



54.314 Certification User Guide

State-Certified



Contents

| 54.314 Filing Requirements – State Certifications |
|---|
| Supporting Regulations |
| Getting Started |
| Preparing to Access the System |
| Creating a User Profile4 |
| Updating User Profiles4 |
| Accessing the 54.314 Certification System |
| Populating the 54.314 Certification Dashboard7 |
| 54.314 Screen Overview |
| Using the Sort & Filter Feature9 |
| Sort Feature9 |
| Filter Feature10 |
| Working with Excel |
| Copy from Home Page11 |
| Copy from Certification Process12 |
| 54.314 Certification Process |
| Selecting SACs for Certification13 |
| Certifying the 54.31417 |
| 54.314 Certification Confirmation |
| Filing Multiple Certifications |
| Error Messages |



54.314 Filing Requirements – State Certifications

Supporting Regulations

54.314(a) – States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. High-cost support shall only be provided to the extent that the State has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section.

54.314(c)(1) – A certification pursuant to this section may be filed in the form of a letter from the appropriate regulatory authority for the State, and must be filed with the Administrator of the high-cost support mechanism, on or before the deadlines set forth in paragraph (d) of this section. If provided by the appropriate regulatory authority for the State, the annual certification must identify which carriers in the State are eligible to receive federal support during the applicable 12-month period, and must certify that those carriers only used support during the preceding calendar year and will only use support in the coming calendar year for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended. A State may file a supplemental certification for carriers not subject to the State's annual certification. All certificates filed by a State pursuant to this section shall become part of the public record maintained by the Commission.

54.314(d) – In order for an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive federal high-cost support, the State or the carrier, if not subject to the jurisdiction of a State, must file an annual certification, as described in paragraph (c) of this section, with the Administrator.



Getting Started

Preparing to Access the System

Before getting started, you'll need the following:

- 1. Access to Google Chrome browser (highly recommended), Firefox, or Internet Explorer (Edge) V8/9 when completing the 54.314 certification.
 - a. Avoid using the browser's back and forward arrows, use the system provided navigation buttons to move between pages.
 - b. When logging out, use the system buttons to logout and close the browser tab or window to ensure a complete logout.
- 2. User Profile for the permitted State Representative.

Creating a User Profile

A User Profile is designated for the State Representative according to a completed Online Filing Request Form. Changes to who should complete the 54.314 Certification may refer to the Updating User Profile section.

In order to gain access to the 54.314 Certification System, State Representatives will need to complete the Online Filing Request Form. You can receive a copy of the form by sending a request via email to hccerts@usac.org.

Upon completion of the form, the State Commission Representative should send the document to hccerts@usac.org. Users will receive an email response from USAC that will contain the User ID and a temporary password that will allow them to access the 54.314 Certification System. Your User ID will match the email provided in the Online Filing Request Form.

Updating User Profiles

If there is a change in the assignment for certification, the State Commission should contact USAC (at hccerts@usac.org) to inform USAC of the change and to submit an updated Online Filing Request Form. Access to the system is granted on this basis as a new User ID and password will be issued.



Accessing the 54.314 Certification System

The system is a browser-based application and will require an account and link:

Access the system via link in browser: https://forms.universalservice.org/portal/login

Click Continue to accept USAC's policy on using the system.

| this | information carefully. |
|-------|--|
| USA | has added multifactor authentication (MFA) to increase the security of our Universal Service Fund (USF) IT application |
| The | first time you sign into an application, the system will prompt you to set up MFA for your account. To do this |
| 1. | Click the blue Continue button below. |
| 2. | Click the Forgot Password link. |
| 3. | Enter your Usemame (your email address) and click Reset via Email |
| 4. | When you receive the email, click the link to create a password. Your password must be at least eight characters long |
| | and include one lowercase letter, one uppercase letter, one number, and one special character. |
| 5. | Accept the system's terms of use and click Sign In. |
| 6. | On the next page, confirm the email associated with your account and click Send Email. |
| 7. | Check your email for a verification code. |
| 8. | Enter the code and click Verify. |
| After | logging in, you will see USAC's new single portal application dashboard if you have access to more than one application |
| Ont | his page you can access all of the USF applications associated with your log in. This means users no longer have to sign |
| into | multiple applications to interact with different USF programs. |
| From | the dashboard, you can visit the "Settings" page to add a cell phone number to your account. This will allow you to |
| rece | χ e verification codes via either email or text message when you log in in the future. |
| Tole | am more about USAC's MFA and to find a list of all USF IT applications included in the single portal, visit USAC's website |
| Ifyo | a cannot access the email associated with your account and need to set up a new log in, please contact your |
| orga | nization's USF administrator. If you need to reset your password, click the "forgot password" link. More detailed |
| instr | uctions are available in this video. |
| | |

Figure 1 | Notice regarding multi-factor authentication in the 54.314 Certification System



Enter your User ID and password, as provided by USAC.

| Username | Trouble Logging In? |
|---|--|
| Password | The USAC system dashboard displays known system issues and outages. |
| Forgot password? You are accessing a portal to Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) systems used to administer participation in the federal Universal Service programs in compliance with 47 C.F.R. Part 54. Access to the systems is provided solely to USAC-authorized users for USAC-authorized business purposes. By logging in, you represent that you are an authorized user. Use of this system indicates acceptance of the terms and conditions governing the USAC systems. USAC monitors user access and content for compliance with applicable laws and policies. Use of the system may be recorded, read, searched, copied and/or captured and is also subject to audit. Unauthorized use or misuse of this system is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary and/or legal action. Click the box to accept By signing in, I accept the terms and conditions of the USAC system. | If you experience issues logging in to USAC systems with Multifactor Authentication (MFA) and there is not a known system issue, most issues can be resolved by clearing your browser cache and allowing third party cookies. For more help, please visit the MFA Troubleshooting FAQs webpage. |

Figure 2 | Login page for the 54.314 Certification System

After clicking 'Sign In,' the State Representative will be taken be taken to the 54.314 Home Page along with a dashboard. After 60 minutes of inactivity you will be automatically logged out.

At the top right corner of the screen, you will see your user profile. Click on the picture to load a dropdown menu.



| Marine Universit Service | | appian |
|---|------------------------|--------|
| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of | Alice SCO alice.sco | |
| Support) | 🛓 Profile | |
| The 2024 annual filing window closes on 10/1/2024 | Settings | |
| Late filings will be accepted through 7/1/2025. Eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) will see a reduction of at least sever For more information, visit USAC's webpage on Annual ETC Certification. | 🗘 😥 Sign Out | |
| | | |

Figure 3 | Home page after clicking on the profile picture

From here, you will be able to view your profile, open settings, and the option to sign out.

Populating the 54.314 Certification Dashboard

After successfully logging in, the system is populated based on the State Commission's permitted study area codes (SACs). To begin, review the example below for the state of Maryland:



Figure 4 | View of the system populated with the State Commission's data



54.314 Screen Overview

The charts at the top of the page aid the State Representative. They provide holistic information at a glance about the set of SACs assigned for the State Representative to certify.



The pie chart indicates the progress of certification for the set of SACs allocated to the State Representative. This will indicate the current filing year and will update after each successful filing.

Figure 5 | Certification Progress pie chart



The bar chart shows how many certifications have been filed over the past few years for the SACs permitted for certification. This helps to show how many certifications are filed over the years to track any changes in the quantity certified.

Figure 6 | SACs Certified by Year chart



The help box provides useful information and links sources for assistance. The first link will take you to this guide. The FAQ page opens a tab to USAC's page on 54.314 Certifications and the remaining links provide additional resources about the program.

Figure 7 | Help with Filing links

Below the dashboard is the Study Area Code (SAC) List.

There are nine columns:

SAC: shows the list of SACs which are available to certify **Note:** If any SAC is missing, please contact hccerts@usac.org.



Carrier Name: shows the name of the telecommunications company eligible for certification within a given state

State: indicates which state the carrier is authorized to receive support in

Note: Some SACs are cross-jurisdiction and will include border states such as the example provided.

498 ID/SPIN: shows the service provider identification number (SPIN)

Carrier Type: indicates carrier type (ILEC, CETC)

Filing Year: indicates the year of the filing deadline

Status: indicates whether the SAC was certified on time, late, or not yet certified

Submission Type: indicates whether the certification was filed online or offline

Filing Number: indicates which batch a SAC was certified under

Note: It is possible to certify in batches, so a filing number is provided for each set of completed certifications. For example, a State Representative may certify half the SACs in the first filing and then certify the remaining SACs in a second filing.

FCC Form 481: collects the financial and operations information used to validate carrier support; permits a .zip file download of this content

Note: If a document is not found or the SAC is tied to MF1, the system will present an error.

Using the Sort & Filter Feature

The Study Area Code List may be sorted and filtered to adjust the view of the list or to find a specific data row. Sorting and filtering are available on the home screen and within the SAC selection page of the certification process.

Sort Feature

Columns that may be sorted are SAC, 498 ID/SPIN, Carrier Name, State, and Carrier Type, Status, Submission Type, and Filing Number. Sorting works by clicking on the column header. Clicking once will sort ascending order and clicking again will sort by descending order. The example below shows sorting the Carrier Name by clicking on the column header once to sort by ascending order.



| iling Yea | r | SAC | | Carrier | Name | 498 ID/SPIN 😯 | | Status | Submission | Туре |
|-----------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2024 | • | Type to selec | ct one or ma | ore SAC. Type t | o select one or more Carr | Select one or | more 498 IDs 🔹 | Select one or more state | Ises 🔹 Select one | or more Submissio 🔹 |
| SAC | Carrier Name | t | State | 498 ID/SPIN 😮 | Carrier Type | Filing Year | Status | Submission Type | Filing Number 😮 | FCC Form 481 😯 |
| 189040 | AirVoice Wireless, LLC | | MD | 143037108 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189041 | Amerimex Communicati | ons Corp | MD | 143035888 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 180216 | ARMSTRONG TEL OF ME |) | MD | 143001400 | ILEC | 2024 | Certified - On Time | Online | 001 🚺 | |
| 189023 | Assist Wireless, LLC | | MD | 143035352 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189013 | Assurance Home Phone | Service, Inc. | MD | 143035208 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189029 | Boomerang Wireless LLC | 5 | MD | 143036595 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189022 | Budget Prepay, Inc. | | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | ľ |
| 189033 | CellSpan Inc. | | MD | 143044063 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189016 | Cintex Wireless, LLC | | MD | 143035526 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |

Figure 8 | Display of how clicking on the 'Carrier Name' column header sorts the column by ascending order

Filter Feature

The list may be filtered on Filing Year, SAC, Carrier Name, 498 ID/SPIN, and Status. When filtering for a result, you can clear your selection by clicking into the field you filtered on and hitting the delete button on your keyboard. It will clear the selection and refresh the list.

| Study | Area Code (SAC) | List | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|--|------------|---------------------|-----|------------------------|----------|------------|---------------------|
| Filing Yea | r | SAC | | | Carrier I | Name | 498 ID/SPI | N 😯 | Sta | itus | | Submission | Туре |
| 2024 | - | Type to sel | ect one or m | ore SAC. | c | | Select one | e or more 498 IDs 🔹 | 50 | elect one or more stat | tuses 💌 | Select one | or more Submissio 👻 |
| SAC | Carrier Name | | State | 498 ID/SI | VERIZO MCI TEI | IN MARYLAND INC | Year | Status | | Submission Type | Filing I | Number 😢 | FCC Form 481 😧 |
| 180216 | ARMSTRONG TEL OF ME |) | MD | 1430014 | BUDGE | T PHONE, INC. | | Certified - On Time | е | Online | C | 101 🖪 | |
| 185030 | VERIZON MARYLAND IN | с | MD | 1430014 | FIBERN NATION | IET, LLC NSLINE INC. | | Certified - On Time | e | Online | C | 02 🚺 | <u>()</u> |
| 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICAT | IONS CORP | MD | 1430011 | TracFor | ne Wireless, Inc. | | Not Certified | | | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | MD | 1430008 | Terraco | om, Inc. | | Not Certified | | | | | <u>[]</u> |
| 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | | MD | 14302484 | Conexio Assurar | ons, LLC nce Home Phone Service, In | с. | Not Certified | | | | | <u>0</u> |
| 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | | MD | 14303074 | Telrite | Corporation | - | Not Certified | | | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | | MD | 14303010 | 03 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189008 | Cricket Communications | s, Inc. | MD | 1430324 | 53 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | | | <u>D</u> |

Figure 9 | Display of clicking into the Carrier Name field and entering the value 'c'

Additionally, there are tool tips available within the system that provide context for table column headers or will provide information for what a task is requiring the user to complete. The icon is denoted with a blue bubble question mark and hovering over it with your cursor will reveal the message.



