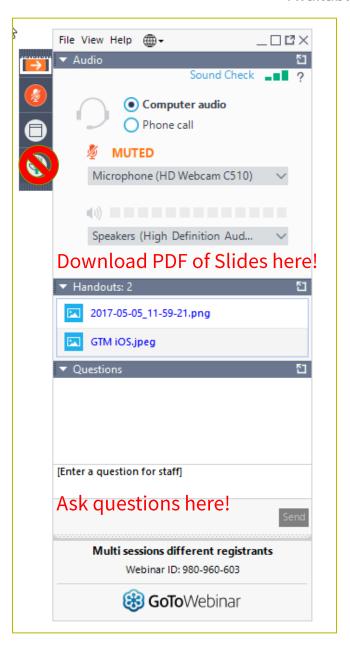


#### **DISCLAIMER:**

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.

## Housekeeping

- Use the "Audio" section of your control panel to select an audio source and connect to sound
  - Turn on your computer's speakers, or
  - Use the call-in instructions in your confirmation email
- All participants are on mute
- Submit questions at any time using the "Questions" box



#### **Meet Our Team**



**Simone Andrews** 

Senior Communications Specialist | RHC Outreach



**Blythe Albert** 

Advisor of Program Management | RHC Outreach

## **Agenda**

- Invoicing Overview
- Filing the FCC Form 463 Account Holders
- Filing the FCC Form 463 Service Providers
- Resources

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

- Identify which steps are needed to submit your FY2022 FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect
- Identify resources to help you submit your FY2022 HCF FCC Form 463 invoice
- For service providers, understand how to approve the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect

## **Glossary**

Acronym	Definition
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
HCF	Healthcare Connect Fund
FY	Funding Year
НСР	Health Care Provider (your site)
HCP Number	Number associated with your site
PAH	Primary Account Holder
FRN	Funding Request Number
FCL	Funding Commitment Letter
BAN	Billing Account Number
SPIN/498 ID	Service Provider Identification Number
FCCRN	FCC Registration Number (Referred to as FRN on FCC website)

## **Invoicing Overview**

Submitting the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect

#### **RHC Program Application Process**



Must meet three eligibility criteria:

- Not-for-profit/public
- In a rural area
- One of the eligible facility types

HCF Program: FCC Form 460
Telecom Program: FCC Form 465

Describe the services you need and develop scoring criteria to evaluate bids. Your request for services is posted to the USAC website for a minimum of 28 days.

HCF Program: FCC Form 461
Telecom Program: FCC Form 465

Once competitive bidding has ended, choose the most "cost-effective" service provider. Provide information about the services selected: cost, service provider information, and terms of service agreement(s).

HCF Program: FCC Form 462
Telecom Program: FCC Form 466

Confirm service start and end dates.

HCF Program: FCC Form 463
Telecom Program: FCC Form 467

Submit invoice before deadline:

- HCF Program:

   Initiate invoicing process
   by submitting FCC

   Form 463 to service provider for review and submission to USAC.
- Telecom Program: Service provider completes invoicing process.

HCF Program: FCC Form 463
Telecom Program: Invoice

#### **New! RHC Connect - FCC Form 463**

- FCC Form 463 for approved FY2022 FRNs will be submitted in RHC Connect
- FCC Forms 463 should be submitted in My Portal for all commitments for funding years prior to FY2022, including multi-year commitments
- Telecom program forms will eventually move to RHC Connect
- All Connected Care Pilot Program (CCPP) forms will remain in My Portal

#### FCC Order DA 22-998 - Hurricane Fiona Waiver Order

- On September 22, 2022, the FCC released order <u>DA 22-998</u> waiving certain RHC rules and deadlines to assist participants and providers located in the areas affected by Hurricane Fiona. This Order applies to healthcare providers and service providers located in the areas in Puerto Rico the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated as eligible for Individual or Public Assistance for the purposes of federal disaster relief as of September 22, 2022
  - Grants a 60 day extension to the deadline for appeals and requests for waiver for all requests from September 18, 2022 through February 19, 2023
  - Waives the 14-day Information Request deadline for Information Requests related to funding requests, appeals and waivers, invoices, audits and other documentation and applies to all funding years for all Information Requests issued on or after September 4, 2022
  - Waives the invoicing deadline for FY2021 funding requests and grants an automatic 120-day extension
  - Waives the September 30, 2021 deadline for HCF program consortia annual reports
  - Impacted program participants will not be penalized for failure to retain records destroyed by Hurricane Fiona
- For more information, read <u>FCC Order DA 22-998</u>

## Reminder: Invoicing Deadlines FY2020 and Forward

- Invoicing guidelines adopted in FCC Report and Order 19-78 became effective in FY2020. The invoicing deadline is four months (120 days) from the service delivery deadline in both the HCF and Telecom programs
  - For more information please see the <u>HCF invoice page</u> and <u>Telecom invoice</u> page
  - Invoicing deadlines can be found by going to the Open Data platform and clicking on <u>Rural Health Care Commitments and Disbursements (FCC Form</u> 462/466/466A)
    - Invoicing deadlines can be found in the last column of the searchable table when viewing data or in Column BE of the Excel spreadsheet

## **Information Request Reminders**

- Forms with missing or incomplete information or documentation cannot be processed
- If USAC requires information that cannot be located on the submitted documentation, this will result in an Information Request
- All account holders will receive all Information Requests
- Account holders are given 14 calendar days to respond to Information Requests
  - 11:59 p.m. ET on the 14<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to respond to Information Requests
- Information Requests not responded to within 14 calendar days will result in a denial of that form

#### **Site and Service Substitutions**

- Site and service substitutions allow you to reallocate un-invoiced committed funds to upgrade or modify services.
- You may request a site or service substitution if:
  - The substitution is stated in the contract, within the change clause, or constitutes a minor modification
  - Adding sites or upgrading services, is clearly stated in the Request for Services and the Requests for Proposal (RFP) used in the competitive bidding process
  - The substitution does not violate any contract provision or state, Tribal, or local procurement laws
  - The site is an eligible HCP and the service is an eligible service under the Telecom or HCF program
- HCPs using month-to-month service agreements are not eligible for site and service substitutions
- Site and service substitutions must be submitted by the service delivery deadline
- For more information, visit our <u>Site and Service Substitutions</u> webpage

### **Post-Commitment Changes in RHC Connect**

- The following operations will not be available until early 2023 due to continued RHC Connect development:
  - SPIN changes, both correctional and operational for FY2022
  - Site and service substitutions for FY2022
- These post-commitment operations are available in My Portal for funding commitments for FY2021 and prior funding years for HCF, Telecom and CCPP FRNs.

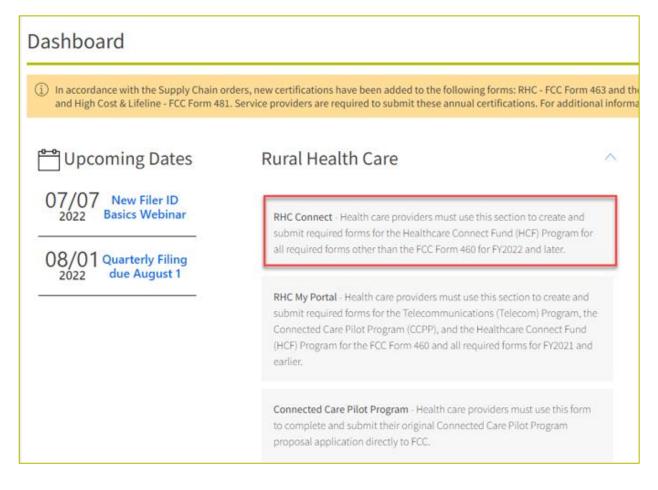
# **Questions?**

# FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect - Account Holders

Submitting the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect

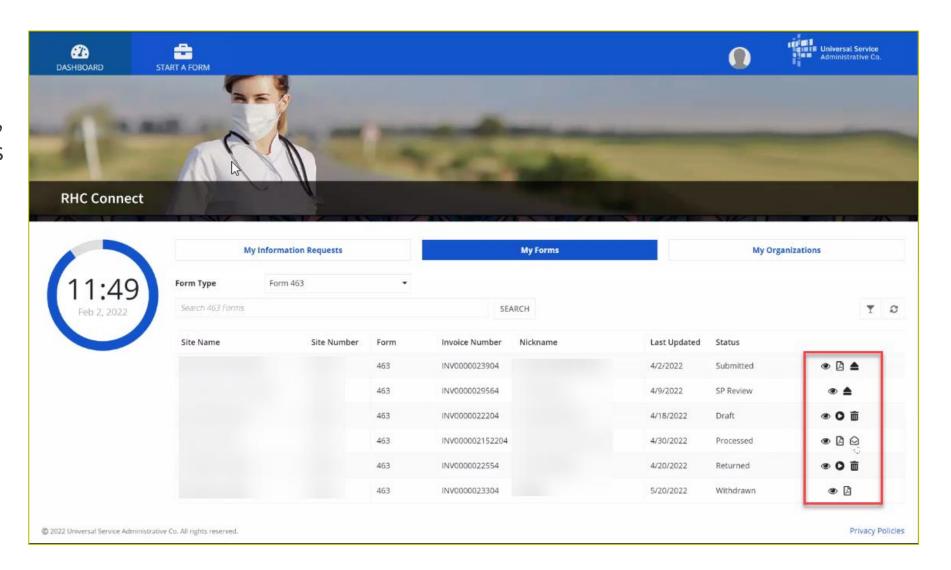
## **My Portal Landing Page**

Log in to My Portal and click "RHC Connect"



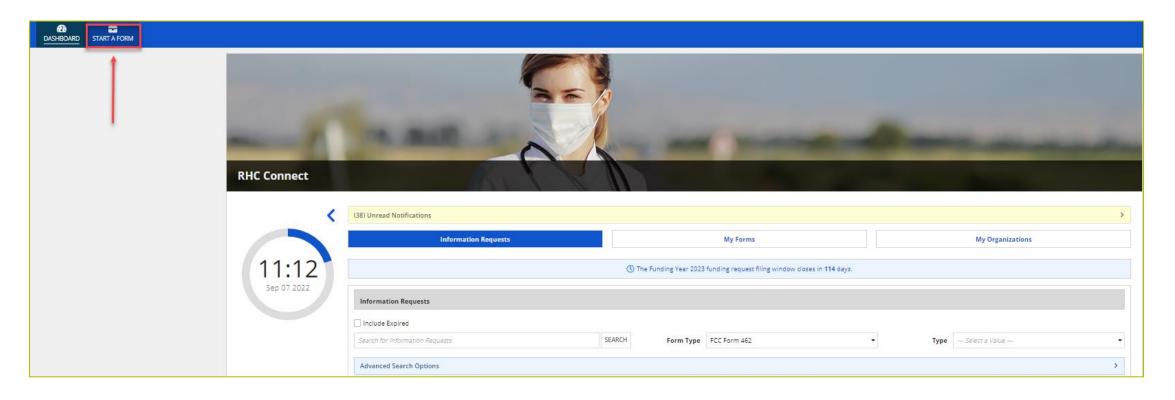
#### **Dashboard**

- On the "My Forms" tab, you can view the status of all forms
- Click the icons to view, continue with a draft form, discard a form, view a PDF copy or view the email for a processed invoice



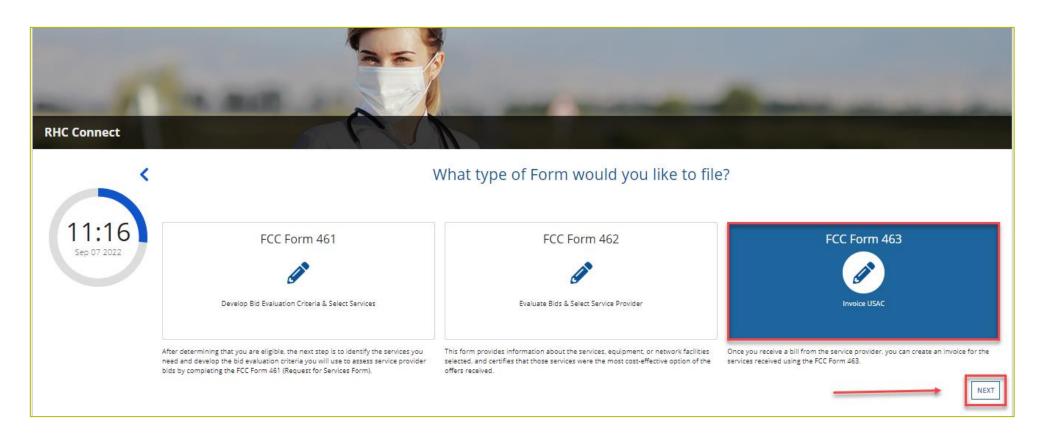
## **Dashboard (continued)**

• Click "START A FORM"



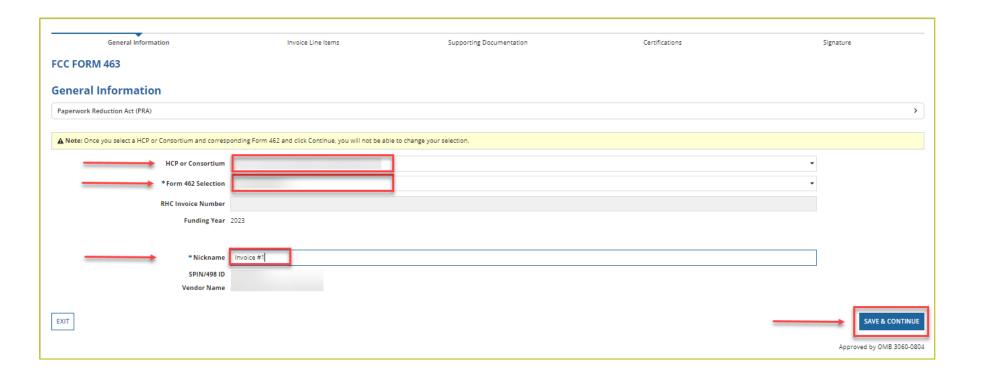
## **Starting a Form**

Click the box titled "FCC Form 463" and then click "Next" in the lower right-hand corner of the page



