

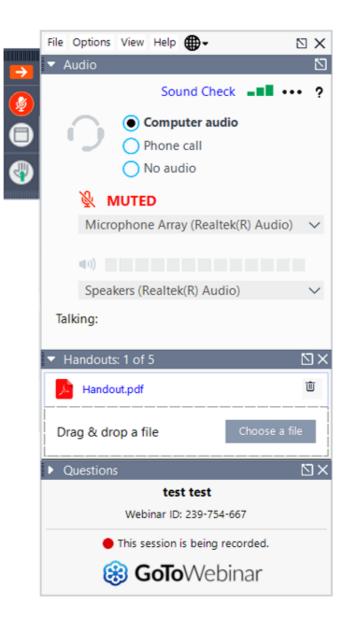
Resolving National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD) Common Errors

Lifeline Program November 13, 2024



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Disclaimer

To accommodate all attendees, real-time closed captions will be present during this presentation. We apologize in advance for any transcription errors or distractions. Thank you for your support!

Meet Our Team



Linnita Hosten

Sr. Communications Specialist | Lifeline

Linnita develops external communications and creates content about Lifeline systems and program changes.



Winta Woldu

Communications Specialist | Lifeline

Winta creates website content and training for consumer advocates, consumers, and service providers.

Agenda

- Announcements
- NLAD Overview
- Common NLAD Enrollment Errors
- Common NLAD Transfer Errors
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Resources

Hurricane Helene Waiver

- On **October 1, 2024**, the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) adopted an <u>Order</u> temporarily waiving the non-usage, de-enrollment for non-usage, and annual recertification requirements for participants requiring federal disaster assistance in areas eligible for such assistance.
- The affected disaster areas subject to the waiver include areas in the following states:
 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.
- The waiver period under this order is through November 30, 2024.
- Consumers residing in the affected disaster areas and who are subject to the non-usage rules will have 30 days (beginning on December 1, 2024) to use their Lifeline service.
- If the consumer does not use their service during the 30-day period, the 15-day notice period will begin on December 31, 2024.

Helene Weather Events Order

- On October 2, 2024, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted an Order allowing consumers affected by Hurricane Helene, Tropical Storm Helene, and Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene (collectively referred to as the Helene Weather Events) who are participating in FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP) to qualify for and enroll in the Lifeline program.
- The waiver also confirmed consumers enrolled in Disaster SNAP (D-SNAP) will be treated like regular SNAP recipients and may qualify for the Lifeline benefit.
- Affected consumers are permitted to enroll using the waiver through April 2, 2025.

Hurricane Milton Waiver

- On **October 9, 2024**, the WCB adopted an <u>Order</u> temporarily waiving the non-usage, deenrollment for non-usage, and annual recertification requirements for participants requiring federal disaster assistance in in parts of Florida eligible for such assistance.
- The waiver period under this order is through December 15, 2024.
- WCB also temporarily waived the Lifeline non-usage and annual recertification requirements for 60 days following any future Emergency or Major Disaster Declarations through the end of 2024 for subscribers in affected areas. This waiver applies to events such as hurricanes, typhoons, tropical storms, tropical cyclones, and wildfires.

Hurricane Milton Order

- On **October 10, 2024**, the FCC adopted an <u>Order</u> allowing consumers who are participating in FEMA's IHP because of Hurricane Milton to qualify and enroll in the Lifeline program.
- Affected Hurricane Milton consumers are permitted to enroll in Lifeline using the order through April 10, 2025.
- This Order will also apply to any other hurricanes, typhoons, tropical storms or tropical cyclones (collectively referred to as tropical weather systems) that result in a Presidential declaration of emergency or major disaster that occurs within the next six months. Once a covered disaster is declared, the waiver will remain in effect for six months from the date of declaration.

Lifeline Systems and Application Update

- On **October 10, 2024**, USAC updated its systems and the Lifeline application to add FEMA's IHP as a Lifeline qualifying criteria.
- On the 'Detail Active Subscriber Report' in the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD), the "Eligibility Program" listed for these subscribers will be E55.
- Service providers are encouraged to inform impacted consumers about this opportunity and work to support relief efforts throughout the impacted disaster areas.

- NLAD is a system used by service providers to enroll and manage eligible consumers in the Lifeline program. It is used in all states except for the <u>NLAD opt-out states</u> (California*, Oregon, and Texas).
- Service providers must enroll subscribers in NLAD to claim reimbursements.

^{*}Service providers in California with broadband-only subscribers must use NLAD to enroll subscribers.

Enrollment and Subscriber Management Functions

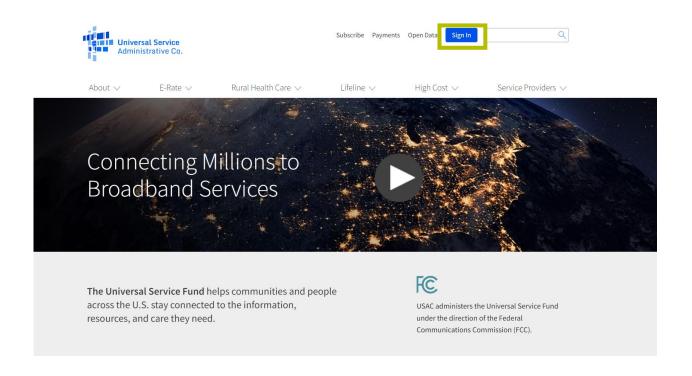
- Verify: Pre-validates whether a subscriber transaction would successfully process in NLAD.
- **Enroll:** Enrolls a new subscriber in Lifeline and adds the consumer to the NLAD subscriber records.
- **Update:** Updates certain subscriber information such as the subscriber's contact information.
- **Transfer:** Transfers an existing Lifeline subscriber from their current service provider in NLAD to allow you to provide Lifeline service to the subscriber.
- **De-Enroll:** Removes or de-enrolls a subscriber from NLAD who no longer receives the Lifeline benefit.

Transaction Methods

- Individual Transactions (Portal): Transactions for one consumer at a time in the NLAD user interface (UI).
- Batch Upload: Multiple transactions from a single file upload in NLAD using a <u>batch</u> template (CSV format file).
- NLAD API: An Application Programming Interface (API), which connects a billing or customer management system directly to NLAD to perform transactions.

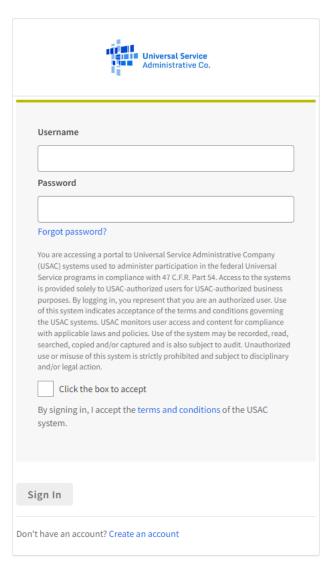
Access NLAD

 NLAD is available through USAC's <u>One Portal</u> system located above the mega menu on USAC.org.



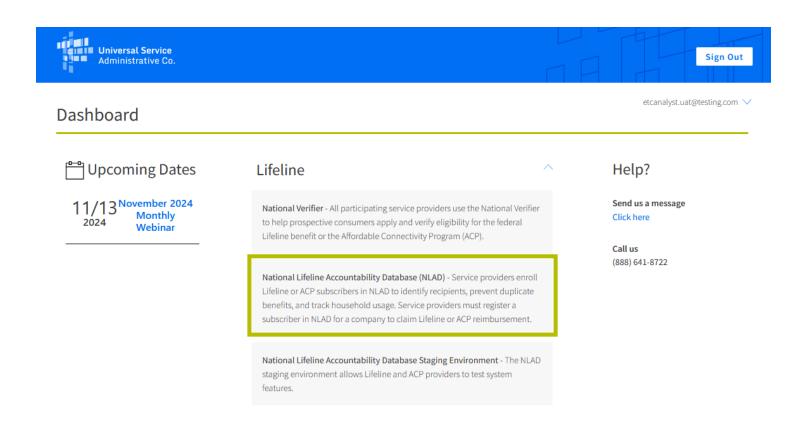
Log In to One Portal

 To enter NLAD, sign in to One Portal and enter your username and password.



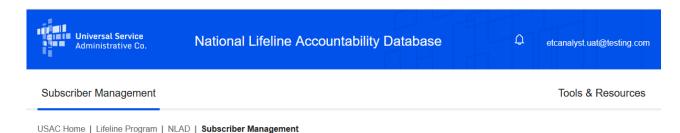
Select NLAD

 Once logged into One Portal, select NLAD.



NLAD Home Page

 Select Subscriber Management to see the types of transactions your user role can perform.



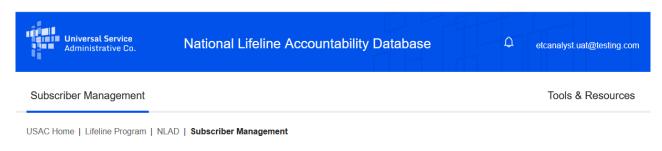
Subscriber Management

Welcome to NLAD Subscriber Management. Here you can enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll a subscriber and ensure your records are up to date. For assistance, please refer to the Instructions guide on each of the pages

- Enroll Subscriber Enroll a qualified subscriber in the Lifeline Program. Also used to verify a subscriber's eligibility and enrollment status.
- Transfer Lifeline Benefit Transfer a qualified subscriber's benefit to your company.
- Update Subscriber Update an existing subscriber's NLAD record.
- Upload Subscriber File Perform batch transactions. Enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll more than one subscriber at a time.
- De-Enroll Subscriber Remove a subscriber who no longer receives a Lifeline benefit.
- Lookup Subscriber Verify whether or not a consumer already receives the Lifeline benefit.
- Subscriber Information Lookup Review a subscriber record using phone number or subscriber ID to search.
- Submit Resolution Request Submit a resolution request for a transaction rejected in the legacy workflow.

Select Enroll Subscriber

From the Enroll Subscriber
workflow, you can verify a
subscriber's information and/or
directly enroll them into NLAD.



Subscriber Management

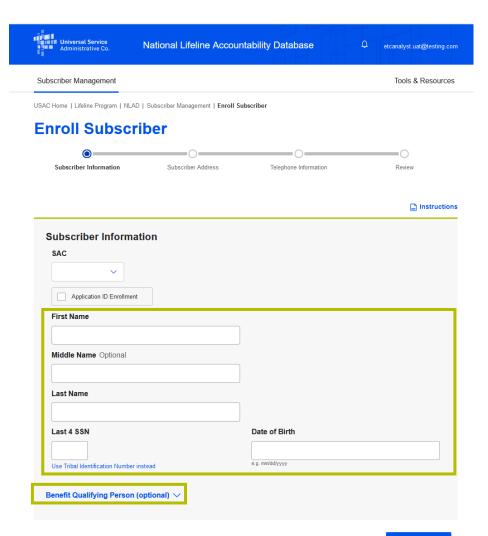
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Subscriber Information

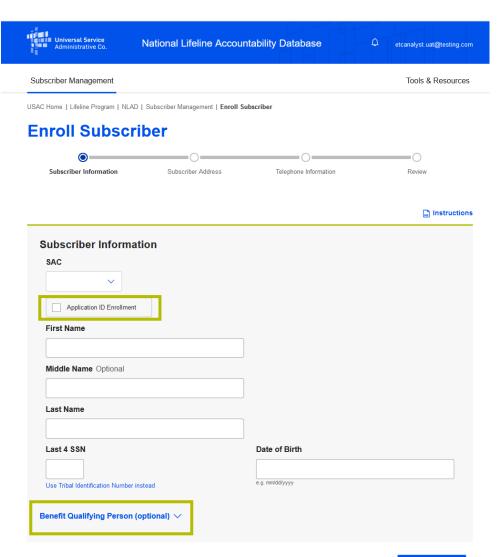
There are two ways to enroll a subscriber in NLAD.

- Option One: Fill in the consumer's information to include:
 - First name
 - Last name
 - Date of birth
 - SSN4 or Tribal ID if applicable
 - Address
- If a benefit qualifying person (BQP) is part of the application, make sure to include their information.



Subscriber Information

- Option Two: Select the checkbox "Application ID Enrollment" and fill in the following fields:
 - First name
 - Last name
 - Date of birth
 - Application ID
- If a BQP is part of the application, make sure to include their information.



Overview

- You will only be able to enroll eligible consumers in NLAD if they have an **active** and **approved** eligibility decision from the National Verifier.
- Consumers who are unable to demonstrate an active or approved application decision will receive an error in the NLAD system.

Application Not Found

Error



Error

applicationId: The subscriber has not finished qualifying through the Lifeline National Verifier. Submit documents for the below listed error(s) here.

Resolution

- Verify the correct spelling of the consumer's first and last name.
- Ensure additional spaces are not included in the first and last name.
- Confirm the consumer's date of birth.
- Confirm the consumer has completed the application within 90 days.

Application Not Complete

Error



∧ Error

applicationId: The subscriber has not finished qualifying through the Lifeline National Verifier. Submit documents for the below listed error(s) here.

Resolution

- Ensure the consumer has a completed National Verifier application.
- Confirm successful submission of supporting application documents.

Application Pending

Error



Error

applicationId: The subscriber has not finished qualifying through the Lifeline National Verifier. Submit documents for the below listed error(s) here.

Resolution

Contact the Lifeline Support Center at (800) 234-9473 or <u>lifelineprogram@usac.org</u> to learn more information about the consumer's application status.

Subscriber Already Enrolled in Lifeline

Error

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Error

Subscriber: The subscriber in this transaction is a duplicate of another subscriber in Lifeline. Consumers may only be enrolled one time and receive a benefit. To enroll this consumer, obtain consent to transfer them or request that they de-enroll from their other provider before completing the consent and the enrollment transaction.

Resolution

- Assist the consumer with requesting a benefit transfer.
- The benefit transfer must be at the request of the subscriber and performed by the new service provider.

Duplicate Phone Number

Error



Error

Phone Number: The phone number in this transaction matches the phone number of another subscriber.

Resolution

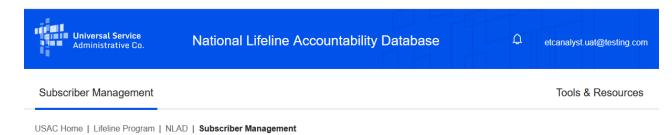
- Assign a new phone number to bypass the duplicate phone number error message, or
- Submit a dispute via email to the <u>Lifeline Program</u>, including the phone number and the Study Area Code (SAC) you are attempting to enroll or transfer.

Summary

- Ensure you have the correct spelling of the consumer's first and last name.
- Confirm the consumer has a completed National Verifier application.
- A benefit transfer must be at the request of the subscriber and performed by the new service provider.
- Consumers who are unable to demonstrate an active or approved application decision will receive an error in the NLAD system.
- If a benefit qualifying person (BQP) is part of the application, make sure to include their information.

Select Transfer Lifeline Benefit

From the Transfer Lifeline
 Benefit workflow, you can transfer a qualified subscriber to your company.



Subscriber Management

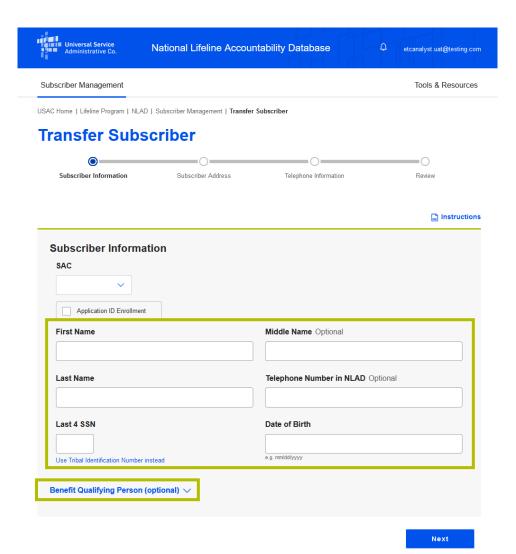
Welcome to NLAD Subscriber Management. Here you can enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll a subscriber and ensure your records are up to date. For assistance, please refer to the Instructions guide on each of the pages

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Subscriber Information

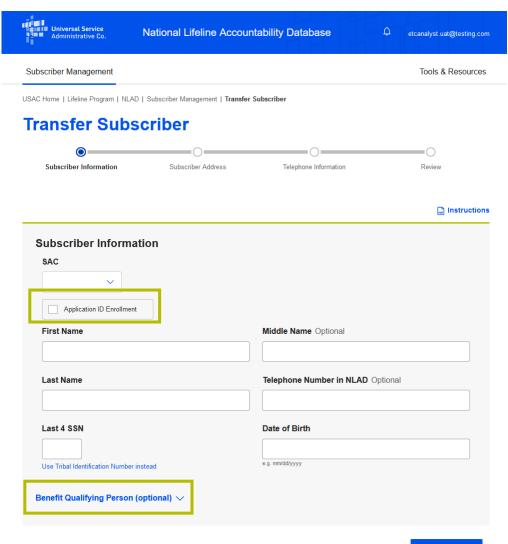
There are two ways to transfer a Lifeline benefit.

- Option One: Fill in the consumer's information to include:
 - First name
 - Last name
 - Date of birth
 - SSN4 or Tribal ID if applicable
 - Address
- If a BQP is part of the application, make sure to include their information.



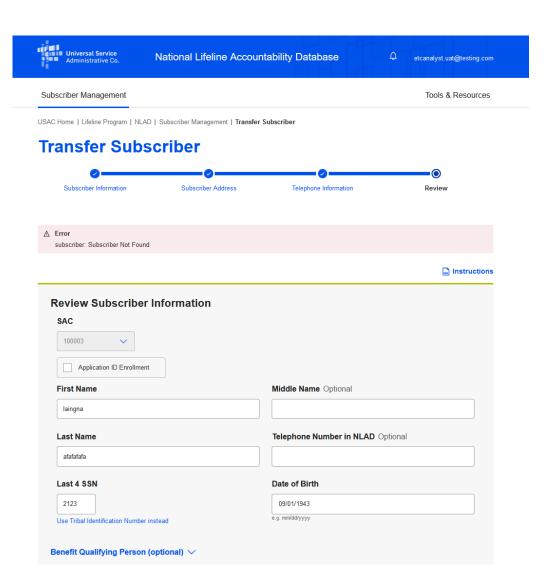
Subscriber Information

- Option Two: Select the checkbox "Application ID Enrollment" and fill in the following fields:
 - First name
 - Last name
 - Date of birth
 - Application ID
- If a BQP is part of the application, make sure to include their information.



Overview

- If a transfer is not successful because of missing or incorrectly formatted data, the associated error messages will display at the top of the page in red.
- You will be redirected to the **Transaction Unsuccessful** page, where you will see the related error messages, as well as the transaction details.



Subscriber Not Found

Error

subscriber: Subscriber Not Found

Resolution

- Verify the correct spelling of the consumer's first and last name.
- Ensure additional spaces are not included in the first and last name.
- Confirm the consumer's date of birth.

Common NLAD Transfer Errors

Subscriber Not Found

Error



subscriber: Subscriber Not Found

Resolution

 Request the consumer's enrollment confirmation email or letter and confirm the consumer's application date has not exceeded 90 days.

Poll

Question **Answer** Subaccounts have different access levels for various functionalities and viewing permissions across NLAD, the National Verifier, and the Lifeline Claims System What is the biggest difference between the (LCS). subaccount types? Specific roles, such as 497 Officers and ETC Administrators, can create and manage other accounts.

Listed below is a comparison chart of the different types of NLAD subaccounts.

ETC Analyst

Can perform subscriber transactions, query subscriber data, and view reports.

User also has access to the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility.

ETC Operations

Can query subscriber data and view reports.

User also has access to the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility.

ETC Agent

Only has access to the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility.

User does not have access to the NLAD.

Question **Answer** If you receive an error, the consumer has not qualified through the National Verifier or their National Verifier application has expired. The consumer will need to A subscriber shared that they have an complete a new application. approved application. Why do I receive an error when searching for their name? In addition, be sure you are entering the consumer's PII correctly. If a BQP is listed on the application, verify that their information is also correct.

Question

I am receiving a duplicate subscriber error when attempting to enroll a subscriber. What should I do?

Answer

 To enroll the consumer, obtain consent to transfer them or request that they de-enroll from their other provider before completing the transaction.

Question Can our company have more than one ETC Administrator per 498 ID/Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN).

Question	Answer
Can an ETC Administrator certify and submit claims?	 No. Only a 497 Officer can certify reimbursement claims and manage the ETC Administrator user.
	• The ETC Administrator can:
	 Perform subscriber transactions
	 Query subscriber data
	 Create and view reports
	 Submit resolution requests
	 Create and manage account types
	 Request various status checks

Question As an ETC Analyst, you are not authorized to file or certify claims. As an ETC Analyst, can I submit claims and manage other account types? ETC Administrators have the ability to create and manage other account types (including ETC Analysts, Operations, and Agents).

Question Answer If you would like to change your account type, your ETC Administrator will need to deactivate and re-create your account with a different account type. You will not be able to update your account type on your current NLAD subaccount.

Question Answer

- Which subaccount do I need to access the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility?
- The ETC Analyst, ETC Operations, and ETC Agent user roles all have the ability to access the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility.

Question Answer

• I only check consumer eligibility. Do I need to register for a Representative ID?

Yes. All providers who perform transactions in the NLAD and National Verifier, must register for a Representative ID in the Representative Accountability Database (RAD).

Question

Answer

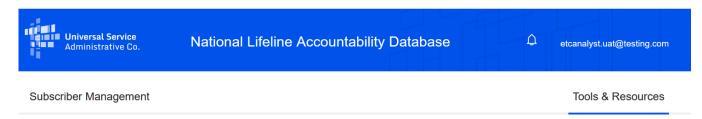
• If a consumer is applying for the Lifeline benefit on behalf of their dependent, whose PII should I enter?

- When a consumer is applying for the Lifeline program and attempting to qualify using a dependent, referred to as a benefit qualifying person (BQP), they must enter their own information in the consumer section and the dependent's information in the BQP section.
- The consumer should provide their first and last name, date of birth, SSN (or Tribal ID), and address in the appropriate fields.
- Additionally, the BQP's first and last name, date of birth, and SSN (or Tribal ID) will also be required.

Questions?

Resources

- NLAD user guides and additional resources are available in the Tools & Resources section of NLAD.
 - Reports
 - API Specifications
 - Field Descriptions
 - Training Videos



USAC Home | Lifeline Program | NLAD | Tools & Resources

Tools & Resources

- Reports Review reports on Lifeline subscribership and activity.
- Tribal Lands Eligibility Verification Check if a subscriber's address is on Tribal lands. For information purposes only.
- ACP User Guide Information on using the system.
- ACP API Specification Learn how to connect to NLAD and manage ACP subscribers by API.
- ACCA API Specification Learn how to connect to the National Verifier by API for ACP.
- User Guide Information on using the NLAD system.
- NLAD API Specification Learn how to connect to NLAD by API.
- NV API Specification Learn how to connect to the National Verifier by API.
- NV API ISA Required agreement to connect to USAC's systems by API.
- Field Descriptions Detailed information on required fields in NLAD.
- ACP Field Descriptions Detailed information on required fields in ACP.
- Training Videos Review information on using NLAD.

Resources

- Visit our <u>NLAD</u> page for additional system-related information.
- View the updated <u>NLAD FAQs</u>.
- Email <u>LifelineProgram@usac.org</u> for technical support, questions, and assistance.
- Visit Lifeline's <u>Webinars</u> page to review past trainings and register for upcoming events.

Next Month's Training Topic

 Join us next month to learn how to complete and submit the FCC Form 555.

Webinars

Join us to learn about Lifeline program updates, including Lifeline program rules and orders, guidance about compliance and filings, the National Verifier (NV), and the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD).

Sign up 🗹 for the Lifeline program newsletter to receive webinar announcements via email.

Upcoming Trainings

December 2024 Monthly Webinar: Completing the annual FCC Form 555

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 Time: 03:00 pm ET – 04:00 pm ET

Register

Thank You!