| Study | Area Code (SAC) List | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Filing Yea | r SAC | | Carrier | Name | 498 ID/SPIN | Also known as a Servic Identification Number | e Provider (SPIN) | Submission | Type |
| 2024 | Type to set | ect one or mo | I ype to | select one or more carr | Select one | 01111012498105 • | Select one of more stal | | or more Submissio 👻 |
| SAC | Carrier Name | State | 498 ID/SPIN 😮 | Carrier Type | Filing Year | Status | Submission Type | Filing Number 😯 | FCC Form 481 😧 |
| 180216 | ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD | MD | 143001400 | ILEC | 2024 | Certified - On Time | Online | 001 🚺 | |
| 185030 | VERIZON MARYLAND INC | MD | 143001401 | ILEC | 2024 | Certified - On Time | Online | 002 🖪 | |
| 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | MD | 143001197 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | MD | 143024848 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>D</u> |
| 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | MD | 143030743 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | MD | 143030103 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | MD | 143032463 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>()</u> |

Figure 10 | Demonstration of hovering the cursor over the tool tip icon to pull up the tip

Working with Excel

The 54.314 Certification System allows you to copy the SACs included in your list from both the home page and the SAC Selection page and paste these SACs to Excel. To do so, follow these steps:

Copy from Home Page

On the home page, highlight the screen beginning with the SAC column and all the way to the final column of the last row you would like to highlight. The example below shows the result of selecting the first four columns. After highlighting, copy by selecting ctrl + c or right click and select 'Copy.'

| Study | Area Coo | le (SAC |) List | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|----|-------------------------|--------|------------|---------------------|
| Filing Yea | r | | SAC | | C | arrier Name | | 498 ID/SPIN | 9 | St | atus | | Submission | Туре |
| 2024 | | • | Type to selec | ct one or moi | re SAC. | Type to select one or n | nore Carı | Select one o | r more 498 IDs 🔹 | 3 | Select one or more stat | uses 💌 | Select one | or more Submissio 👻 |
| SAC | Carrier Nan | ne | | State | 498 ID/SPI | N 😧 Carrier Type | | Filing Year | Status | 4 | Submission Type | Filing | Number 😯 | FCC Form 481 ? |
| 189001 | MCI TELFCO | MAUNICAT | | MIN | 14200140 | | | 2024 | Not Certified | | 1.1 | | | |
| 189002 | BUDGET | Сору | | | | | Ctr | +C | Not Certified | | 1.1 | | | |
| 189004 | FIBERNE | Copy lin | c to highlight | t | | | | | Not Certified | | | | | <u>()</u> |
| 189005 | NATION | Search G | oogle for "Si | ACSAC Sor | table colur | nn, activate to sort | t" | | Not Certified | | | | | Ē |
| 180000 | TracFee | Print | | | | | Ctr | I+P | Net Certified | | - | | | |
| 189006 | TracFort | Open in | reading mod | le | | | | | Not Certified | | | | | L |
| 189008 | Cricket (| Translate | selection to | English | | | | | Not Certified | | l I | | | |
| 189009 | Sprint Pr | | | | | | | | Not Certified | | | | | |
| 189011 | Terracor | Inspect | | | | | | | Not Certified | | | | | |
| 189012 | Conexions, I | LC | | MD | 14303546 | 3 CETC | | 2024 | Not Certified | | | | | |

Figure 11 | Highlight and right-clicking to copy text from the Study Area Code (SAC) List

Right-click into an Excel spreadsheet and use ctrl + v to paste. Use the paste options to select 'Match Destination Formatting.' It is not recommended to paste with source formatting as it may make results



difficult to read. After adjusting the spacing of the columns and removing extra text (header content), the results will appear as the example below. Experiences may vary browser to browser. This example uses Chrome.

| Γ | File H | lome Insert Page Layout Formulas | Data | Review View | v Automat | e Help | | | | | F | []] Comments | 년 Share ~ |
|----|--------|--|--------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | Paste | $\begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ C \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A $ | ĂĂ III | | General | ~ % ? | Conditional | Formatting ~ able ~ | Delete × | | Sensitivity Add-in | Analyze Data | |
| | Спрвоа | a isi Pont | 121 | Alignment | Numa | per 12 | Styl | es | Cells | Editing | Sensitivity Add-Ins | | |
| 11 | 2 | \checkmark : $\times \checkmark f_x \checkmark$ | | | | | | | | | | | ~ |
| 1 | А | В | С | D | E | F | G | н | 1 | | J | К | L |
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | SAC | Carrier Name | State | 498 ID/SPIN | Carrier Type | Filing Yea | r Status | Submission Typ | e Filing Number | FCC Form 481 | | | |
| 3 | 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | MD | 143001197 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | Download FCC | Form 481 document | | |
| 4 | 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | Download FCC | Form 481 document | | |
| 5 | 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | MD | 143024848 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | Download FCC | Form 481 document | | |
| 6 | 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | MD | 143030743 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | Download FCC | Form 481 document | | |
| 7 | 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | MD | 143030103 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | Download FCC | Form 481 document | | |
| 8 | 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | MD | 143032463 | CETC | 202 | 4 Not Certified | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Figure 12 | Values from the 54.314 Home Page after pasting into an Excel worksheet

If using 'Source Formatting', due to the font colors within the browser, some values under the Status column will be copied as white text and will need to be selected and have the font color changed back to automatic.

This process may be repeated until all desired SACs are in the Excel spreadsheet.

Copy from Certification Process

On the SAC Certification page, highlight the entire table to select it. After highlighting, copy by selecting ctrl + c or right-click and select 'Copy.' Right-click into an Excel spreadsheet. Use the paste options to select 'Match Destination Formatting' as above.

| Annual ETC C | ertification (54. | 314 Certification of Support) | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|--------|---------------|---------|
| | Start | SAC Selection | | Certification | |
| Certification Selected Eligible Carriers | | | | | |
| SAC | Carrier Name | | | 498 ID/SPIN 📀 | |
| 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIO | 16 6000 | _ | 143001197 | |
| 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | Сору | Ctrl+C | 143030103 | |
| 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | Copy link to highlight | | 143030743 | |
| 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | Search Google for "SACSAC Sortable column, activate to sort" | | 143024848 | |
| 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | Print | Ctrl+P | 143000887 | |
| 189008 | Cricket Communications, | Open in reading mode | | 143032463 | |
| | | Translate selection to English | | | 6 items |

Figure 13 | Demonstration of right-clicking to copy SACs selected for certification



54.314 Certification Process

To begin the process of certification, click 'Start Certification Process' in the top right corner.



Figure 14 | Clicking 'Start Certification Process' to begin the annual certification process

Selecting SACs for Certification

Once selected, the page below is loaded. The bar at the top will indicate the stage of certification.

| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Ce | ertification of Support) | |
|---|--|--|
| Start | SAC Selection | Certification |
| Start Federal regulation 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 requires state utility commissions to cer calendar year only to provide, maintain, and upgrade the facilities for which t State regulators must complete the annual ETC certification for all carriers un | tify that carriers under their jurisdiction are eligible to receive High Cr he support was intended and will do the same in the coming calenda nder their jurisdiction and submit the certification to USAC and the FC | Cost support in their states and used all support collected in the proceeding ar year. CC by Oct. 1 every year. |
| FCC Notice Required By The Paperwork Reduction Act (OMB Control Num Part 54 of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) rules authorize form. Failure to provide all requested information will delay processing or the form will be used to validate the recipient companies' support. If any, th will take on average, 3 hours per response. Our estimate includes the time response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or on how we can im Reduction Project (306-0966). Washington, DC 20554. We will also accept y ADDRESS. Remember — you are not required to respond to a collection of currently valid OMB control number or if we fail to provide you with this no THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION AC | ther: 3060-0986) the FCC to collect the information requested in this form. Responses esult in the form being returned without action. Information request hat they are eligible to receive from the high-cost support mechanism to read the instructions, look through existing records, gather and m uprove the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please with our comments via the internet if you send them to pra@fc.gov. Plea information sponsored by the Federal government, and the governm tice. This collection has been assigned an OMB control number of 300 TT OF 1995, P.L. 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. Section 3507 | s to the questions herein are required to obtain the benefits sought by this ted by this form will be available for public inspection. The data collected in n. We have estimated that each response to this collection of information aninatin the required data, and actually complete and review the form or the tederal Communications Commission, AMD-PERM, Paperwork are DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DATA COLLECTION FORMS TO THIS nent may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it displays a J60-0996. |

Figure 15 | Start Page and PRA Notice after starting the certification process



The certification process starts with an introduction about using the system and the FCC Notice. This page will populate each time you start certification.

Click 'Next' to continue to SAC Selection.

Select SACs for certification for the current filing year by checking the box for the desired row. Only SACs that are not certified for the current filing year are shown for selection. The data here may also be sorted and filtered to select all SACs that you need for this filing.

| | | Start | | SAC Selection | | Certifica | ition |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| itu | ıdv Are | a Code (SAC) Selection | | | | | |
| Nee | d help? | | | | | | |
| e tal sport or me | ble below disp ting Data Colle ore broadband the SACs you | lays information about the Study Area Codes (SAC) in ction Form (FCC Form 481) for individual carriers for I deployment data, visit the <u>Connect America Fund B</u> would like to certify for the 2024 filing year * | the state's jurisdiction. Not the current filing year by clk coadband Map (CAF MAP), th | all SACs require certification I king the "Download" link in th ie <u>Connect America Pund Stat</u> | by the state utility commissio he far-right column. te Map, or High Cost Open Da | n. State commissioners can sta. | reference the Carrier Annua |
| e tab | ale below only o | lisplays uncertified SACs for the current filing year. Please | Carrier Name | he homepage. | 498 ID/5 | PIN 😡 | |
| Type | to select one | Carrier Name | Type to select one or me | ve Carrier Names | Carries Tures | Elling Year | ECC Form 491 0 |
| | 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | MD | 143001197 | CETC | 2024 | PCC Porti 4a1 |
| | 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 2024 | D |
| | 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | MD | 143024848 | CETC | 2024 | D |
| _ | 100005 | | | 143030743 | CETC | 2024 | |
| | 100000 | NATIONSLINE INC. | MD | | | 2002/T | |
| | 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | MD | 143030103 | CETC | 2024 | B |
| | 189005 189006 189008 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. Cricket Communications, Inc. | MD MD | 143030103 143032463 | СЕТС | 2024 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189006 189008 189009 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. Cricket Communications, Inc. Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile | MD MD MD | 143030103 143032463 143033426 | CETC CETC CETC | 2024 2024 2024 | |
| | 189005 189006 189008 189009 189011 | ArtiONSLINE INC. TracFone Wireless, Inc. Cricket Communications, Inc. Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile Terracom, Inc. | MD MD MD MD MD | 143030103 143032463 143033426 143028661 | сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс | 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 | |
| | 189005 189006 189008 189009 189011 189012 | NATIONSLINE INC. TracFone Wireless, Inc. Cricket Communications, Inc. Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile Terracom, Inc. Conexions, LLC | MD MD MD MD MD MD | 143030103 143032463 143033426 143028661 143035468 | сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс | 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 | |
| | 189005 189006 189009 189011 189012 189013 | NRTIONSLINE INC. TracFone Wireless, Inc. Cricket Communications, Inc. Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile Terracom, Inc. Conexions, LLC Assurance Home Phone Service, Inc. | MD MD MD MD MD MD MD | 143030103 143032463 143033426 143028661 143035468 143035408 | сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс сетс | 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 | |

Figure 16 | SAC Selection Page filters for annual certification

The select button at the top of the column can be used to select every SAC seen **only** on the visible page. Additionally, there is also a Select All or Unselect All button as well; this will select **all** SACs across all pages.



| An | nual E | TC Certification (54.314 (| Certificat | ion o | f Support) | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|---|------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Start | | | SAC Selection | | | Certific | cation |
| Sti | udv Are | a Code (SAC) Selection | | | | | | | |
| 50 | | | | | | | | | |
| No | ed help? | | | | | | | | > |
| The t | able below disp | ays information about the Study Area Codes (SAC) in | n the state's jurisdic | tion. Not all | SACs require certification | by the state utility | commission. | State commissioners car | reference the Carrier Annual |
| Form | nore broadband | i deployment data, visit the Connect America Fund B | roadband Map (CAF | F MAP), the (| Connect America Fund Sta | ite Map. or High C | n. ost Open Data | | |
| 10111 | | | | | | | | | |
| Selec | t the SACs you | would like to certify for the 2024 filing year * | | | | | | | |
| The ta | able below only o | displays uncertified SACs for the current filing year. Please | e reference historical | data on the | homepage. | | | | |
| SAC | | | Carrier Name | | | | 498 ID/SPI | N 😔 | |
| Тур | e to select one | or more SACs | Type to select o | ne or more | Carrier Names | | Select on | e or more 498 IDs | • |
| | SAC | Carrier Name | | State | 498 ID/SPIN 😲 | Carrier | Туре | Filing Year | FCC Form 481 😧 |
| | 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | | MD | 143001197 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | MD | 143000887 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | | MD | 143024848 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | | MD | 143030743 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>B</u> |
| | 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | | MD | 143030103 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | | MD | 143032463 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189009 | Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile | | MD | 143033426 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189011 | Terracom, Inc. | | MD | 143028661 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189012 | Conexions, LLC | | MD | 143035468 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>B</u> |
| | 189013 | Assurance Home Phone Service, Inc. | | MD | 143035208 | CETC | CETC 2024 | | <u>.</u> |
| 0 s | elected | | | | | | | | < < 1 - 10 of 31 > ≫ |
| SELE | ECT ALL UNSE | ELECT ALL | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| BA | | 1 | | | | | | | CONTINUE |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Figure 17 | SAC selection options to continue certification

Once SACs have been selected, you may click the 'Continue' button to continue to certification. You must select at least one SAC to be able to proceed.



| | | | | | · · · · | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Start | | | | SAC Selection | | | Certifica | tion | |
| Sti | udy Are | a Code (SAC) Selection | 1 | | | | | | |
| Neo | d help? | | | | | | | | ; |
| he ta epor or m | ible below disp ting Data Colle ore broadbane | lays information about the Study Area Codes (SAC ction Form (FCC Form 481) for individual carriers i d deployment data, visit the <u>Connect America Run</u> |) in the state's jurisdict for the current filing yes d Broadband Map (CAF | ion. Not all ar by clickir MAP), the (| SACs require certification ing the "Download" link in the Connect America Fund Stat | by the state utility he far-right colum te Map, or High Co | commission n. ost Open Da | n. State commissioners can | reference the Carrier Annual |
| elect he ta AC | t the SACs you ble below only o | would like to certify for the 2024 filing year * displays uncertified SACs for the current filing year. Pi | sase reference historical (Carrier Name | data on the | homepage. | | 498 ID/51 | PIN 😔 | |
| Тура | to select one | or more SACs | Type to select or | ne or more | Carrier Names | | Select o | ne or more 498 IDs | |
| | SAC | Carrier Name | | State | 498 ID/SPIN 9 | Carrier | ype | Filing Year | FCC Form 481 📀 |
| ~ | 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | | MD | 143001197 | CETC | | 2024 | D |
| V) | 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | MD | 143000887 | CETC | | 2024 | Ð |
| - | 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | | MD | 143024848 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| ~ | 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | | MD | 143030743 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | | MD | 143030103 | CETC | | 2024 | Ð |
| | 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | | MD | 143032463 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>8</u> |
| | 189009 | Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile | | MD | 143033426 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>8</u> |
| | 189011 | Terracom, Inc. | | MD | 143028661 | CETC | | 2024 | B |
| | 189012 | Conexions, LLC | | MD | 143035468 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>8</u> |
| | 189013 | Assurance Home Phone Service, Inc. | | MD 143035208 CETC | | CETC | CETC 2024 | | <u>8</u> |
| 4 so | lected | | | | | | | | « < 1-10 of 31 > 义 |
| ELE | CT ALL UNSI | ELECT ALL | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | | | | | | | CONTINU |

Figure 18 | SACs selected for certification



Certifying the 54.314

After selecting SACs for the current certification and proceeding to the next screen, you will be presented with a page that summarizes your selection and allows you to complete the 54.314 Certification.

| | Start | SAC Selectio | in | Certification |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| rtification | | | | |
| ted Eligible Carriers | | | | |
| | Carrier Name | | | 498 ID/SPIN 😜 |
| 001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | | | 143001197 |
| 002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | | 143000887 |
| 004 | FIBERNET, LLC | | | 143024848 |
| 005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | | | 143030743 |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fede ing calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities a | ort provided to such carriers within MAR and services for which the support is inte | IVLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) anded. |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name* | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fede ing calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgo | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities a Titi | oort provided to such carriers within MAA and services for which the support is inte e or Position * | IYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) a nded. |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name* | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fede ng calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities : Tith 0/255 | oport provided to such carriers within MAI and services for which the support is inte e or Position * | IYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and nded. |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name* SCO INT User MD Telephone Number* | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fed ng calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities a Titl 0/255 | boort provided to such carriers within MAI and services for which the support is inte e or Position * | IYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) anded. 0/25 |
| The Maryland Public S Will be used in the comi Full Name* SCO INT User MD Telephone Number* | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fed ing calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities : 0/255 | oort provided to such carriers within MAI and services for which the support is inte e or Position • | IVLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) anded. |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name* SCO INT User MD Telephone Number* (000) 000-0000 | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fed ing calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities z 0/255 | oort provided to such carriers within MAI and services for which the support is inte e or Position * | IVLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and nded. 0/25 |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name * SCO INT User MD Telephone Number * [000) 000-0000 Email Address * | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fed ing calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities : Tiek 0/255 Ext 0/14 000 | oort provided to such carriers within MAI and services for which the support is inte e or Position * | IYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and ed. |
| The Maryland Public S will be used in the comi Full Name * SCD INT User ND Telephone Number * (000) 000-0000 Email Address * | ervice Commission certifies that for the carriers listed above, all fed ng calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upg | eral High Cost supp rading of facilities : Titl 0/255 Ext. 0/14 0/255 | e or Position * | IYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and nded. 0/25 |

Figure 19 | Certification acknowledgment and required fields for completion

State Representatives should complete this page by completing the following required fields:

Full Name: name of the State Representative

Note: Your name is presented under the Name field to show the input and format expected; if the name does not match the name on the Online Filing Request Form, a validation will appear.

Title or Position: the role of the user (State Representative)

Telephone Number: phone number from the Online Filing Request Form

Note: If any input outside of numbers is entered, this field will clear itself when you click out of the field; if the incorrect format is used, a validation will appear to indicate this error.



Extension: if the phone number has an extension, it will be included here
 Email: email address of certifying State Representative
 Note: The confirmation email is sent to this email after successfully confirming certification.

While autofill is an option for browsers to save and populate data into the form, **do not use autofill** as it will trigger the validations that would prevent you from continuing to certification. If you do use autofill and a validation is triggered, it may clear the validation if you click into and then out of each box that autofill completed or you can backspace the autofill content and enter your own.

As part of the certification, note the language from the 54.314 provided on the certification form screen. Additionally, note the carriers/SACs selected on the prior screen as they appear at the top of the form screen.

| | Start | SAC Selection | Certification |
|--------------------|--|---|--|
| ertification |) iers | | |
| AC | Carrier Name | | 498 ID/SPIN 😧 |
| 89001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP | | 143001197 |
| 39002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | | 143000887 |
| 39004 | FIBERNET, LLC | | 143024848 |
| 9005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | | 143030743 |
| | | | |
| Pursuant to the re | ssion Representative Certification equirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the Maryland Public Servici lightle telecommunications carriers (FTCs) listed above are eligi | e Commission hereby certifies to the Federal Communica ble to receive federal High Cost support for the program y | tions Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Compar rears cited. |

Figure 20 | SACs selected for certification table for review



During review of the selection, if any SACs are missing or need to be removed, click on the 'Back' button to be returned to the previous screen. There, use the select buttons to edit your selection.

| USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) liste | d above are eligible to receive federal High (| ost support for the program years cited. |
|---|--|---|
| The Maryland Public Service Commission certifies that for the will be used in the coming calendar year (2025) only for the pro | e carriers listed above, all federal High Cost wision, maintenance, and upgrading of facili | support provided to such carriers within MARYLAND was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) an ies and services for which the support is intended. |
| full Name* | | Title or Position * |
| | 0/255 | 0/255 |
| CO INT User MD | | |
| Felephone Number* | | Ext. |
| | 0/14 | 0/5 |
| 000) 000-0000 | | 00000 |
| mail Address * | | |
| | 0/255 | |
| I understand this is a digital signature, and is the same as if | l signed my name with a pen. | |

Figure 21 | Display of how to go back to reselect SACs for certification

If you would like to leave the certification process entirely, click 'Cancel' to be returned to the home page. A dialog box will appear to confirm leaving the certification process. Your progress will not be saved.

| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 C | Warning | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Start Study Area Code (SAC) Selection | Are you sure you want to cancel this form? Your changes will not be saved. NO | Certification |
| Need help? | | > |

Figure 22 | Dialog box to confirm leaving the certification process

Once ready to certify your selection, agree to the use of digital signature and click the 'Submit' button on the bottom right side of the screen.



| USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) li | sted above are eligible to receive federal High | Cost support for the program years cited. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Maryland Public Service Commission certifies that for will be used in the coming calendar year (2025) only for the p | the carriers listed above, all federal High Cos rovision, maintenance, and upgrading of faci | t support provided to such carriers within MARYLAND w lities and services for which the support is intended. | as used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and |
| Full Name* | | Title or Position * | |
| SCO INT User MD | 15/255 | State Representative | 20/255 |
| SCO INT User MD | | | |
| Felephone Number* | | Ext. | |
| (555) 213-0009 | 14/14 | | 0/5 |
| 000) 000-0000 | | 00000 | |
| Email Address * | | | |
| md@usac.com | 11/255 | | |
| | | | |
| I understand this is a digital signature, and is the same as | if I signed my name with a pen. | | |
| | | | |

Figure 23 | Completed required fields and the 'Submit' button to certify SACs

A dialog box will appear that asks 'Are you sure you want to certify these Study Area Codes (SACs)?' Click 'Yes' to proceed. Clicking 'No' will close the dialog box and bring you back to the SAC Certification page.

| Annual ETC Certification | Confirm | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| | Are you sure you want to certify these Study Area Codes (SACs)? | |
| Start | | Certification |
| | NO | |
| Certification | | |
| Selected Eligible Carriers | | |

Figure 24 | Dialog box to confirm SACs for certification

Clicking 'Yes' will reload the system and bring you to the certification confirmation page.



54.314 Certification Confirmation

The Confirmation screen identifies a filing number, certification date, who created the filing, type of certification, and where the confirmation email was sent. The email confirmation is sent to the email provided on the SAC Certification page. The page will also display which SACs were certified.

| Annual ET | C Certificati | on (54.314 Certification of Support) | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Start | SAC Selection | Certification | | | | | |
| Certificatio | Certification Confirmation | | | | | | | |
| Successfully Ce Congratulations | ertified s. The SACs you selected fo | r this filing have been successfully certified. <u>Share your feedback (2-question survey) [</u> | ž | | | | | |
| Filing Year | 2024 | | | | | | | |
| Filing Status | Certified - Late | | | | | | | |
| Filing Number | ling Number 006 | | | | | | | |
| Certification Date and Time | ertification Date 06/06/2025 12:41 PM ET nd Time | | | | | | | |
| Filing Created By | 1 By Alice SCO | | | | | | | |
| Certification Type | 54.314: State-Certified | | | | | | | |
| Submission Type | Online | | | | | | | |
| A confirmation email | A confirmation email has been sent to alice@usac.com. To download a PDF of this filing, click the following link: Virginia_State_Corporation_Commission_2024_006.pdf. | | | | | | | |
| Certified Carriers | | | | | | | | |
| SAC | | Carrier Name | 498 ID/SPIN 📀 | | | | | |
| 000029 | | Carrier 29 | 00000030 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | RETURN HOME | | | | | |

Figure 25 | Confirmation page for a successful certification filing

Click the PDF link to download a certification confirmation for your records (this PDF will also available on the homepage for future downloads). This page may also be printed and saved for your records by selecting the print option from within the browser and selecting to save to PDF or to print locally (settings may vary browser to browser):



| | | | | - |
|--|--|--|---------------|----------------------|
| Start | SAC Selection | Certification | Destination | Microsoft Print to P |
| Certification Confirma | ition | | | |
| Successfully Certified | | | | |
| Congratulations. The SACs you selec | ted for this filing have been successfully certified. Sh | are your feedback (2-question survey) | Pages | All |
| Filing Year 202 | 4 | | | |
| Filing Status Cert | Jfied - On Time | | | |
| Fiting Number 007 | NUMBER OF ALL PLANET | | | |
| Elling Created By Mar | 02025 11301 AM ET | | Lavout | Portrait |
| Certification Type 54.3 | 14: State-Certified | | Luyout | |
| Submission Type Onli | ne | | | |
| & confirmation amail has been sent to am | alignest up. To drawnload a DDE of this films, click the | following link: Mandand Bublic Service Commission 2024 207 mil | | |
| | and an | | C I | C I |
| Certified Carriers | | | Color | Color |
| SAC | Carrier Name | 498 ID/SPIN 0 | | |
| 000028 | Carrier 28 | 000010028 | | |
| | | | More settings | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Figure 26 | Confirmation page for print options from the browser



| | Jniversal Service Administrative Co. |
|--|--|
|--|--|

Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support)

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. & 54.314

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the **Virginia State Corporation Commission** hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) listed below are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

Privileged and Contains Confidential Information

The **Virginia State Corporation Commission** certifies that for the carriers listed below all federal highcost support provided to such carriers within **VIRGINIA** was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and will be used in the coming calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹

I understand that this is a digital signature, and is the same as if I had signed with a pen.

Signed,

| Full Name: Alice SCO | Filing Status: Certified - Late |
|---|---|
| Title or Position: State Representative | Filing Year: 2024 |
| Telephone Number: (123) 555-1234 | Filing Number: 006 |
| Email Address: alice@usac.com | Certification Type: 54.314: State-Certified |
| Certification Date and Time: 06/06/2025 12:41 PM ET | Submission Type: Online |

ETCs Certified by Virginia State Corporation Commission

| SAC | Carrier Name | 498 ID/SPIN | |
|--------|--------------|-------------|--|
| 000029 | Carrier 29 | 00000030 | |

Figure 27 | PDF Certification confirmation after completion of the certification process

Once opened, the file may be saved or printed for your records.



The email sent will look like:

| | <mark>Jniversal Se</mark> Administrativ | rvice ve Co. | Privileged and Contains Confidential Information | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Annual | Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support) | | | | | | |
| Congratulati | ons. The Stud | y Area Codes (SACs) you selected for th | s filing year have been successfully certified. | | | | |
| Filing Status Filing Year: Filing Numb Certification Submission Certification Filing Creat | Filing Status: Certified - Late Filing Year: 2024 Filing Number: 6 Certification Type: 54.314: State-Certified Submission Type: Online Certification Date and Time: 06/06/2025 12:41 PM ET Filing Created By: Alice SCO | | | | | | |
| SAC | 498 ID/SPIN | Carrier Name | | | | | |
| 000029 | 00000030 | Carrier 29 | | | | | |
| Sincerely, | Sincerely, | | | | | | |
| Universal Ser | rvice Adminis | trative Company | | | | | |

Figure 28 | Email confirmation of certification sent by the system

Note: if you certify a SAC that you should not have certified, you will be not be able to revert this action. Once a SAC is certified, it will appear so for the year. If you need to remove a certification for a SAC, please contact USAC at hccerts@usac.org.

To provide feedback on the certification process, follow the survey link at the top of the confirmation page.

Once completed with the process, click 'Return Home' to be returned to the home page. The home page is refreshed to reflect the newly filed certifications.





Figure 29 | Home page after a successful certification filing



Filing Multiple Certifications

If not all SACs are certified in one filing, additional filings may be made, as you can log back into the system to certify those remaining SACs. To certify additional SACs, complete the following steps:

Log into the system as for the first filing. The SAC selection screen will update with completed filings to show certified and non-certified SACs.



Figure 30 | SAC List updated with completed filings and PDF downloadable links

SACs that have been previously certified are indicated by status and cannot be selected for certification. For completed SACs, there will be a filing number populated for that row. Clicking on the PDF icon of a completed row will open the certification that was generated with that filing. The example below is for 2024, which will be in the below format:



| 54.314(a) State-Certification Filing Year: 2024 | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of | upport for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. & 54.31 | <u>14</u> | | | | |
| Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the Maryland Publ Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited. | Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the Maryland Public Service Commission hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) listed below are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited. | | | | | |
| The Maryland Public Service Commission certifies that for the carrie RICO was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and will be use upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. ¹ | The Maryland Public Service Commission certifies that for the carriers listed all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within PUERTO RICO was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and will be used in the coming calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. ¹ | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Public Service Commission | | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Pub | c Service Commission | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Pub | c Service Commission | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Pub CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD | c Service Commission SAC 180216 | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Public CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD Signed, | c Service Commission SAC 180216 | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Puble CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD Signed, Signature of Certifying State Commission Representative: Certified On | ic Service Commission SAC 180216 | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Public CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD Signed, Signature of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Certified On</u> Name of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Andrew Johnst</u> | c Service Commission SAC 180216 | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Public CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD Signed, Signature of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Certified Om</u> Name of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Andrew Johnst</u> Title or Position of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Exec</u> | ic Service Commission SAC 180216 Line <u>m</u> tive Secretary | | | | | |
| ETCs CERTIFIED BY Maryland Public CARRIER ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD Signed, Signature of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Certified Om</u> Name of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Exec</u> Title or Position of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>Exec</u> Telephone Number of Certifying State Commission Representative: <u>4</u> | ic Service Commission SAC 180216 Line n two Secretary 17678070 Ext | | | | | |

Figure 31 | PDF Certification confirmation (old version) downloaded after clicking the Filing Number icon

For certified SACs for 2025 and after, the PDF format below is downloaded when clicking on the filing number icon:



Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support)

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. & 54.314

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the **Virginia State Corporation Commission** hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) listed below are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The **Virginia State Corporation Commission** certifies that for the carriers listed below all federal highcost support provided to such carriers within **VIRGINIA** was used in the preceding calendar year (2023) and will be used in the coming calendar year (2025) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹

 \blacksquare I understand that this is a digital signature, and is the same as if I had signed with a pen.

Signed,

| Full Name: Alice SCO | Filing Status: Certified - Late |
|---|---|
| Title or Position: State Representative | Filing Year: 2024 |
| Telephone Number: (123) 555-1234 | Filing Number: 006 |
| Email Address: alice@usac.com | Certification Type: 54.314: State-Certified |
| Certification Date and Time: 06/06/2025 12:41 PM ET | Submission Type: Online |

ETCs Certified by Virginia State Corporation Commission

| SAC | Carrier Name | 498 ID/SPIN | |
|--------|--------------|-------------|--|
| 000029 | Carrier 29 | 00000030 | |

Figure 32 | PDF Certification confirmation (new version) downloaded after clicking the Filing Number icon

The 'Status' column will indicate if the SAC was certified 'Certified – On Time,' 'Certified – Late,' or 'Not Certified'. Certifications are due on October 1st of each year.