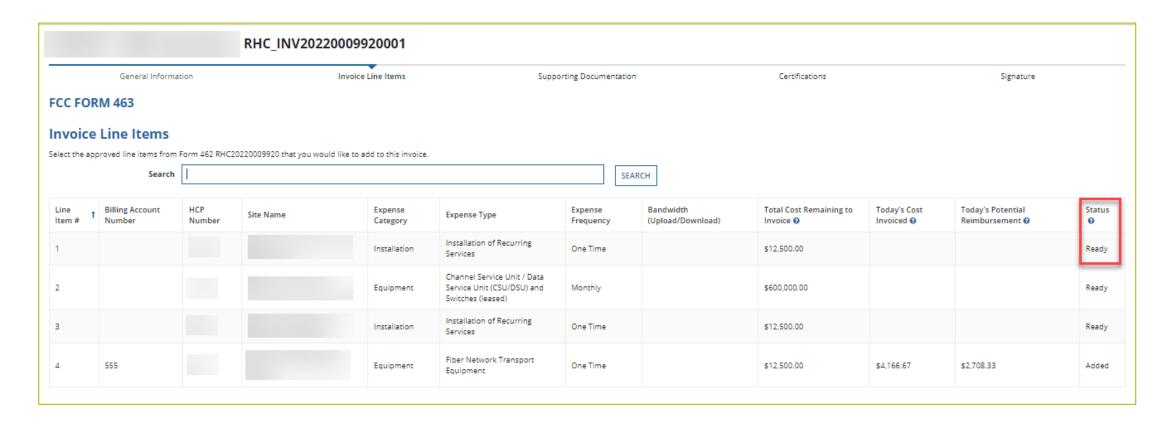
#### **General Information**

- Select the HCP or consortium from the dropdown menu and then select the FRN
- Enter a "Nickname" for the FCC Form 463
- Click "Save & Continue"



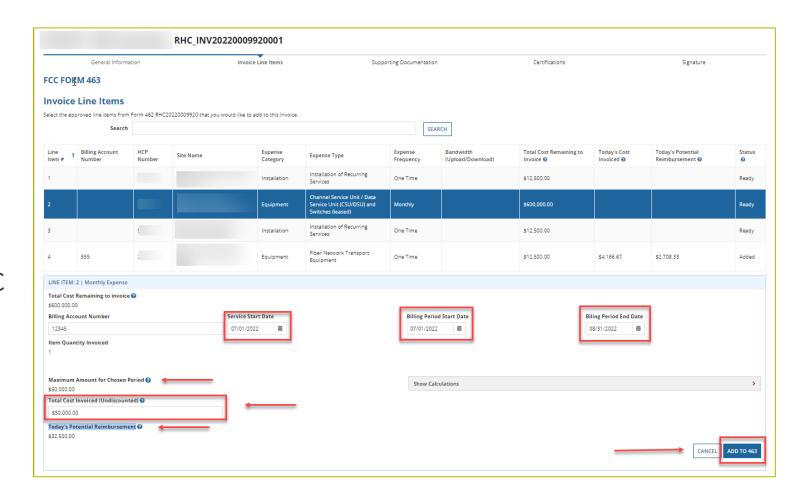
#### **Invoice Line Items**

• Click the "Ready" hyperlink under the "Status" column for the first line item



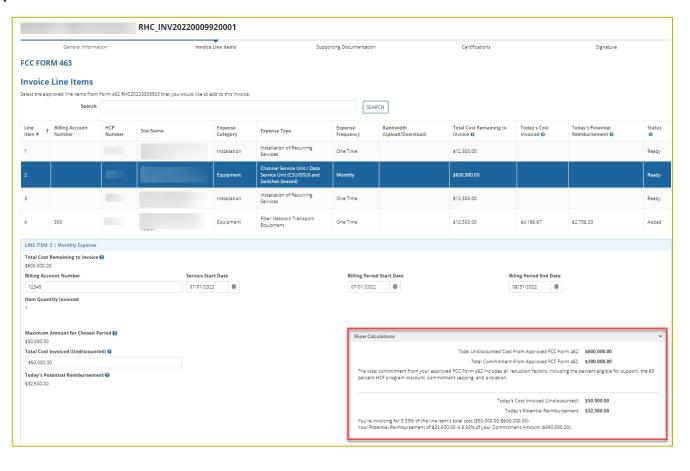
#### **Invoice Line Items (continued)**

- If this is the first FCC Form 463
   submission, enter the "Service
   Start Date" using the drop-down calendar
- Please note: once this date is entered, it will be unable to be edited by USAC or the applicant when submitting subsequent FCC Forms 463
- Enter the "Billing Period Start Date" and the "Billing Period End Date"
- Enter "Total Cost Invoiced (Undiscounted)" and click "Add to 463"



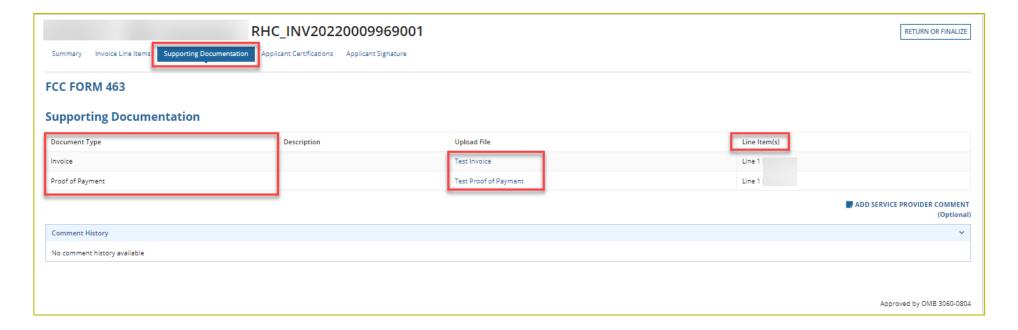
### **Invoice Line Items (continued)**

- Click "Show Calculations" to show the calculation based on entered information
- Follow prior steps to add each line item to the FCC Form 463



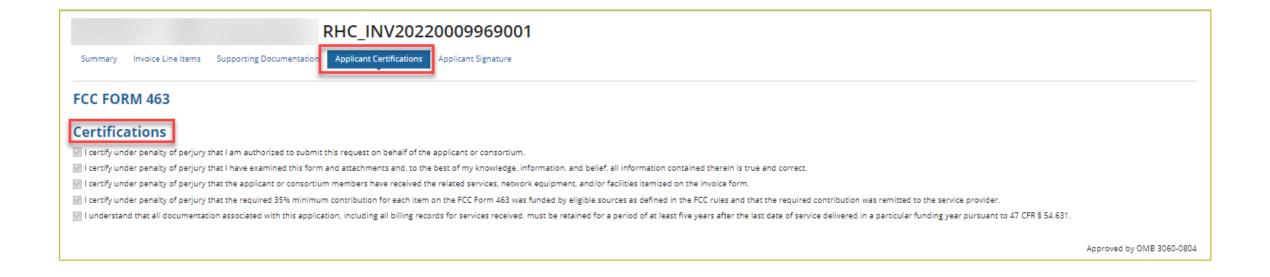
#### **Supporting Documentation**

- Use the "**Upload**" button to upload supporting documentation including, at minimum, a vendor invoice and a proof of payment document
- Click "Add Documents" and use the "upload" button for each document
- Select the associated line item (s) from the drop-down menu
- Click "Save & Continue"



