2020 FCC Form 499-A Webinar Series

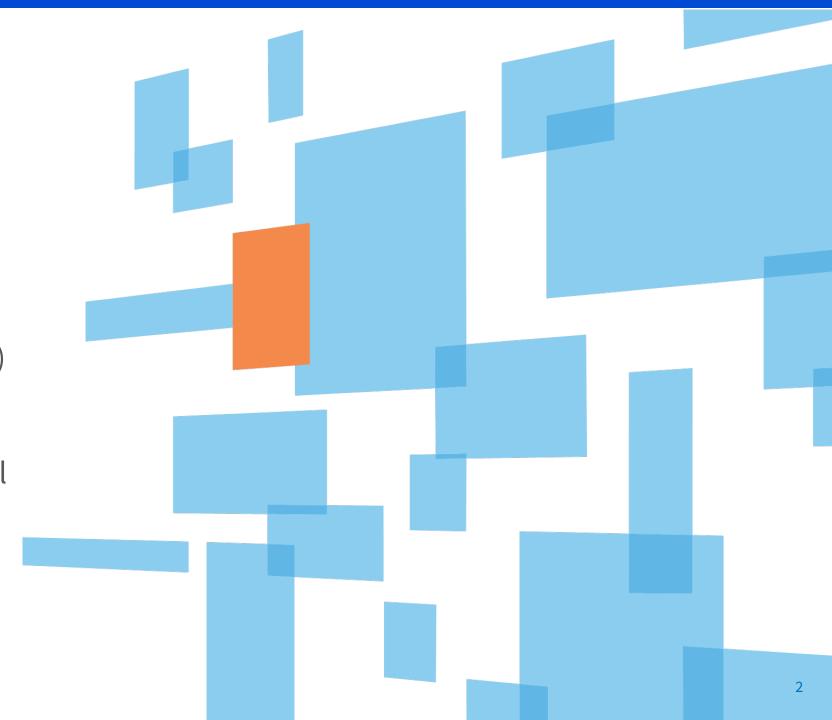
Mobile Service Providers

February 18, 2020



Webinar Overview

This webinar is intended for mobile service providers, including those providing paging services and specialized mobile radio (SMR) interested in learning about filing mobile service revenue, which includes revenue for cell phone calling, paging, and SMR.



Housekeeping

- Audio is available through your computer's speakers
- The audience will remain on mute
- Enter questions at any time using the "Questions" box
- If your audio or slides freeze, restart the webinar
- A copy of the slide deck available in the "handouts" section of the webinar panel

Topics

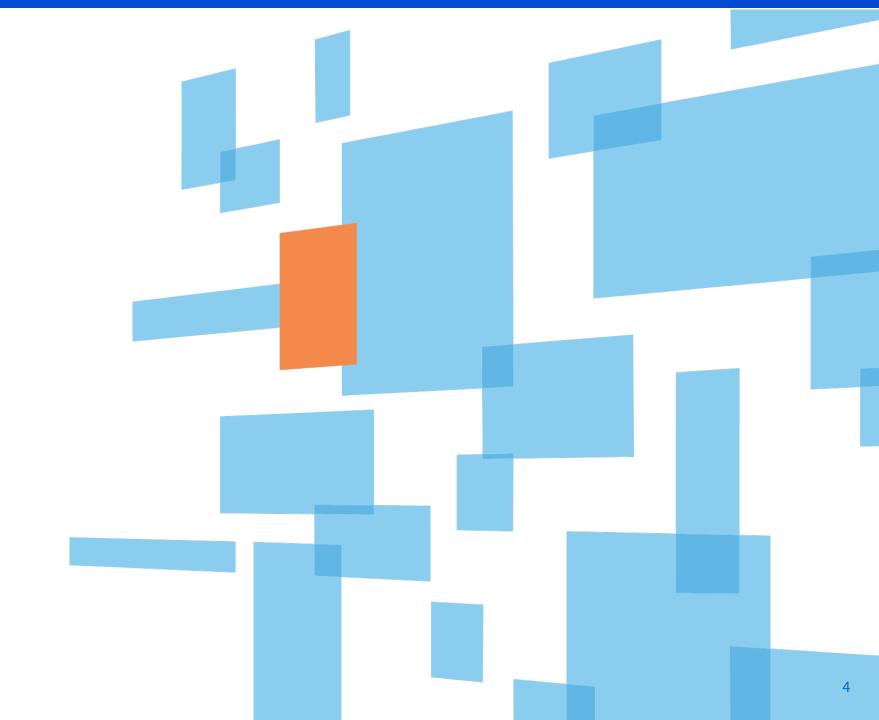
Helpful Hints

Revenue Reporting

Mobile Revenues

Common Revenue

Questions



Common Audit Findings

- Description of real audit findings
- Audit tips from the internal audit team and 499 analysts



Common Audit Findings: Contributors

In USAC's continuing efforts to ensure carriers are successful at following FCC rules, we have put together a list of some of the most common problem areas identified during audits.

For more information about the audit process, review the BCAP page of our website, which includes a checklist of documentation contributors should maintain for audit purposes. Using all of this information will help to expedite the audit process and should reduce or eliminate audit findings in the future.

Audit Findings

For specific areas of revenue reporting on the FCC Form 499-A, we have outlined a description of the revenue reported, some common audit findings, and ways to prevent a finding like this in the future.

Show All

FINDING: Error in Categorizing Fixed Local/Long Distance Bundled Service Revenue on Lines 404.1 & 404.2

FINDING: Failure to Report Itemized State and Federal USF Surcharges as Revenue

FINDING: Improper Assessment of USF on End-User Bill



Who Must File

Almost every telecommunications service provider must file FCC Form 499-A.

MUST FILE!

- 1. All *de minimis* carriers
- 2. All VoIP providers
- 3. Audio bridging providers
- 4. US Carriers that provide only international service
- 5. Payphone aggregators

Who DOESN'T File?

- All non common carriers that are de minimis and do not provide VoIP
- 2. All gov entities, including companies that provide exclusively to gov and do not provide VoIP.
- 3. System Integrators (<5% of revenue) and do not provide VoIP

Record Keeping

- 1. Filers must maintain records and documentation to justify information reporting on the FCC Form 499-A Worksheet, including the methodology used to determine projections and to allocate interstate revenues, <u>for five years</u>.
- 2. Filers must make available all documents and records that pertain to them, including those of contractors and consultants working on their behalf, to the FCC's Office of Inspector General, USAC, and/or auditors upon request.
- 3. Review by the FCC or USAC may cover any existing corporate records, not just those specifically maintained for these purposes.
- 4. Entities acquiring carrier operations through consolidation, merger, etc., must maintain the records of the acquired entity.

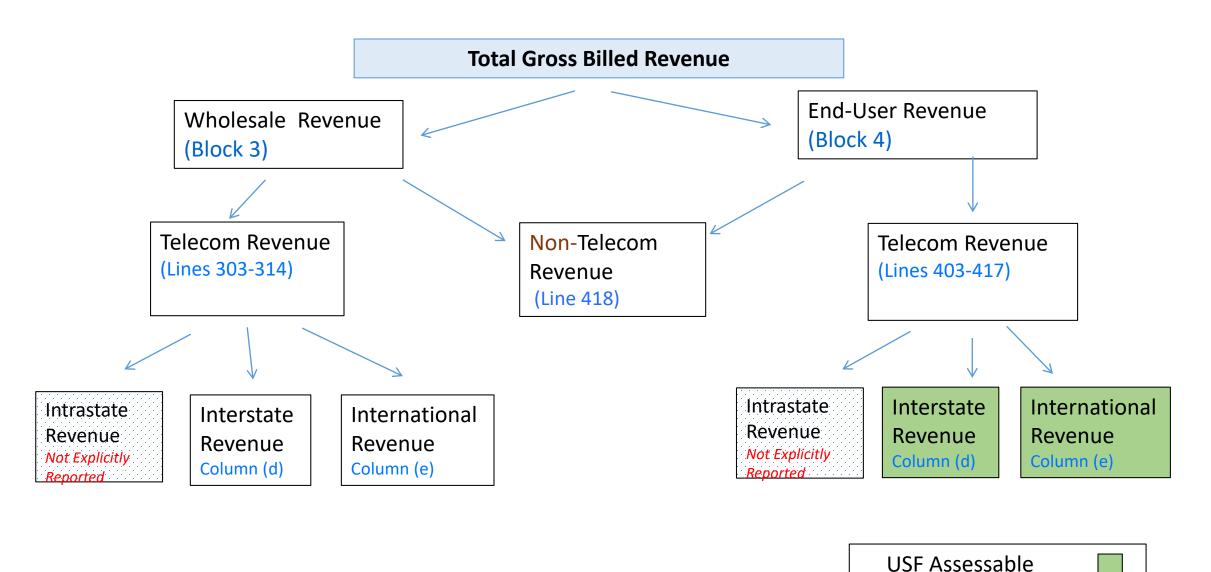
Gross Billed Revenues

How to Report Gross Billed Revenues

Companies must report revenue in three ways.

- Attribute telecommunications revenues derived from sales to contributing resellers (Carrier's Carrier, Block 3) or from sales to end users (End User, Block 4).
- Assign gross billed revenues to reporting categories between telecommunications and nontelecommunications components.
- Apportion telecommunications revenues between the intrastate, interstate, and international jurisdictions.

Form 499-A Revenue Reporting



Assigning Revenue

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Reseller vs End User

- 1. Reseller revenue is defined in the instructions as revenue from a customer that:
 - (1) Incorporates purchased telecommunications services into its own telecommunications offerings; and
 - (2) Can reasonably be expected to DIRECTLY contribute to federal universal service support mechanisms based on revenues from those offerings.
- 2. Each filer should have documented procedures to ensure that the revenue it reports in Block 3 is only those revenues from entities that meet the definition of "reseller". Examples of a reseller certificate can be found in the instructions on page 37.
- 3. Revenue that does not qualify for Block 3 is reportable in Block 4 as end user revenue.