| ling Yea | SAC | | Carri | er Name | 498 ID/SPIN 🔞 | | Status | Submission | п Туре |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2024 | Тур | e to select one or | more SAC Typ | e to select one or more Carı | Select one or | more 498 IDs 🔹 | Select one or more stat | select one | e or more Submissio |
| SAC | Carrier Name | State | 498 ID/SPIN 🕄 | Carrier Type | Filing Year | Status | Submission Type | Filing Number 📀 | FCC Form 481 😧 |
| 180216 | ARMSTRONG TEL OF MD | MD | 143001400 | ILEC | 2024 | Certified - On Time | Online | 001 🖪 | <u>0</u> |
| 185030 | VERIZON MARYLAND INC | MD | 143001401 | ILEC | 2024 | Certified - On Time | Online | 002 🖪 | <u>8</u> |
| 189001 | MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS | CORP MD | 143001197 | CETC | 2024 | Certified - Late | Online | 004 | |
| 189002 | BUDGET PHONE, INC. | MD | 143000887 | CETC | 2024 | Certified - Late | Online | 004 | |
| 189004 | FIBERNET, LLC | MD | 143024848 | CETC | 2024 | Certified - Late | Online | 004 | <u>8</u> |
| 189005 | NATIONSLINE INC. | MD | 143030743 | CETC | 2024 | Certified - Late | Online | 004 | |
| 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | MD | 143030103 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | Ø |
| 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | MD | 143032463 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | <u>8</u> |
| 189009 | Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile | MD | 143033426 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | |
| 189011 | Terracom, Inc. | MD | 143028661 | CETC | 2024 | Not Certified | | | D |

Figure 33 | Updates to SAC List after certifications have been filed

To begin an additional filing, click the 'Start Certification Process' button, the same start page is loaded, and you will continue through the process as in the first filing.

| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support) | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Start | SAC Selection | Certification | | | | |
| Start | | | | | | |
| Federal regulation 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 requires state utility commis calendar year only to provide, maintain, and upgrade the facilitie: State regulators must complete the annual ETC certification for a | sions to certify that carriers under their jurisdiction are eligible to receive High Cost su s for which the support was intended and will do the same in the coming calendar yea Il carriers under their jurisdiction and submit the certification to USAC and the FCC by | upport in their states and used all support collected in the proceeding ir. Oct. 1 every year. | | | | |
| FCC Notice Required By The Paperwork Reduction Act (OMB Control Number: 3060-0986) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| CANCEL | | NEXT | | | | |

Figure 34 | Starting the Certification Process after a successful filing

Click on the 'Next' button as for previous filings. The next screen will present the selection and will proceed as in the above instructions. The SAC Selection page will only display SACs that have yet to be certified within the given filing year.



| An | nual ET | C Certification (54.314 | Certificat | tion o | f Support) | | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Start SAC Selection Certification | | | | | | | | |
| Sti | Study Area Code (SAC) Selection | | | | | | | | |
| Net | ed help? | | | | | | | | > |
| The ta Repor | able below displa rting Data Collect ore broadband (| ys information about the Study Area Codes (SAC) i ion Form (FCC Form 481) for individual carriers for deployment data, visit the <u>Connect America Fund B</u> | n the state's jurisdie the current filing y Broadband Map (CA | ction. Not all ear by clickin F MAP), the (| SACs require certification by g the "Download" link in the connect America Fund State | r the state utility far-right columr Map, or High Co | commission. S h. st Open Data. | ate commissioners can r | eference the Carrier Annual |
| Selec The ta | t the SACs you while below only de | would like to certify for the 2024 filing year * splays uncertified SACs for the current filing year. Pleas | se reference historica | l data on the | homepage. | | | | |
| SAC | | | Carrier Name | | | | 498 ID/SPIN | 0 | |
| Тур | e to select one o | r more SACs | Type to select o | one or more | Carrier Names | | Select one | or more 498 IDs | • |
| | SAC | Carrier Name | | State | 498 ID/SPIN 😧 | Carrier T | ype | Filing Year | FCC Form 481 😜 |
| | 189006 | TracFone Wireless, Inc. | | MD | 143030103 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>.</u> |
| | 189008 | Cricket Communications, Inc. | | MD | 143032463 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>B</u> |
| | 189009 | Sprint Prepaid/Virgin Mobile | | MD | 143033426 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>8</u> |
| | 189011 | Terracom, Inc. | | MD | 143028661 | CETC | | 2024 | B |
| | 189012 | Conexions, LLC | | MD | 143035468 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>8</u> |
| | 189013 | Assurance Home Phone Service, Inc. | | MD | 143035208 | CETC | | 2024 | B |
| | 189014 | Teirite Corporation | | MD | 143028229 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189015 | StandUp Wireless | | MD | 143034313 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189016 Cintex Wireless, LLC | | | MD | 143035526 | CETC | | 2024 | <u>n</u> |
| | 189017 i-wireless, LLC | | | MD | 143035427 | CETC | | 2024 | D |
| 0 s | 0 selected 《 < 1 - 10 of 27 > >> | | | | | | | | |
| BAG | SELECT ALL UNSELECT ALL BACK CANCEL | | | | | | | | |

Figure 35 | Updated SAC Selection page showing uncertified SACs

Upon completion of all SACs for certification, the process will still be available to select. However, if the filing window for certification has passed, you will not be able to certify.



Error Messages

If an issue arises, the 54.314 Certification System will provide error messages for commonly encountered problems. Below are common errors and corresponding screenshots:

No 481 Document Found – This occurs if the 481 documents do not exist or cannot be found in the 481 system. If you expect 481 documents to be available, contact hccerts@usac.org for support.



Figure 36 | Error displayed when no 481 documents can be found, or if download attempted for a Mobility Fund SAC

Submission Fails – This occurs when selecting 'Certify' and there is an error processing the submission. If this occurs, try again. If this issue continues to occur, contact hccerts@usac.org for support.

| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support) | |
|--|--------------------|
| Something went wrong Your certification failed. Please contact hccerts@usac.org for additional support. | |
| | RETURN HOME |





Submission Success, but email or Confirmation PDF fails – If this error occurs, the submission was successful and you do not need to certify again. However, to get a copy of the confirmation email or the PDF Confirmation for your records, please contact hccerts@usac.org.

| Annual ETC Certification (54.314 Certification of Support) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Start | SAC Selection | | Certification | | | | | |
| Something went of Your certification w | Something went wrong Your certification was successful but some error(s) were encountered. Please contact hccerts@usac.org for additional support. | | | | | | | | |
| Filing Year | 2024 | | | | | | | | |
| Filing Number | 005 | | | | | | | | |
| Certification Date and Time | 5/2/2025 5:09 PM EDT | | | | | | | | |
| Filing Created By | Mary SCO | | | | | | | | |
| Certification Type | 54.314: State-Certified | | | | | | | | |
| Submission Type | Online | | | | | | | | |
| Certified Carriers | | | | | | | | | |
| SAC | | Carrier Name | 498 ID/SPIN 😧 | | | | | | |
| 000023 | | Carrier 23 | 00000023 | | | | | | |
| | | | | RETURN HOME | | | | | |

Figure 38 | Certification submission success with email or PDF error