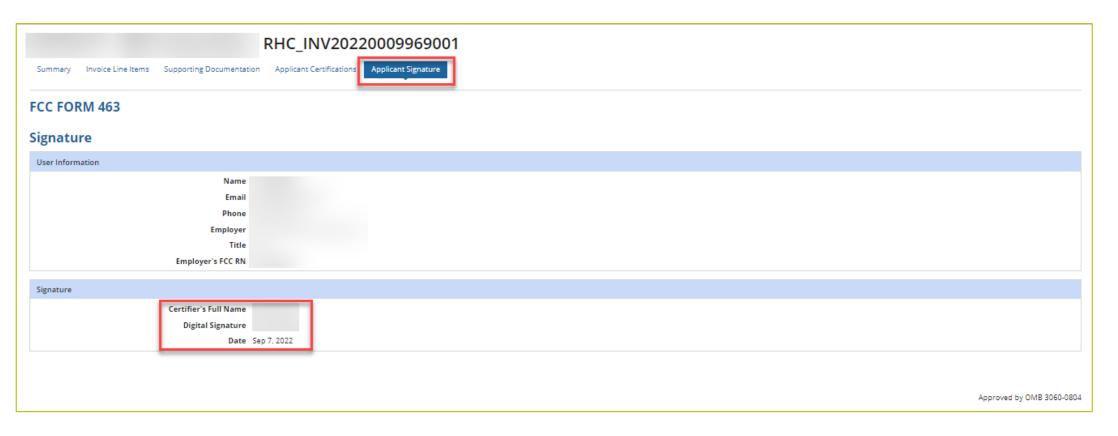
#### **Certifications**

- Read and click all certifications
- You will be unable to move forward until all certifications are clicked
- Click "Save & Continue"



## **Signature**

• Type your full name into the "Digital Signature" field and then click "Certify & Submit"



# **Questions?**

# FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect - Service Providers

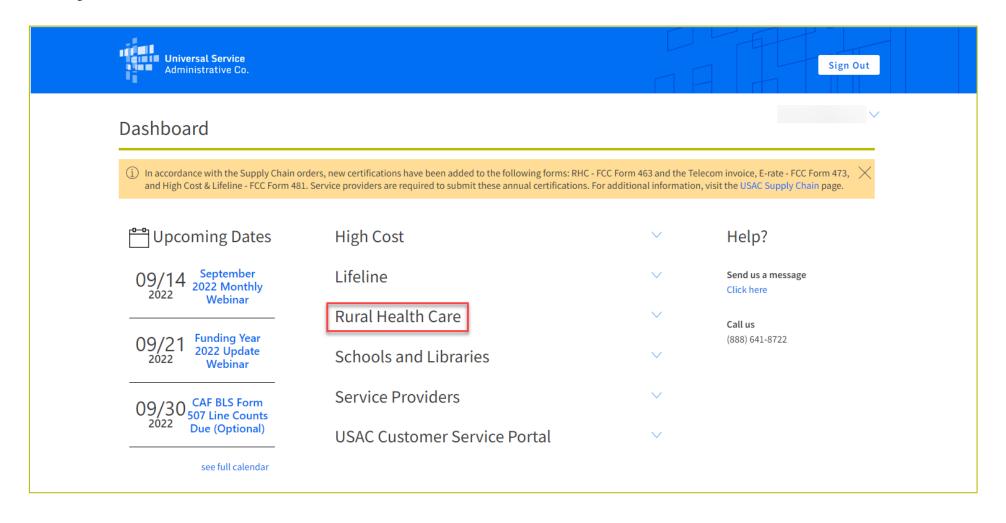
Submitting the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect

#### **Service Provider Review**

- An email notification will be sent stating that there's an invoice available for review
- Log in to RHC Connect
- Carefully review form for accuracy
  - Confirm billing period and invoiced amount
  - If inaccurate, return invoice to HCP
- Certify and sign the FCC Form 463

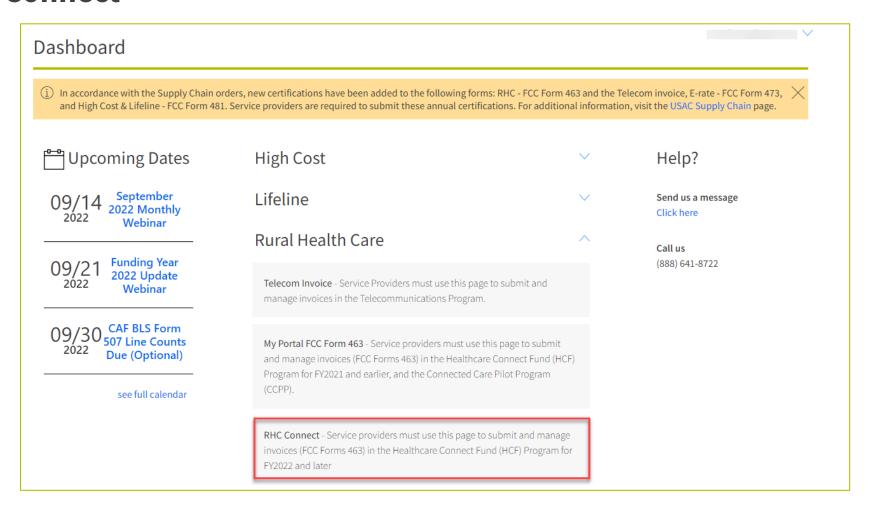
## **My Portal Landing Page**

Log in to My Portal and click "Rural Health Care"



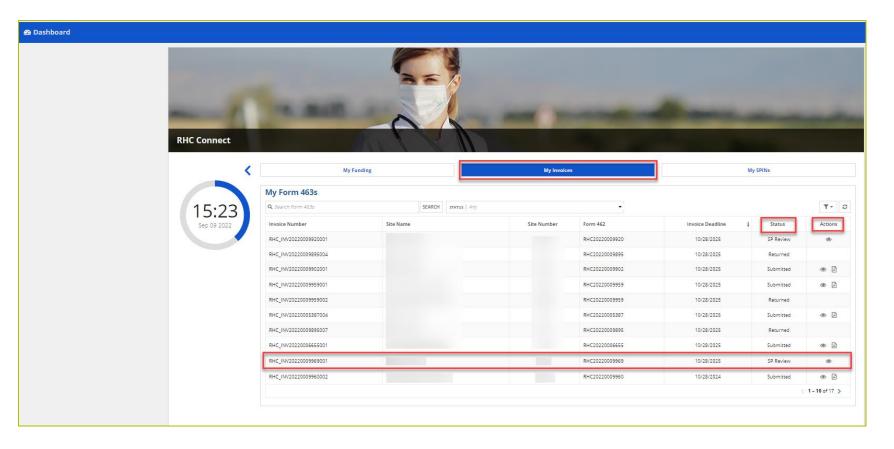
## My Portal Landing Page (continued)

Click "RHC Connect"



#### **Dashboard**

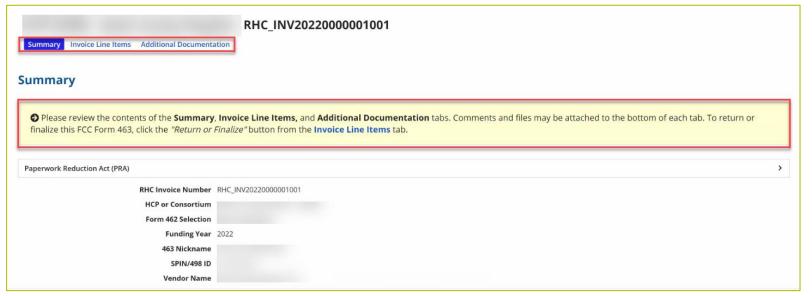
- Click the "My Invoices" tab and locate invoice
- Under "Actions" column, click on "view" icon



#### **Summary Section – General Information**

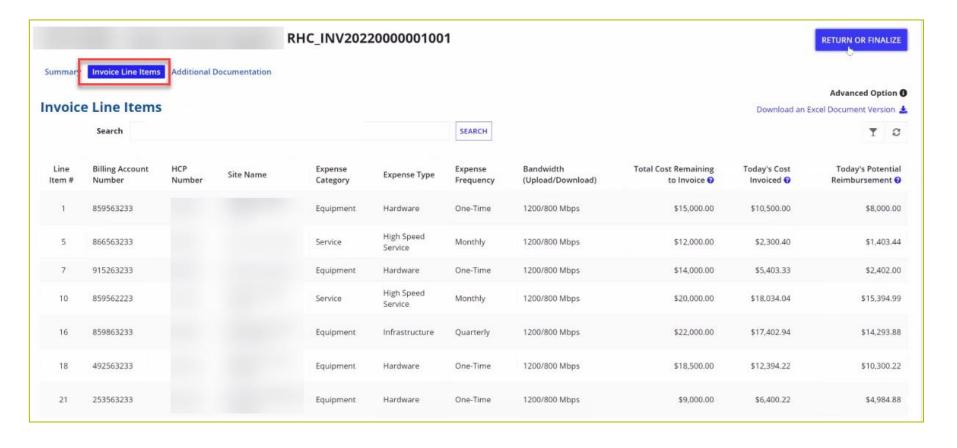
- Review information in the "Summary" section
- Navigate to each section by clicking the hyperlinks at the top of the page
- Please note the instructions in the yellow box

 Click "Add service provider comment" at the bottom of each tab if you want to add a comment or upload a document



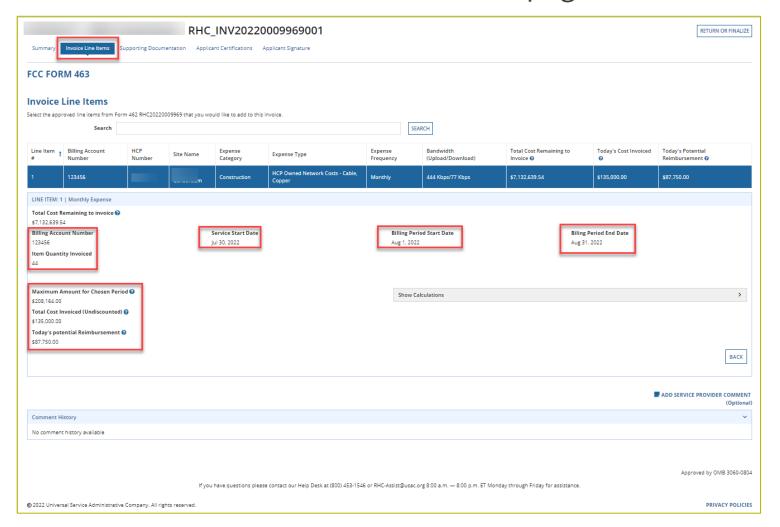
#### **Invoice Line Items**

- All expense items are displayed in the "Invoice Line Items" section
- An overview of each line item is displayed on this page
- Click on each line item to review all of the data entered by the applicant



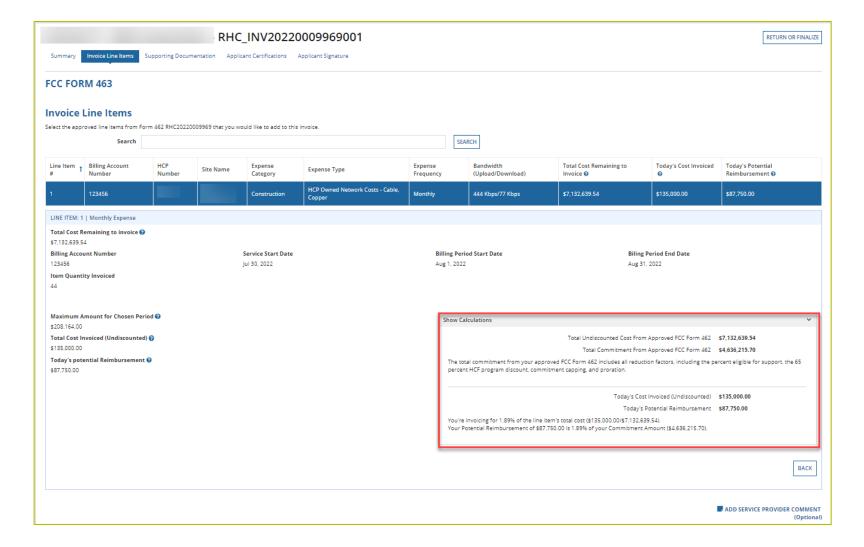
## **Invoice Line Items (continued)**

Review all of the information entered on this page



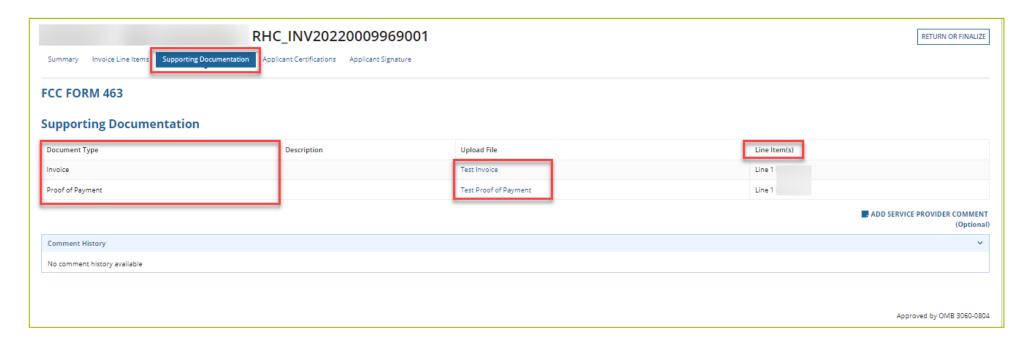
## **Invoice Line Items (continued)**

 Click on the "Show Calculations" section to see how the system is calculating support for each line item

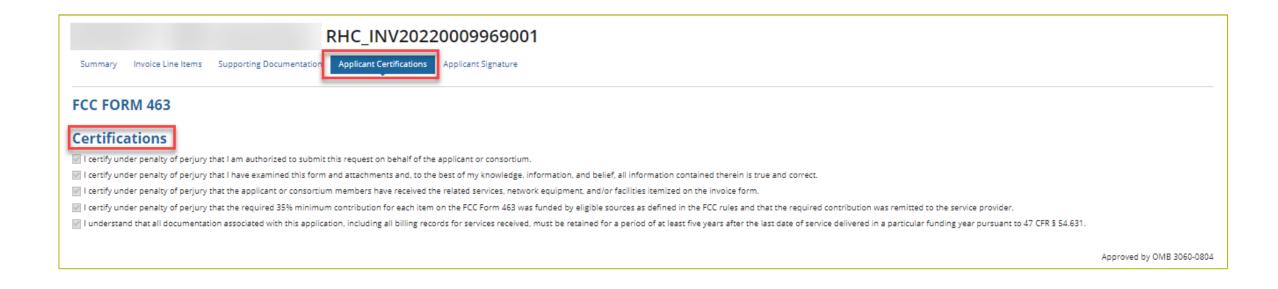


## **Supporting Documentation**

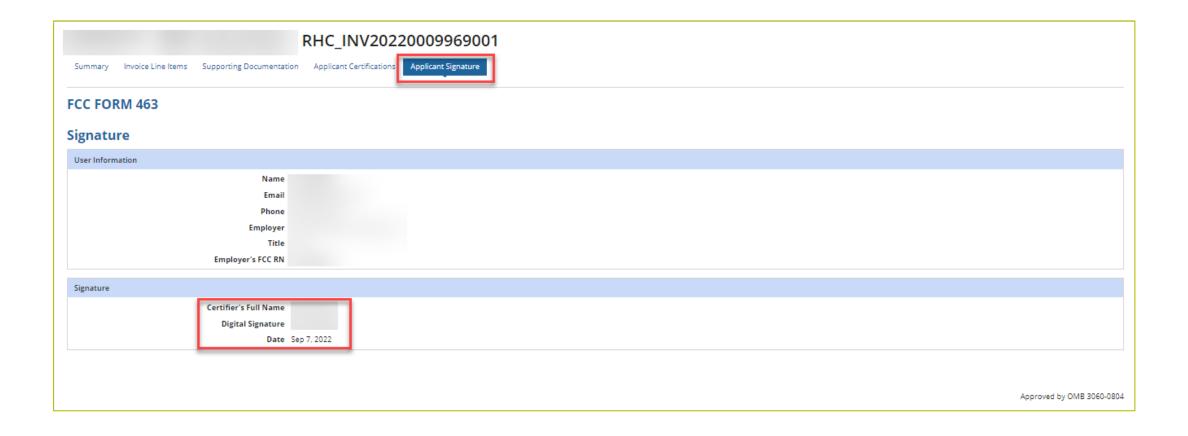
- Click on the "Supporting Documentation" tab to review submitted documents
- Applicants must upload, at minimum, an invoice and a proof of payment document
- Click on the hyperlink under the "Upload File" column to review the submitted document
- The relevant line item is displayed on the right



## **Applicant Certifications**

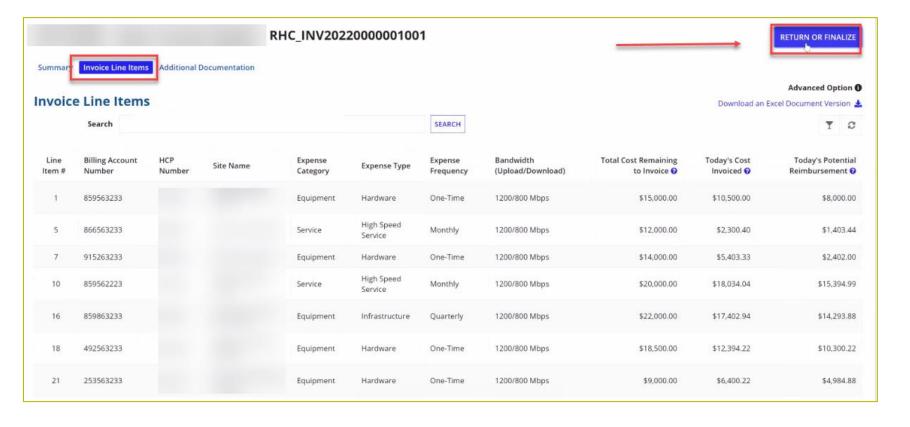


## **Applicant Signature**



## Finalizing the FCC Form 463

- Navigate back to the "Invoice Line Items" page
- Click the "Return or Finalize" button



#### **Return to HCP**

- If there is incorrect information entered in the FCC Form 463, return the form to the HCP
- You must leave comments for the HCP, directing them to the incorrect information
- The "Return Form" button will not be activated until at least one comment is entered



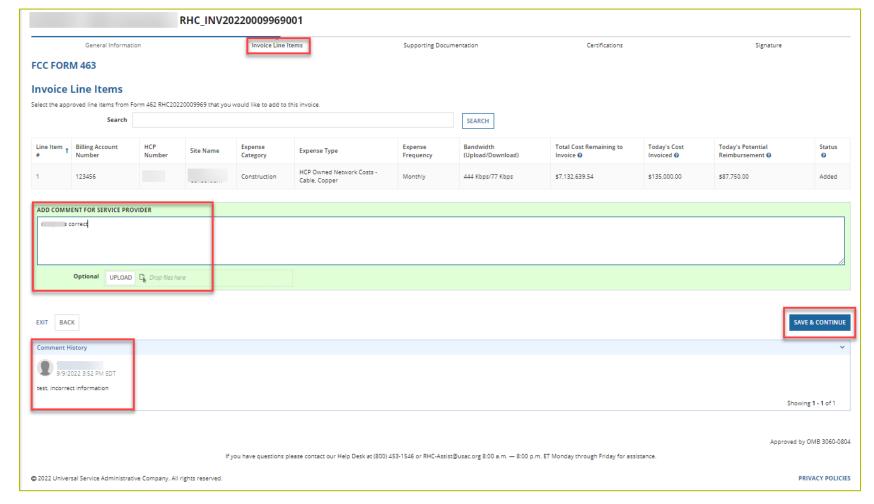
## **Return to HCP (continued)**

This message is displayed once the invoice is returned to the HCP



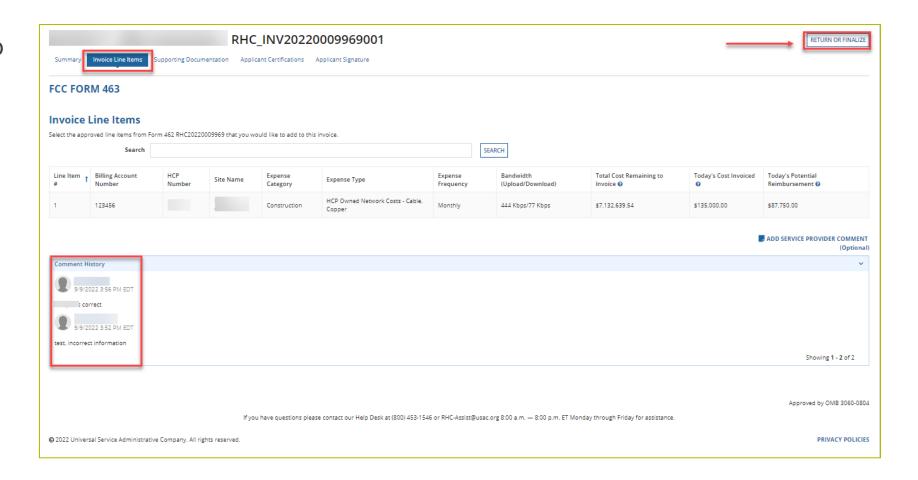
## **Return to HCP (continued)**

- When the HCP account holder logs back into RHC Connect, the service provider's comments will be displayed
- The HCP can leave comments or make corrections
- HCPs will be required to recertify the FCC Form 463 before submitting it
- Once the HCP submits the Form 463, the service provider will be notified



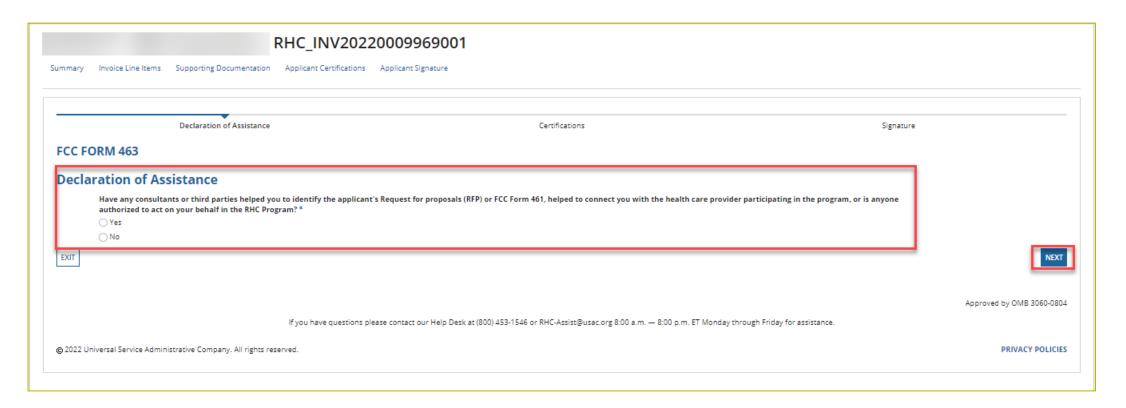
#### **Finalize Service Provider Review**

- Log into RHC Connect to review the corrections
- All comments are recorded and are displayed under the "Comment History" section
- Click "Return or Finalize"

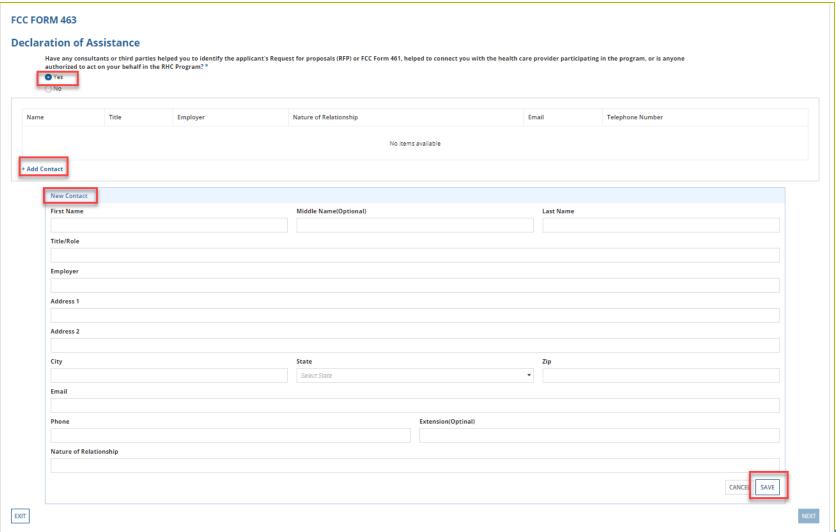


#### **Declaration of Assistance**

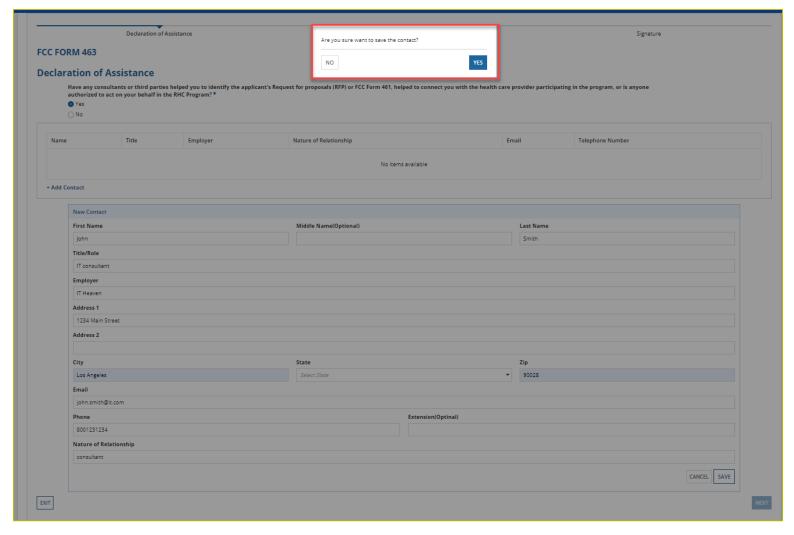
- Click the correct radio button to indicate whether any third parties were involved during the competitive bidding process
- Then click "Next"



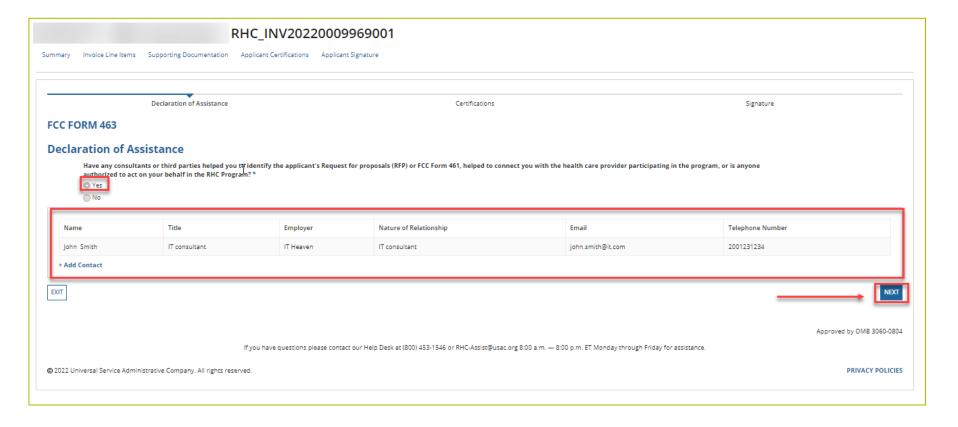
- If "Yes," click the "Add Contact" hyperlink and enter information about the third party assistance
- Once all fields are complete, click "Save" to continue



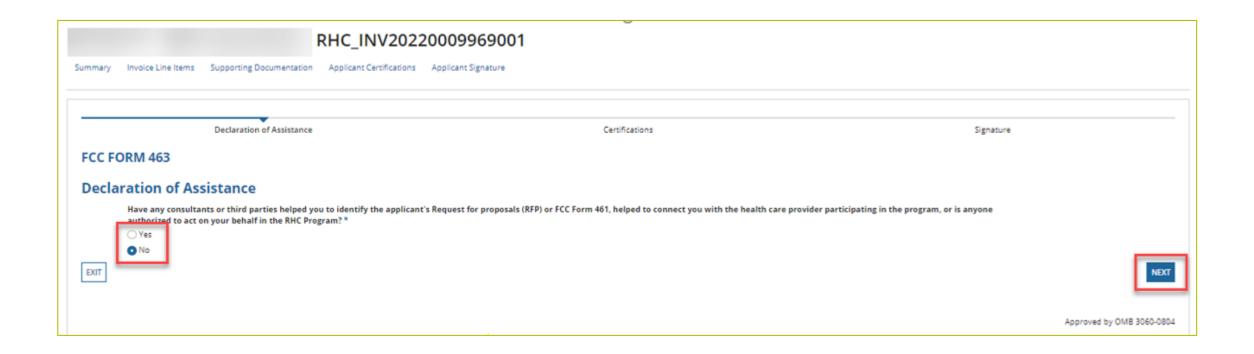
- A pop-up window will appear asking if you are sure you want to save the contact information
- Click "Yes" to save the information



