

RHC Connect User Guide – FCC Form 462

Updated as of May 2023

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About RHC Connect for the FCC Form 462

RHC Connect is the web-based system that hosts the FCC Form 462. Although the look of the application has changed, the FCC Form 462 did not. To submit your FCC Form 462, you will be asked the same questions and are required to provide the same information as in years past. No preparation for this change is required by you.

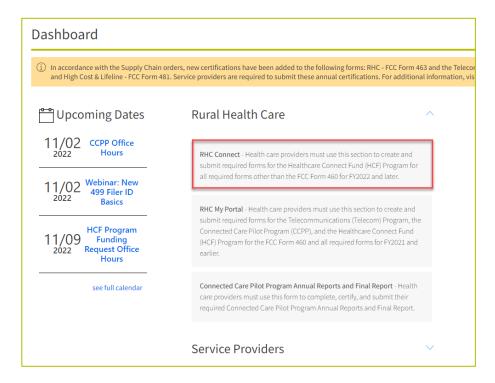
The Funding Year (FY) 2024 filing window will open on December 1, 2023, and close on April 1, 2024. Click on the following hyperlink to view the <u>FY2024 Program Calendar</u>. FCC Forms 461 and 462 will be submitted in RHC Connect. Applicants submitting FCC Forms 460 and 463 (for funding commitments prior to FY 2022) will continue to do so in My Portal.

Please Note: The red boxes and arrows in the screenshots that follow do not actually appear in RHC Connect.



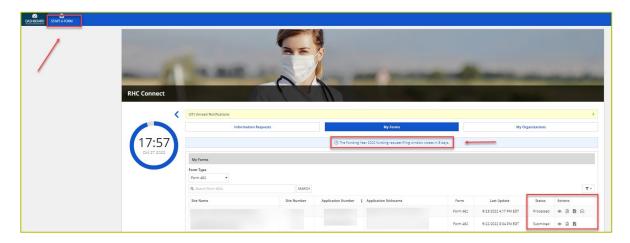
RHC Connect Walkthrough

Step 1:Log into My Portal and click on **RHC Connect**.



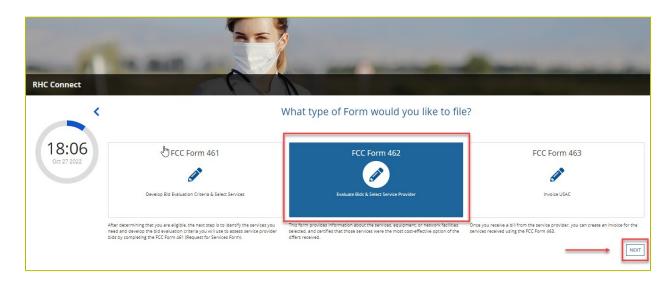
Step 2:

Here you can start a new form, resume working on a draft or delete a draft FCC Form 462. There's a countdown banner displaying the days remaining in the filing window. The clock on the right is the current date and time.



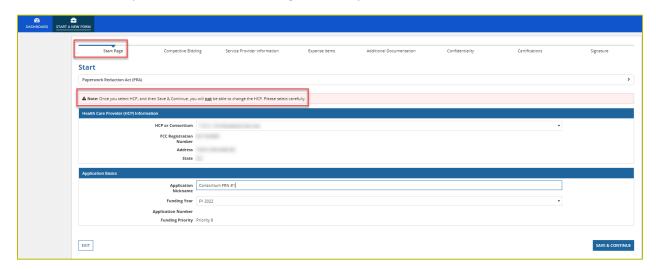


Step 3: Click "FCC Form 462" then click Next.



Step 4:

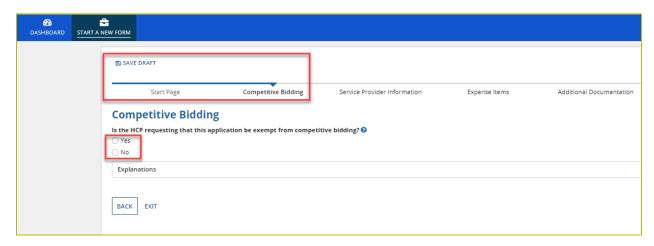
Move to the **Start** page and select the HCP or consortium from the drop-down menu. The information will be prepopulated. Enter an application name as an identifier for the application should you need to exit My Portal and return later. The note at the top in pink is a warning to alert you that once you click save and continue, you will be unable to change the HCP you select.



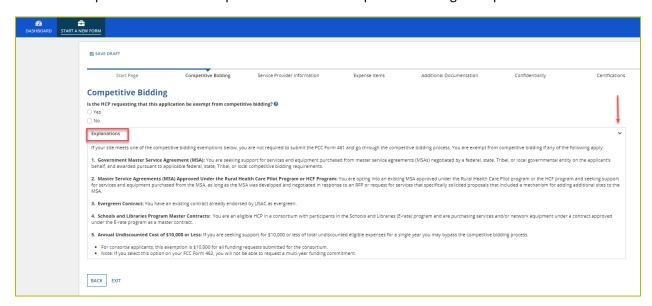


Step 5:

Answer **Yes** if you are exempt from competitive bidding and **No** if you completed your competitive bidding process.



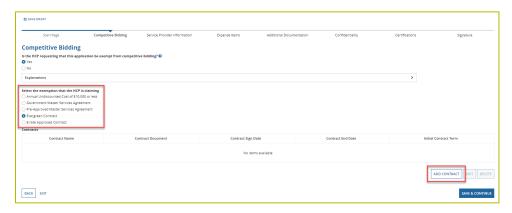
There is a drop-down menu with explanations of each competitive bidding exemption.





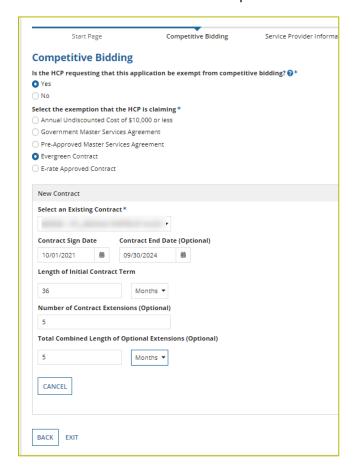
Step 6:

If you are exempt from competitive bidding, select the exemption from the list of eligible exemptions. Click **Add Contract** at the bottom right on the screen.



Step 7:

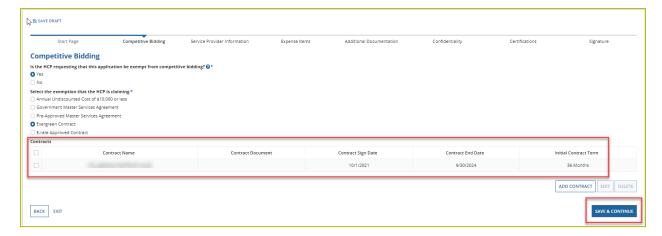
If using an evergreen contract, select an existing contract from the drop down menu. For all other exemptions, upload a new contract or choose an existing contract. Enter the relevant information about the contract in the fields. Use the drop-down calendar to enter dates.





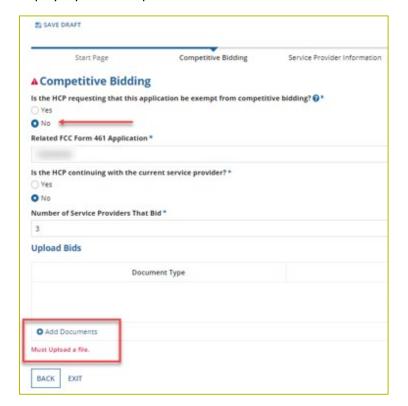
Step 8:

Once the contract is selected, click Save and Continue.



Step 9:

If an FCC Form 461 was submitted, choose **No** for the question about qualifying for an exemption. Select the related FCC Form 461 from the drop-down menu. All FCC Forms 461 submitted for the HCP will be available. Enter the number of bids received and upload copies of those bids. A red error message will display if you don't upload the documents.

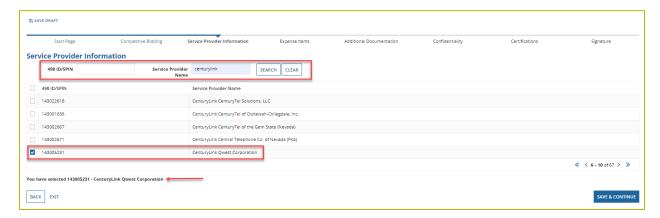




Uplo	ad Bids	_			
	Document Type	Document	Uploaded On		
Bids	•		11/8/2021 9:26 AM EST	×	
O Ad	dd Documents				
BAC	K EXIT				SAVE & CON

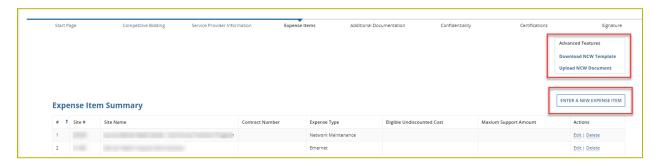
Step 10:

Select your service provider's 498 ID/SPIN. You can search by service provider name or the 489 ID/SPIN.



Step 11:

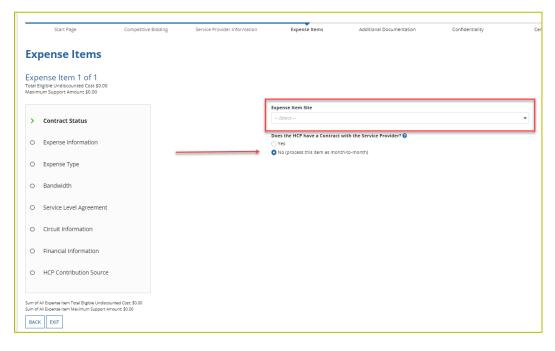
Download the NCW Template to populate and upload or enter a new expense item manually. **Note:** If you enter any information manually and then choose to use the NCW template, the NCW will overwrite that information.



Step 12:

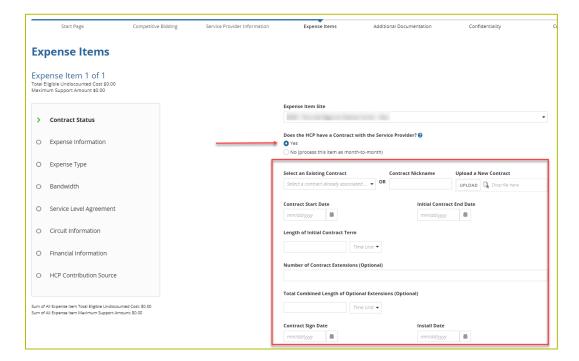
For consortia applicants, all member sites will appear in the drop-down menu. Select a site from the drop-down menu. Answer the question about whether the HCP is submitting this expense with a contract. If **No** is selected, the application will be processed as month-to-month. Month-to-month funding requests, meaning forms submitted without a contract, are limited to 12 months of funding and competitive bidding is required each year.





Step 13:

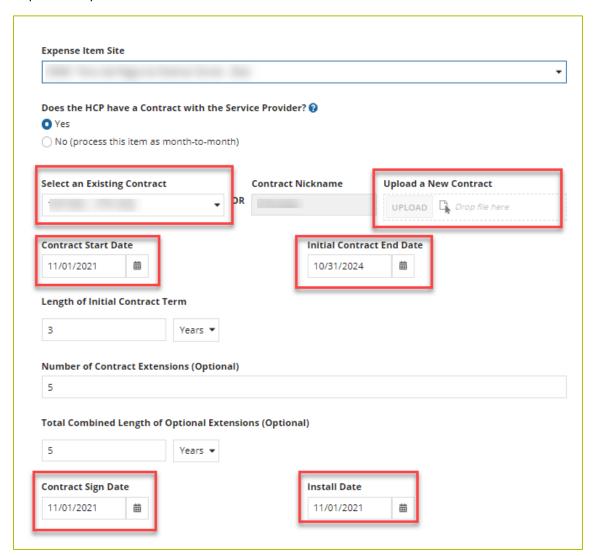
For expenses submitted with a contract, select **Yes** to the question: **Does the HCP have a contract with the service provider**. Enter all information in the required fields. Contract information is entered for each line item.





Step 14:

Enter the contract start date, initial contract end date, contract sign date, and installation date for the requested expense.



Step 15:

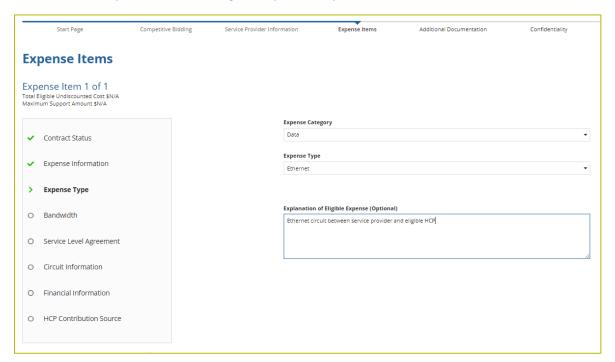
Enter the date that you either actually began receiving the service or the date that you expect to receive the service. If it is actually the first day of the funding year, you may to enter July 1 as the expected service start date.



Start Page	Competitive Bidding	Service Provider Information	Expense Items	Additional Documentation	Confidentiality	
Expense Items						
Expense Item 1 of 1 Total Eligible Undiscounted Cost \$N/A Maximum Support Amount \$N/A						
✓ Contract Status			Is this a newly installed circuit? Yes No			
> Expense Information			Billing Account Number (Option	nal)		
O Expense Type			Expected Broadband Service Sta	art Date		
O Bandwidth			You have chosen the funding expect to begin this service or	ng year start date. Please make sure th r have already started this service.	at this is the date when you actua	lly
O Service Level Agreement			Installation Date			
O Circuit Information						
O Financial Information						
O HCP Contribution Source						
Sum of All Expense Item Total Eligible Undisco Sum of All Expense Item Maximum Support Ar						
BACK EXIT						

Step 16:

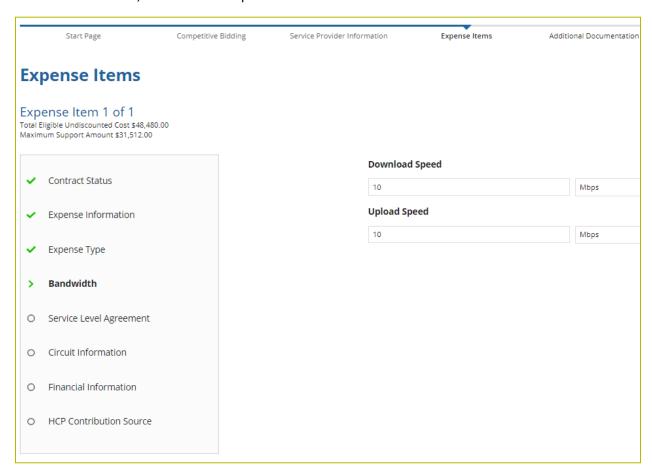
Choose the expense category and the expense type from the drop-down menus. There's an optional field where an explanation of the eligible expense may be added.





Step 17:

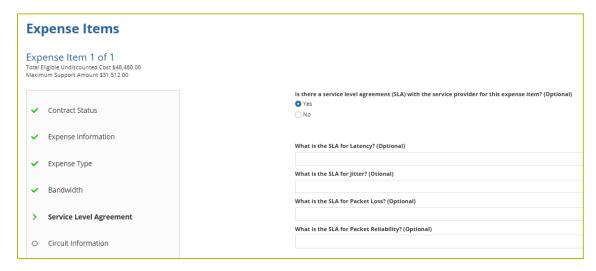
Enter the bandwidth for the requested expense. For expenses such as equipment, installation, construction and network management services, bandwidth is not required and fields may be left blank. For all other services, bandwidth is required.





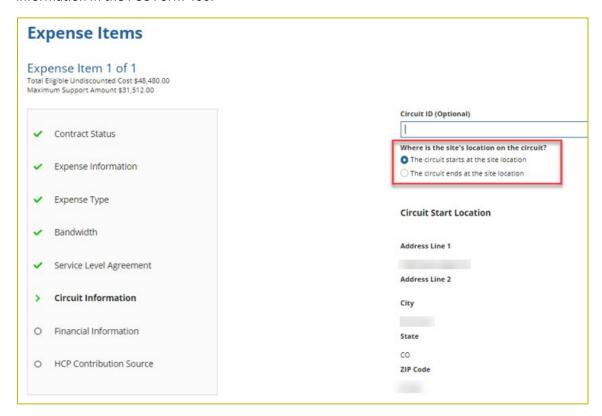
Step 18:

Select **Yes** or **No** to answer the question about whether the requested expense includes a service level agreement and, if yes, enter the information shown.



Step 19:

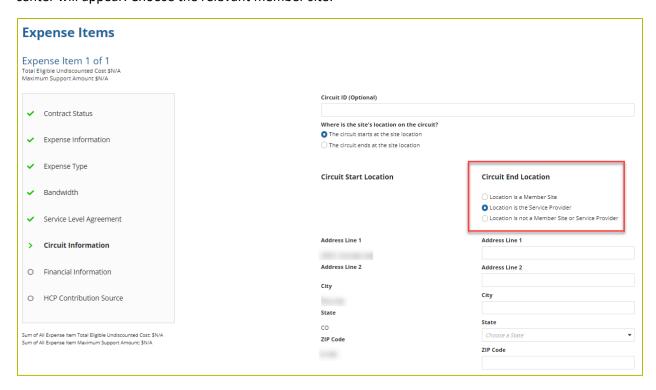
Enter a circuit ID (optional) and select where the site is located on the requested circuit. This should align with submitted service provider confirmed documentation. Information will pre-populate based on information in the FCC Form 460.





Step 20:

For consortia applicants only: For expenses associated with off-site administrative offices and off-site data centers, the circuit end location is required. If you select **Location is a Member Site**, a drop-down menu with a list of all HCP sites that appear on the FCC Form 460 for the administrative office or data center will appear. Choose the relevant member site.



Step 21:

Indicate whether there are multiple items being requested, whether you're asking for multi-year funding, how often the expense is invoiced, and how many expense periods are being requested. Enter the undiscounted cost per expense period, taxes and fees and indicate whether this expense is to be cost-allocated. If **No** is selected for **Is this entire expense eligible for support**, enter the eligible percentage and an explanation about how the percent eligible for support was calculated. Upload the document with the explanation where indicated.

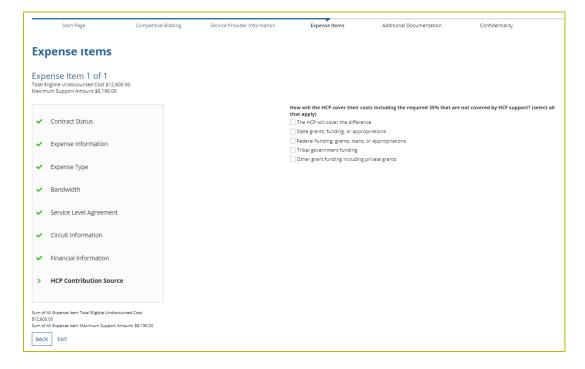




Expense Item 1 of 1 Total Eligible Undiscounted Cost \$0.00 Maximum Support Amount \$0.00					
	Does this expense item represent multiple items or	r circuits? 0			
✓ Contract Status	○ Yes				
Conduct States	● No				
✓ Expense Information	Multi-year Funding Request				
Expense information	○ Yes				
	● No				
✓ Expense Type	How often is this item expensed?				
	Monthly				
✓ Bandwidth					
4. Sandar Lauri American					
✓ Service Level Agreement	How many expense periods will there be total?				
	12				
✓ Circuit Information	Undiscounted Cost Per Expense Period (Excluding Taxes and Fees)				
	\$1,000.00				
> Financial Information	Taxes and Fees per Expense Period s50.00				
O HCP Contribution Source					
	Is this entire expense eligible for support? 😜	Percent Eligible for Support			
um of All Expense Item Total Eligible Undiscounted Cost: \$N/A	○ Yes	90			
um of All Expense Item Maximum Support Amount: \$N/A	● No	30			
	Explanation				
	Ten locations use this service but one site is ineligible	for funding.			
	Upload Documentation to Support Your Explanatio	//			
		n y			
	UPLOAD Drop file here				

Step 22:

Answer the question about now the HCP will cover their costs not covered by Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) support. Click all that apply.





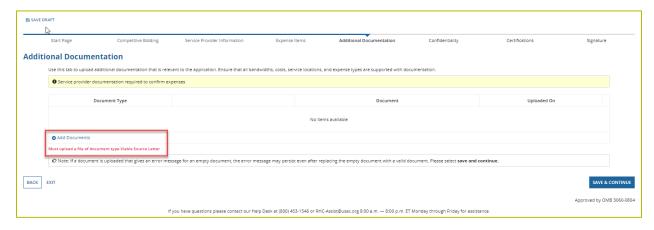
Step 23:

Continue to add new expenses or move to next steps to complete your form. The total eligible undiscounted cost and total maximum support based on 65 percent of the total undiscounted cost for eligible expenses will be clearly displayed.



Step 24:

Upload all supporting documentation. For consortia applicants, a copy of the viable source letter is required.



