopted September 30, 2025 (FCC 25-63) for FY2025+. The FCC also rescinded the eligibility of off-premises Wi-Fi hotspots in an Order on Reconsideration (FCC 25-62) adopted September 30, 2025.

Category Two

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the Function from the drop-down menu: |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Internal Connections | I seek bids for the equipment needed for broadband connectivity within schools and libraries and/or the related software and right-to-use licenses necessary for the equipment to function. ⁷ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antennas, Connectors, and Related Components • Cabling • Caching & Necessary Software & Licenses • Firewall Service, Components, & Necessary Software & Licenses • Racks • Routers & Necessary Software & Licenses • Switches & Necessary Software & Licenses • Uninterruptable Power Supply/Battery Backup & Necessary Software & Licenses • Wireless Access Points & Necessary Software & Licenses |

⁷ If only requesting software necessary to use the equipment (e.g., right-to-use software or client access licenses), the applicant can request these under Internal Connections and then select the option that identifies the specific type of internal connection (e.g., routers, switches, etc.) and necessary software and licenses. The fact that they are only requesting the software and not new equipment should be explained in the narrative field and included in the RFP, if applicable.

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the Function from the drop-down menu: |
|---|---|--|
| Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections | I seek bids for basic maintenance service on eligible equipment and/or support services (e.g., bug fixes, software upgrades, and security patches) appropriate to maintain reliable operation. ⁸ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antennas, Connectors, and Related Components • Cabling • Caching • Firewall Service and Components • Racks • Routers • Switches • Uninterruptable Power Supply/Battery Backup • Wireless Access Points • Wireless Controllers |

| If you intend to request bids for: | You should first select the following FCC Form 470 statement: | Then, choose the following FCC Form 470 statement: |
|--|---|--|
| Managed Internal Broadband Services (MIBS): Leased Equipment | I seek bids for the operation, management, and monitoring of eligible broadband internal connections. | I seek bids for MIBS using equipment that I currently lease or will lease. |
| Managed Internal Broadband Services: Existing Equipment | I seek bids for the operation, management, and monitoring of eligible broadband internal connections. | I seek bids for MIBS using equipment that I currently own or will own. |

⁸ If requesting a maintenance support subscription (e.g., bug fixes and security patches), the applicant can request these under Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections.