Connected Care Pilot Program Funding Request Best Practices Submitting the FCC Form 462 August 5, 2021



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🛞 GoToWebinar

Meet Our Team



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Agenda

- Funding Request Overview
- Introduction to Best Practices
- Competitive Bidding Exemptions
- Submitting the FCC Form 462
- Best Practices & Resources

By the end of this webinar you will be able to...

- Understand what a funding request is, who must submit, and when
- Complete and submit an FCC Form 462 in My Portal
 - Avoid common errors
 - Submit as an individual HCP and as a consortium
 - Submit using a competitive bidding exemption
- Respond to Information Requests
- Locate important resources on the USAC website

Glossary

Acronym	Meaning
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
HCP	Health Care Provider (your site)
HCP Number	Number associated with your site
PAH	Primary Account Holder
LOA	Letter of Agency (Consortium Only)
ACSD	Allowable Contract Selection Date
FRN	Funding Request Number
NCW	Network Cost Worksheet
FCL	Funding Commitment Letter

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Funding Request Overview

CCPP Funding Request Webinar

Connected Care Pilot Program Application Process

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Connected Care Pilot Program

Project Application Process

Pre-Selection Process (Complete)

All project sites have determined eligibility with the FCC Form 460 and submitted their Connected Care Project Proposal to the FCC.

The Connected Care Pilot Program is no longer accepting applications. Once selected, projects move on to the following steps to receive funding.

usac.org for 28 days (minimum).

Develop Evaluation Criteria and Request for Services

If selected, the project describes the services needed and develops scoring criteria to evaluate bids. The request for services posts to

Evaluate Bids and Select a Service Provider Project selects a service provider

After the 28 day period, the project chooses the most "cost effective" service provider. The project should keep all documentation from this process.

Submit Funding Request Project submits FCC Form 462

Project submits FCC Form 461

Projects provide information about the services selected, cost, service provider information, and terms of service agreements.

Certify Services Started and Invoice Project submits FCC Form 463

Projects initiate the invoicing process by sending the FCC Form 463 to their service provider for review and then submission to USAC.

*Note: Each physical site/location must submit its individual FCC Form 460, even if part of a hospital system. A hospital system is not considered one entity; it must form a consortium to apply.

What is a Funding Request?

- Once a service provider is selected following the posting of an FCC Form 461 and waiting at least 28 days, the next step is to submit a **funding request** to USAC to provide information about the services selected and certify that those services are the most cost-effective option of the offers received.
- Specifies the type of service(s) ordered, cost, name of service provider, and terms of the service agreement(s).
- Projects submit their funding request using an **FCC Form 462** (Funding Request Form) in My Portal.
- USAC reviews and approves the funding request and issues a Funding Commitment Letter for eligible items.

Who Must Submit a Funding Request?

- All Connected Care Pilot Program (CCPP) projects requesting funding for expenses that were part of their CCPP application must file a separate FCC Form 462 for each service provider for which funding is requested.
 - Multiple circuits or services can be included on one FCC Form 462 if it is for the same service provider.
 - If submitting as a consortium, multiple HCPs can be included on one FCC Form 462 if using the same service provider.
 - USAC will review the FCC Form 462 and make final determinations regarding the eligibility of the network equipment and services requested before committing funding to each pilot project.

Individual vs. Consortia Applications

- A **consortium** is two or more health care providers (HCPs) that choose to request support on a single application.
- In a consortium funding request you could have multiple HCP²s listed under one FCC Form 462 so long as they are requesting funding from the same service provider.
- In an individual application you would submit a funding request for each approved HCP location.
 - The HCP location that's receiving the Connected Care service as indicated on the supporting documentation should match the approved location found on your FCC Form 460.

When to Submit

• FCC Form 462 Deadline - Initial form must be submitted no later than **February 14, 2022**

Eligible Services

Category	Eligible Services	Examples
Patient Broadband Internet Access Services/Health Care Provider Broadband Data Connections	New or upgraded broadband connections (whether for health care provider or participating patients) necessary for connected care services for the Pilot Program	 Broadband Connections Digital Subscriber Line Cable Modem Other Copper Wireline Optical Carrier/Fiber to the End-User Terrestrial Fixed Wireless Mobile Wireless (e.g., 3G, LTE, 4G, 5G) Satellite Broadband over Powerline Firewall Service
Other Connected Care Information Services	Services for connected care that capture, transmit (including video visits), and store health care data for connected care. This includes information services with "store- and-forward" technology, patient reported outcome platforms, and remote patient monitoring capabilities to monitor patients.	 HIPAA compliant (or requirement waived) video services HIPAA compliant (or requirement waived) telehealth solutions/packages/platforms, suites of services. One-time, annual, recurring monthly costs for information service Licenses, subscriptions, or recurring charges necessary for providers to access or use eligible information service.

Note: This eligible services chart is illustrative and is not intended to be exhaustive.

Eligible Services, Continued

Category	Eligible Services	Examples
Network Equipment	Certain network equipment necessary to make Internet service or connected care services for the HCP/Patient for the Pilot Program functional (e.g., routers) or necessary to manage, control, or operate a supported broadband service.	 Equipment that terminates a carrier's or other provider's transmission facility and any router/switch that is directly connected to either the facility or the terminating equipment. Network equipment that helps manage, control, or operate a supported broadband service (consortia applicants only) Servers used exclusively for eligible broadband services Routers (including at patient's home) Switches
Miscellaneous	Various miscellaneous costs associated with eligible services listed above may be eligible for support. Applicants should request eligible miscellaneous services in the same category as the associated service being obtained or installed.	 Installation, Activation, and Initial Configuration (including implementation and integration costs necessary to integrate eligible information services with existing systems). Fees and charges that are a necessary component of an eligible service: Shipping charges Taxes, surcharges, and other reasonable charges incurred in obtaining an eligible product or service

Note: This eligible services chart is illustrative and is not intended to be exhaustive.

Ineligible Services

- End-user devices
- Medical supplies
- Provider (Doctor's) Fees
- Administrative and Personnel costs
- Live Translation Services
- Internal Connections between Provider Sites
- Storage Devices
- IT support
- Maintenance costs

- DocuSign
- VPN Solutions
- Special Construction/Network Builds
- Applications not purchased as part of connected care information service
- Standalone Voice, including VoIP
- Standalone messaging services
- Network Equipment not necessary to make broadband or connected care services functional or manage, control or operate a supported broadband service.

Note: This ineligible services chart is illustrative and is not intended to be exhaustive.

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Introduction to Best Practices

CCPP Funding Request Webinar

Information Requests

- Forms with missing or incomplete information or documentation cannot be processed.
- Where USAC requires information that cannot be located on the submitted supporting documentation will result in an **Information Request**.
 - FCC Form 462 Information Requests will be sent from an @usac.org email address.
- All account holders will receive all Information Requests.
- Projects are given 14 calendar days to provide a response to the Information Request.
 - 11:59 p.m. ET on the 14th day would be deadline to respond to the Information Request.
- Information Requests not responded to within 14 calendar days will result in a denial of that form.

Submission Checklist

- Document(s) confirming the monthly cost for your services (e.g. a copy of your bill or price quote for the requested funding period)
- A copy of all bids that were received for your request for service including the winning bid, all bids that were rejected and any bids that were disqualified and why
- A copy of the bidding evaluation matrix
- A list of people who evaluated bids including title, role, and their relationship to the HCPs participating in the Project
- Internal documents related to the selection of the service provider (if applicable)
- Copies of any correspondence with service providers prior to and during the competitive bidding process (if applicable)
- A copy of any new contract signed for your services
- Award letter to winning vendor
- Contact information for the service provider and all responsible account holders
- □ The start and end location of your services

* Any information that cannot be located on the submitted supporting documentation will result in an Information Request

Submission Tips

- Use the information on the original documentation (bill, contract, or service order) to enter the data into the FCC Form 462 and upload that document into My Portal with your submission.
- Remember you must also submit:
 - **Copies of all bids received** including winning, losing and disqualified.
 - List of the people who evaluated the bids with their names and titles.
 - **Evaluation documents** including the scores received by bidders based on the weighted criteria posted in the FCC Form 461.
 - **Award letter** to the winning vendor.
- Per the rules, you must have all supporting documents on hand at the time of submission and they must be uploaded when you submit your forms.

Submission Tips, Continued

- It is helpful to also submit a cover letter that includes a summary of your submission.
- Recommended things to include in your cover letter:
 - Where to find information about your service in the supporting documentation (i.e. Internet 20M \$XX.XX Page 5 of Invoice)
 - Highlight/label any documentation that is submitted.
- Information that isn't clearly identified via supporting documentation will need to be confirmed by the service provider.
 - It is the HCP's responsibility to reach out to the service provider to get any missing information. USAC cannot reach out to the service provider on an HCP's behalf.

Identifying Applicable Charges on a Bill/Invoice - Example

BW TELCOM Clearly Connected.	For All Billing Inquiries, call 1-308-423-7 Account Number: Account Name: Due Date: UPON RECEIPT Visit our website at www.bwtelcom.net	2000		Page 4 000001 W0053
VOICE MAIL - BUSINESS CALL CONFERENCING CALLER NAME AND NUMBER LOOP * ROTATION POSITION ON THE KEY INTERNET-ADD. MAILBOX * MULTI LINE CHARGE * TELECOMM RELAY SURCHARGE * ACCESS RECOVERY CHARGE-MULTI DUNDY COUNTY E911 BROADBAND ACCESS ADSL-UP TO 7M/7M STATIC IP ADDRESS BROADBAND ACCESS ADSL-UP TO 20M/10M BROADBAND ACCESS-ADSL-UP TO 50M/10M	02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17 expense 2 02/01/17-02/28/17 02/01/17-02/28/17	1 MONTH 1 MONTH	25 1 2 5 2 49 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1 3 2 2 2	

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Competitive Bidding Exemptions

CCPP Funding Request Webinar

If NOT Using a Competitive Bidding Exemption: Select "Create 462" from "Form 461" Tab

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Form 460 App #	Form 461 App #	Friendly Name	Last Edited	Status	ACSD	Download	Actions Available
	100	2020	1/21/2020			7	
	100	2020 -	1/27/2020	Approved	2/25/2020	1	Create 462
	100		3/31/2016	Approved	3/15/2014	7	Create 462
	100	2014	3/31/2016	Approved	6/17/2014	7	Create 462
	100	2019	1/16/2019	Approved	2/14/2019	7	Create 462
	100	2018	1/05/2018	Approved	2/03/2018	7	Create 462
	100	2021 FY 461	9/02/2020	Approved	10/01/2020	7.	Create 462

If USING a Competitive Bidding Exemption "Create 462 Exempt from Competitive Bidding" from "Form 460" Tab

	mpt from competitive bidding may file their Form 4 nts will see all submitted Form 461s on this page a		
v Form 460 Revision			
	empt from Competitive Bidding		
	empt from Competitive Bidding		
	empt from Competitive Bidding Last Edited	Status	Download
ate Form 461 Create 462 Exe		Status Approved	A
ate Form 461 Create 462 Exe			Download

What is a Competitive Bidding Exemption?

- In some cases, the service needs or contract conditions allow you to be exempt from competitive bidding.
- With a competitive bidding exemption, you will not have to undergo the competitive bidding process, and do not need to create evaluation criteria or collect bids from service providers.
- A competitive bidding exemption will allow you to skip the FCC Form 461 (for the purposes of competitive bidding) entirely and proceed directly to submitting a funding request.

Competitive Bidding Exemptions

- Purchasing services from a master service agreement (MSA) negotiated by a federal, state, Tribal, or local governmental entity on its behalf of you and others, and which was awarded pursuant to applicable competitive bidding requirements;
- Requesting support using contracts previously endorsed by USAC (MSA under the Pilot Program or the HCF Program);
- Using an active multi-year contract already designated as "Evergreen" for the RHC program (exemption applies for the life of the contract);
- Using a contract approved under the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program;
- Projects seeking support for \$10,000 or less of total undiscounted eligible expenses for a single year do not have to complete an FCC Form 461.

New Connected Care Pilot Program-Specific Exemption

- **Pre-Existing Contract:** The eligible health care provider already has entered into a legally binding agreement with a service provider for services or equipment eligible for support in the Pilot Program and that legally binding agreement itself was the product of competitive bidding.
 - This exemption applies only when the contract was signed before the Project was selected to participate in CCPP and the contract was not entered into solely for purposes of the Pilot Program.
 - The prior competitive bidding process must have included public solicitation of bids or the Project must have evaluated multiple quotes or bids before signing the contract.

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Submitting the FCC Form 462

CCPP Funding Request Webinar

Select Type of Expense

Ν	RURAL HEALTH CARE			Return to My HCPs
Form 460 Form 461 Form 462 Form 463 Documents RHC Note: RHC applicants was are extrement from competitive bidding may file their Form 462 by proceeding to the "Form 461" tab any time after the Allowable Contract Selection Date (ACSD) has passed. Applicants with ease all a the mitted Form 462 mm 461 mm 4	Form 460 Form 461 Form 460 RHC Note: RHC applicants who are not exempt for Selection Date (ACSD) has passed. Applicants with New Form 460 Revision New Form 460 Revision Create Form 461 Create 462 Exempt	rom competitive bidding may file their Form 462 by proceeding to the 'Form II see all submitted Form 461s on this name and are able to click the 'Creat New Competitive Bidding Exempt 462	e 462" button after the Status pproved pproved	er the Allowable Contract ACSD period.

General Information

RURAL HEALTH CARE	Return to My HCI
GENERAL INFORMATION VENDOR INFORMATION OPPETITIVE BIDDING INFORMATION	
© GENERAL INFORMATION © VENDOR INFORMATION © COMPETITIVE BIDDING INFORMATION © SINGLE ELIGIBLE EXPENSE REQUEST FOR FUNDING © ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION © CERTIFICA	ATIONS O SIGNATURE
General Information	📆 Preview PDF 🔞 Form Guide
Read the complete Form Guide ^[2] before you begin. Click the	
Information about the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) is available <u>here</u>	uesi.
Program Type: O Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program	
Connected Care Pilot Program	
1 Funding Year: * 2021	~
2 Funding Request Number (FRN):	
3 HCP Number:	
4 Site Name/Consortium Name:	
Save and Exit Save and Continue Exit	

Vendor Information

Vendor Information		💆 Preview PDF 🔞 Form Guide
9 SPIN/498 ID: *		Search for a SPIN/498 ID
10 Vendor Name: *		
Type of Funding Request		
11 Funding Request:	Individual HCP, single eligible expense	v

Competitive Bidding Information

Competitive Bidding Information	🚺 Preview NCW 党 Preview PDF
5 FCC Form 461 Application Number:	
6 Allowable Contract Selection Date (ACSD):	
7 Number of vendors who bid: *	
Service Provider Selection Date *	
Are you continuing service with your current service provider? *	
Yes 💿 No 🔾	
Are you claiming a competitive bidding exemption?	
Yes 🔿 No 💿	
Save and Exit Save and Go Back Save and Continue Exit	

Competitive Bidding Exemption

Competitive Bidding Information	📆 Preview PDF 🔞 Form Guide
	and therefore line 8 is a required field. If you cannot claim a competitive bidding exemption, please a form 461 or form 462 once the 461's Allowable Contract Selection Date has passed.
Are you claiming a competitive bidding exemption?	a form 401 of form 402 once the 4013 Allowable Contract Celection Date has passed.
Yes No	
8 Request for competitive bidding exemption (Choose an o	option) *
Annual Undiscounted Cost of \$10,000 or less	
Government Master Services Agreement	Add Contract
Pre-Approved Master Services Agreement	Add Contract
Evergreen Contract	Add Contract
E-Rate Approved Contract	Add Contract
Pre-Existing Contract	Add Contract
Save and Exi	it Save and Go Back Save and Continue Exit

Single Eligible Expense Request for Funding

gle Eligible Expense Request for Funding		📆 Preview PDF 🔞 Form Gui
Eligible Expense Information		
Is this a newly installed circuit?	Select an option	Ŧ
12 Category of Expense *	Choose an Expense Category	T
13 Expense Type *	Choose an Expense Type	T
14 Bandwidth *	Choose a Bandwidth	Ŧ
14a Is this Service Symmetrical?		
What is the upload bandwidth	Choose a Bandwidth	T
What is the download bandwidth	Choose a Bandwidth	T
15 Circuit ID (optional)		
16 Percentage of Expense Eligible *		
Upload vendor pricing comparison or cost allocation	Click to Upload	
cost anocation		

Contract Information

Contract Information *

Contract Information *	
	pport on a month-to-month basis, select the 'Please process my form as month-to-month. I do not wish below. If the box is selected, only enter the service start date, contract information (Eg. Contract friendly etc) is not required.
 If you are requesting an Evergree 	en, MSA, E-rate contract competitive bidding exemption or have undergone a competitive bidding
process without intention of rece	iving support on a month-to-month basis, a contract is required with this FCC Form 462 submission.
 Applicants must submit a contra 	ct or other documentation that clearly identifies (1) the vendor(s)/service provider(s) selected and the
HCP(s) who will receive the sen service agreement(s) if applicab	rices; (2) the service, bandwidth and costs for which support is being requested; (3) the term of the le.
 A contract is not required for ap 	plicants claiming a competitive bidding exemption for Annual Costs of \$10,000 or less.
	Please process my form as month-to-month. I do not wish to submit a contract for review.
	Select a Contract Download Contract.docx Remove Selected Contract
19 Contract ID	1750(
	Other Documentation
19a Date contract signed *	Contract End Date
19b Expected service start date *	
19c. Length of initial contract term *	Months 🖲 Years 🔘
If this is a multi-year contract, would	
you like this contract reviewed for	Select an option
evergreen endorsement?*	
RHC Note: If lines 19d and 19e are not ap	licable, enter N/A in the fields.
19d Number of contract extensions *	
19e Length of optional extension(s) combined	Months 🖲 Years 💿

FCC Form 462 Submitted With a Contract

- If you are submitting the FCC Form 462 with a contract, you will enter contract information in the appropriate fields and upload a complete copy of the contract
 - Contract sign date and contract end date
 - Contract term
 - Voluntary extensions
- Unlike the RHC programs, contracts entered into for CCPP products or services will not be reviewed for nor approved for evergreen status.
- Projects may use contracts already approved as evergreen under the HCF or Telecom programs and bypass competitive bidding using the Evergreen Exemption

FCC Form 462 Submitted Without a Contract

- As part of the FCC Form 462 supporting documentation, if a bill is uploaded without a contract, the reviewer will treat the form as a month-to-month funding request and confirm that the competitive bidding process is in compliance with the competitive bidding rules.
- Only forms submitted with contracts are eligible for multi-year funding.
- Forms submitted as month-to-month are only eligible for up to one year of support.
- Projects will need to competitively bid services each year if they do not submit a contract with their FCC Form 462.
- When submitting a funding request as month-to-month (without a contract), check the "month-to-month" box.



Circuit Information

Circuit Information (if applicable) 20 Circuit start location		
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
City		
State	×	
Zip Code		
	Swap Address Locations	
21 Circuit end location		
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
City		
State	Select A State 🗸	
Zip Code		

Financial Information

22 Is this a multi-year funding request?	
Multi-year commitments cannot exceed 3	funding years and may not extend beyond the expiration date of an Evergreen Contract
23 Expense frequency *	Choose a Frequency Choose a Frequency
24 Quantity of expense periods * Undiscounted cost per expense period (excluding taxes & fees) * Taxes & fees per expense period 25 Undiscounted cost per expense period	Monthly One-Time Annual Semi-Annual Quarterly
Upload documentation showing the cost of the services and any applicable taxes and/or surcharges *	Click to Upload
26 Source of HCP Contribution (Choose a	t least one source) *
Eligible HCP participant	
State grants, funding, or appropriations Federal funding, grants, loans, or appropriations	
Tribal government funding	
Other grant funding including pri∨ate grants	
27 One-time installation charges *	
28 This contract contains a Service	
Level Agreement.	Yes No

Financial Information

Additional Documentation

dditional Docume	entation		📆 Preview PDF 🥹 Form Guide
1 List all supporting d	ocumentation (Com	npetitive bids, Contract, etc.) that is required to be sul	bmitted with this form.
	Next	New Document	elete Checked
Previous	10000	Documents	Documents

Certifications

Certifications 7 Preview PDF 🕖 Form Guide				
32 Is applic	ant requesting confidential treatment and non-disclosure of commercial and financial information? (See instructions for specific information			
covered by Yes	this request.)			
Certifica				
	33. I certify under penalty of perjury that I am authorized to submit this request on behalf of the applicant or consortium.			
	34. I certify under penalty of perjury that I have examined this request and all attachments and to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, all statements of fact contained therein are true.			
	35. I certify under penalty of perjury that the applicant or consortium has considered all bids received and selected the most cost-effective method of providing the requested services. "Cost-effective" is defined as the "method that costs the least after consideration of the features, quality of transmission, reliability, and other factors that the applicant deems relevant to choosing a method of providing the required health care services." 47 CFR § 54.622(c).			
	38. I certify under penalty of perjury that the applicant or consortium satisfies all of the requirements under Section 254 of the Act and applicable Commission rules, and understand that any letter from the Administrator that erroneously commits funds for the benefit of the applicant may be subject to rescission.			
	40. I understand that all documentation associated with this application, including all bids, contracts, scoring matrices, and other information associated with the competitive bidding process, all billing records for services received and any other documentation demonstrating compliance with the rules must be retained for a period of at least five years after the last date of service delivered in a particular funding year pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 54.631 or as otherwise prescribed by the Commission's rules.			
	l certify under penalty of perjury that the applicant or consortium and/or its consultant, if applicable, has not solicited or accepted a gift or any other thing of value from a service provider participating in or seeking to participate in the RHC Program.			
	I certify under penalty of perjury that any consultants or third parties associated with this request or RFP do not have an ownership interest, sales commission arrangement, or other financial stake in the vendor chosen to provide the requested services, and that they have otherwise complied with RHC Program rules, including the Commission's rules requiring fair and open competitive bidding.			
	I certify and acknowledge, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant or consortium will comply with all applicable Connected Care Pilot Program rules, requirements and procedures, including the requirement to pay 15% of the costs for supported items from eligible sources, and all applicable federal and state laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the False Claims Act, the Anti-Kickback Statute, and the Civil Monetary Penalties Law.			
	I certify and acknowledge, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant or consortium will comply with the applicable Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements and other applicable privacy and reimbursement laws and regulations, and applicable medical licensing laws.			
	I certify, under penalty of perjury, to the best of my knowledge, that the applicant or consortium is not already receiving or expecting to receive other funding (from any source, private, state, or federal) for the exact same services and/or equipment eligible for support under the Connected Care Pilot Program.			
	I certify and acknowledge, under penalty of perjury, that all requested equipment and services funded under the Connected Care Pilot Program will be used for their intended purposes.			

Signature

◎ GENERAL INFORMATION
 ○ VENDOR INFORMATION
 ○ COMPETITIVE BIDDING INFORMATION
 ○ SINGLE ELIGIBLE EXPENSE REQUEST FOR FUNDING
 ○ ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
 ○ CERTIFICATIONS
 ● SIGNATURE

Signature				🛃 Preview PDF
46 Email				
43 Printed Name of Authorized Person	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:	
44 Title/Position of Authorized Person				
45 Phone			Ext.	
47 Employer				
48 Employer's FCC RN				
		1		
	Save and Ex	it Save and Go Back	k Exit	

After Submitting

- You will receive an email letting you know that your form has been received.
 - If you do not receive an email, please go back into My Portal and be sure that you signed and fully submitted the form.
- The reviewer will reach out if additional information is needed.
- Funding decisions will be issued on a rolling basis.
- Once your funding request has been approved, you will receive a funding commitment letter (FCL) that will include all corresponding information to your funding request.

Best Practices - Equipment

- Equipment that terminates a service provider's transmission facility
 - Includes any router/switch that is directly connected to either the facility or the terminating equipment
- Network equipment that helps manage, control or operate a supported broadband service (consortia only)
- Network equipment purchases necessary to make a connected care information service functional
- Servers used exclusively for eligible broadband services
- Routers (including at a patient's home)
- Switches
- Installation, Activation and Initial Configuration
- Fees and charges that are a necessary component of an eligible service
 - Shipping charges
 - Taxes, surcharges and other reasonable charges incurred in obtaining eligible products or services

*Note: This eligible services list is illustrative and is not intended to be exhaustive.

Best Practices - Equipment, Continued

Financial Information		
AA. Quantity of Items Invoiced *		
AB. Multi-Year Funding Request		
AC. Expense Frequency *	One-Time 💙	
AD. Quantity of Expense Periods *	1	

- Components of a piece of equipment should be broken out by part on the invoice or contract so that USAC can determine if any ineligible components are part of the bundle; however, we would not provide funding for a power cord by itself if the router is ineligible.
- Clearly identify on the documentation what constitutes an "item" e.g. router, switch, etc. and list the quantity on Line AA of the FCC Form 462.
- Please note, similar to HCF, inside connections and inside wiring, including wireless access points, are not eligible for funding under CCPP.

Best Practices - Equipment, Continued

- Use a separate line for a service contract or warranty such as "SmartNet" that accompanies a particular piece of equipment and clearly identify it on the corresponding documentation.
- Please use the drop-down menu selections to describe the equipment as accurately as possible e.g. warranty, router (HCP owned), switch (HCP owned), wireless equipment (HCP owned), etc.
- Please use the <u>Equipment in Connected Care Pilot Program</u> tip sheet as a resource

Best Practices - Consortia

- All sites participating in the project must be **registered through an FCC Form 460**.
- The documentation submitted must be **associated with the HCP listed on the NCW** of the FCC Form 462.
- You must clearly demonstrate through supporting documentation that the **expense listed is for the benefit of the HCP** on the line item.
- It is your responsibility to provide clear narratives, network diagrams, and documentation to adequately describe the network.
- Network diagrams are helpful in providing a **snapshot of the network**; documentation such as **contracts, invoices, and/or service orders** must confirm the diagram.
- All supporting documentation must come from the **service provider**.

Site and Service Substitutions

- After the submission and approval of an FCC Form 462, CCPP Program participants may request a site or service substitution if:
 - The substitution is provided for in the contract, within the change clause, or constitutes a minor modification;
 - The site is an eligible health care provider and the service is an eligible service under the CCPP Program;
 - The substitution does not violate any contract provision or state, Tribal, or local procurement laws; and
 - The requested change is within the scope of the controlling Request for Services, including any applicable RFP used in the competitive bidding process.
- Site and service substitutions cannot increase the funding commitment.
- Please use the information on the <u>Site and Service Substitutions</u> webpage as a resource.



Best Practices & Resources

CCPP Funding Request Webinar

Best Practices - Communicating with Your Service Provider

- Ensure your service provider is aware of all the necessary documentation needed for future steps in the funding request and disbursement process.
- Include your service provider when you reply to Information Requests via email.
- USAC cannot reach out to service providers on your behalf.
- HCPs and service providers are required to retain documentation for a period of five years after the conclusion of the Pilot project.

After Submitting

- You will receive an email confirmation that your form was submitted with a copy of the PDF form.
- Respond to Information Requests within 14 calendar days or by the deadline listed in the email.
 - Failure to respond to the Information Request will result in a denial
 - Information requests will come from a reviewer using an @usac.org domain address

Important Dates and Deadlines

- August 27, 2021 Deadline for projects to provide updated contact information to USAC
- January 17, 2022 Last day to post initial FCC Form 461 (Request for Services) to the USAC website
 - This is the date the form must be **posted** to the USAC website not submitted to USAC.
 - Projects should file their initial FCC Form 461 no later than December 1, 2021 to meet the January 17, 2022 deadline.
- February 14, 2022- Last day to submit initial FCC Form 462 in My Portal
- Invoicing Webinar Fall 2021

Resources

- <u>Connected Care Pilot Program (CCPP)</u>
- <u>Submit Funding Requests</u>
- <u>CCPP Competitive Bidding Exemptions</u>
- <u>CCPP Equipment Tip Sheet</u>
- Blank FCC Form 462 and Instructions

Connected Care Pilot Program

Pre-Selection Process (Complete)

Step 1: Develop Bid Evaluation Criteria & Select Services

Step 2: Evaluate Bids and Select Service Provider

Step 3: Submit Funding Requests

Step 4: Review FCL



Learn

Welcome to Connected Care Pilot Program (CCPP) Learn! Here you will find all the handouts, training videos, and webinar recordings that will assist you in applying to the CCPP. All events and resources are offered free of charge.

CCPP General Information

- Connected Care Pilot Program FCC Website
- Report and Order FCC 20-44 🖻
- Public Notice DA 20-1019 🗟
- Report and Order 21-74 🗟
- Application Process Graphic

Webinars



Connected Care Pilot Program Kickoff 47:08 Slides

RHC Program Help Desk

- Email: <u>RHC-Assist@usac.org</u>
 - Email at any time to request a one-on-one appointment to learn more about the application process or ask specific questions.
 - Include in your email
 - HCP Number
 - o FRN Number
- Phone: (800) 453-1546
 - Hours are 8 a.m. 8 p.m. ET Monday Friday



RHC Help Desk

The Help Desk CAN	The Help Desk CANNOT
Answer general questions regarding both programs	• Determine the eligibility of a specific site or services before an official form submission
• Provide account holder information for an HCP	Review a form for accuracy before submission
• Provide clarity regarding FCC Reports and Orders	 Contact a service provider or account holder on someone else's behalf
 Provide helpful resources and best practices 	 Provide documents that are not already accessible in My Portal
Assist with My Portal	• Transfer a call to a specific form reviewer



Thank you for joining us today!

- RHC Help Desk
 - Call (800) 453-1546
 - Email <u>RHC-Assist@usac.org</u>
- Please fill out the post-webinar survey!

Thank You!