Step 25:

Select **Yes** or **No** to answer the question about confidentiality. An explanation of why we ask the question can be viewed in the **Explanation** section.

Start Page	Competitive Bidding	Service Provider Information	Expense Items
Confidentiality			
	Is the HCP requesting confidential	treatment and non-disclosure of comm	nercial and financial information?*
	○ Yes		
	○ No		
	Explanation		
BACK EXIT			



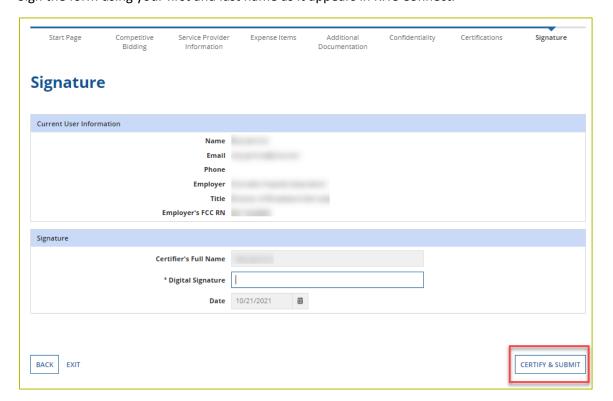
Step 26:

Each certification must be checked to continue.

Start Page	Competitive Bidding	Service Provider Information	Expense Items	Additional Documentation	Confidentiality	Certifications	Signature
Certification	s						
I certify under per	nalty of perjury that I a	am authorized to submi	this request on beha	alf of the applicant or c	onsortium.		
l certify under per contained therein		nave examined this requ	est and all attachme	nts and to the best of n	ny knowledge, informa	ation, and belief, all stat	tements of fact
services. "Cost-eff	ective" is defined as th	e applicant or consortiu he "method that costs the method of providing th	ne least after conside	ration of the features, o	quality of transmission		
I certify under per	nalty of perjury that all	RHC Program support	will be used only for	eligible health care pur	poses.		
l certify under per Healthcare Conne		e applicant or consortiu	m is not requesting s	support for the same se	ervice from both the T	elecommunications Pro	gram and the
		e applicant or consortiu ministrator that erroned					ion rules, and
I certify under per	nalty of perjury that I h	nave reviewed all applica	able rules and require	ements for the RHC Pro	gram and complied w	vith those rules and req	uirements.
bidding process, a	III billing records for se	sociated with this applic ervices received and any ered in a particular fund	other documentation	n demonstrating comp	liance with the rules r	must be retained for a p	eriod of at least five
		e applicant or consortiu		ant, if applicable, has n	ot solicited or accepte	d a gift or any other thi	ng of value from a
or other financial		ny consultants or third p nosen to provide the rec re bidding.					
BACK EXIT							SAVE & CONTINUE

Step 27:

Sign the form using your first and last name as it appears in RHC Connect.





Frequently Asked Questions

What changes were made to the RHC Connect?

RHC Connect has a new look and feel that is more intuitive and user-friendly. It is easier to navigate the form for submission, and it is easier for RHC program reviewers to approve funding requests.

Did the FCC Form 462 change?

No, the FCC Form 462 itself did not change – only the platform changed. The questions on the form and the information required of applicants remain the same.

Who is impacted by this change?

RHC Connect is used for FY2022 and future funding years. Applicants who participate in the Telecommunications (Telecom) Program will begin submitting the FCC Form 466 in RHC Connect in FY2024. Connected Care Pilot Project (CCPP) projects are not impacted unless they also participate in the HCF Program.

Can I still make updates or changes to my FCC Forms 460 in My Portal?

Yes, please verify in My Portal that all account holder information is accurate and up to date. USAC will import this data to pre-populate the FCC Forms 462.

How do I access RHC Connect to file my FCC Form 462?

To access RHC Connect, simply use the same log-in credentials you use for My Portal. You can log in and create a draft FCC Form 462 shortly before the beginning of a filing window however you will be unable to submit it until the filing window opens.

Resources

For more information, visit the Welcome to Welcome to RHC Connect - FCC Form 462 webpage.

For questions about the Rural Health Care program, contact RHC-Assist@usac.org or the RHC Help Desk at (800) 453-1546 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET Monday through Friday for assistance. Use the RHC Help Desk Tip Sheet to learn about what the RHC Help Desk can and cannot help you with.