- Once the information is saved, it will be displayed on the screen
- Click "Next" to continue

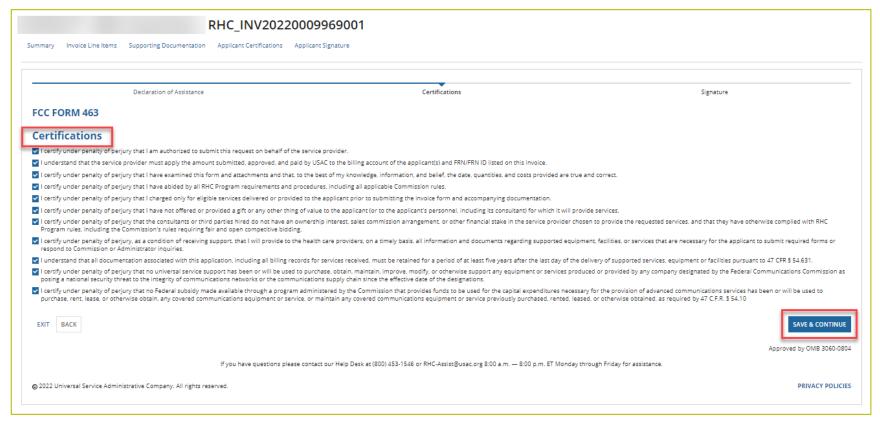


• If you click "No," click "Next" to continue



#### **Certifications**

- Read and click all certifications
- Forms cannot advance until all certifications are clicked
- Click "Save & Continue"



## **Signature**

- Your signature is your full name as it appears in RHC Connect
- Click "Certify & Submit"

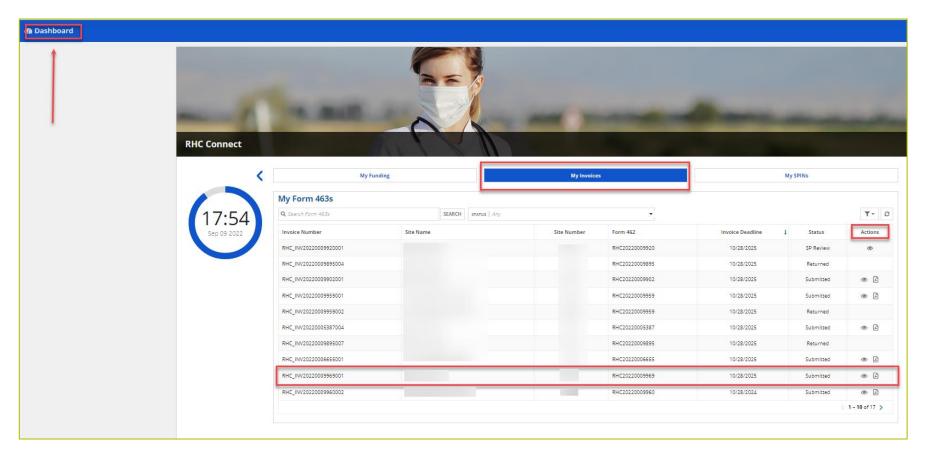


## **After Submitting**

Navigate back to the "Dashboard" and the invoice will appear as "Submitted" under the "Status" column

Under the "**Actions**" column, you can view the submitted FCC Form 463 or download a PDF copy of the

form



## What to Expect After Submitting to USAC

- An invoice is not considered submitted until it has been approved by the service provider and received by USAC
- Review Time:
  - Review generally takes less than 10 days, barring any Information Requests
- If an Information Request is sent, it will come from rhcadmin@usac.org
  - Respond to the Information Request in RHC Connect
  - Email notifications sent from RHC Connect are from an unattended mailbox
  - Use the <u>Information Request tip sheet</u> on the USAC website as a resource.
- Approval will be held until response is received and reviewed
- Email notification of invoice approval will be sent from <a href="mailto:rhcadmin@usac.org">rhcadmin@usac.org</a> to account holders after USAC review and approval

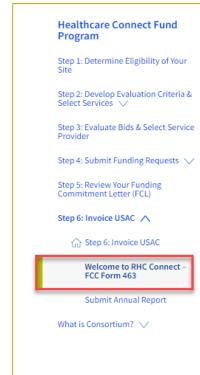
## **Questions?**

#### Resources

Submitting the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect

#### Resources

- Welcome to RHC Connect FCC Form 463
- FCC Form 463 User Guide
- Information Request tip sheet
- Step 6: Invoice USAC



# Welcome to RHC Connect – FCC Form 463

RHC Connect is the web-based system used to host the form, and was updated for Funding Year (FY) 2022 to improve user experience. This modernized portal is easier to navigate and allows RHC program reviewers to approve funding requests faster, so that participants can benefit from the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program sooner.

RHC Connect Form 463 User Guide

Additional Resources

Information Request Tip Sheet 🖻

RHC Connect bridges the gap between our external stakeholders and the resources to obtain Universal Service Fund (USF) funding. This funding helps to connect rural communities with healthcare services, and represents USAC's commitment to transparency, customer service, and communication with our applicants. Providing these connections is the sum total of what the RHC program supports: healthcare provider (HCP) applicants, service providers, and the rural communities they represent.

#### New Look, Same Form

**Although the platform has changed, the FCC Form 463 itself did not.** To submit an invoice (FCC Form 463), you are asked the same questions and need to provide the same information as in years past. No preparation for the platform change is required by you.

For a step-by-step walkthrough of how to submit the FCC Form 463 in RHC Connect, utilize the RHC Connect User Guide ... For forms that have been migrated to RHC Connect (FY2022 FCC Form 462 and 463 and the FY2023 FCC Form 461), an auto-generated email will be sent directing account holders to log-into RHC Connect to respond. Account holders should respond through RHC Connect only. Please use the Information Request tip sheet ... as a resource.

Note: Continue to use My Portal to submit the FCC Form 463 for all multi-year requests prior to FY2022.

## **RHC Program Customer Service Center**



Email: RHC-Assist@usac.org

- Include in your email
  - HCP Number
  - FRN Number



- Phone: **(800) 453-1546** 
  - Hours are 8 a.m. 8 p.m. ET
  - Monday- Friday

### **RHC Customer Service Center**

The RHC Customer Service Center CAN	The RHC Customer Service Center CANNOT
Answer general questions regarding both programs	Determine eligibility of a specific site or service before an official form submission
Provide account holder information for an HCP	Review a form or document for accuracy before an official submission
Provide clarity regarding FCC Report and Order 19-78	Contact a service provider or other account holder on someone else's behalf
Provide helpful resources and best practices for forms	Provide documents that are not already accessible in My Portal
Assist with My Portal	Transfer a call to a specific form reviewer

## **Questions?**

## **Thank You!**