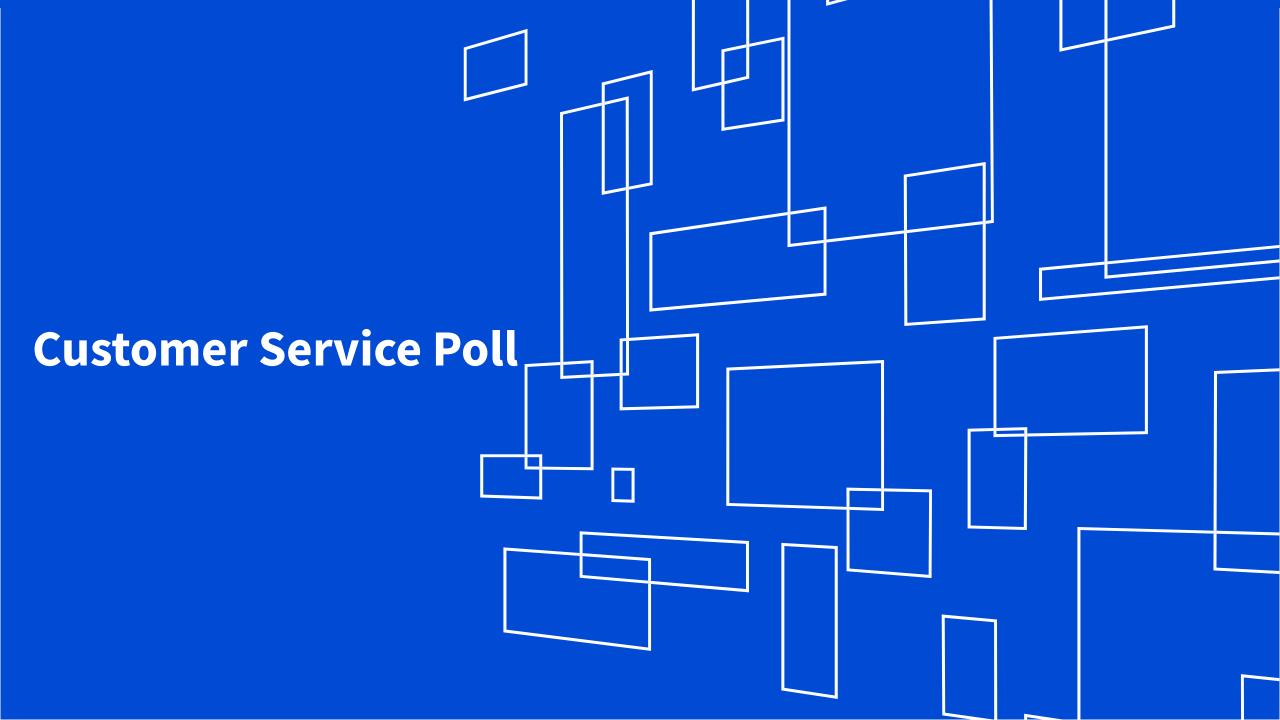
Apportioning Revenues

Interstate & International Jurisdictions

- Total Revenue [Column (a)] = Intrastate Revenue + Column (d) + Column (e)
 - Column (d) is interstate, and Column (e) is international



- 2. Jurisdiction is based upon traffic; the originating and terminating points of the final product.
- 3. Revenues from services offered under interstate tariffs should be identified as interstate revenues. (i.e SLC & LNP)
- 4. Filers should determine jurisdiction by using information from their corporate books or other internal data reporting systems.
- 5. Good faith estimates may be used if jurisdiction cannot be determined directly from corporate books.



Mobile Service Revenues Line by Line

Completing the FCC Form 499-A

Company Name: Solutions, Inc. 2018 FCC Form 499-A (Reporting calendar 2017 revenues)



MAIN PAGE: 2018 FCC FORM 499-A (REPORTING ACTUAL REVENUES FROM CALENDAR YEAR 2017)

Thank you for choosing to electronically file your FCC Form 499-A. Use this E-File system to update your registration information and to report your actual revenues from calendar year 2016. As you enter your data, be sure that you understand the requirements as indicated in the 2017 FCC Form 499-A Instructions.

Update Registration Information

(Pages 1-3 of FCC Form 499-A)

(Pages 4-8 of FCC Form 499

Enter/Update Revenue Information Review and update your registration information, including your company contact names and addresses, carrier type and activities, and jursidiction. The E-File system has prepopulated this information from your prior FCC Form 499 submissions.

Enter or update your revenue information for calendar year 2016. If you are submitting a revision, the E-File system has pre-populated revenue information from your last filing.

Submitting the Form

Throughout the data entry process, the E-File system will conduct validations of your data and will advise you of any issues it detects. The "Review and Certify My Filing to USAC" button will be enabled only when any identified issues have been resolved.

Save & Close Form

Review & Certify My Filing to USAC

Revenue Reporting Summary

Revenue Reporting Sections

Form 499-A Line #		
Lines 303-315	Carrier's Carrier This section is for reporting revenues received from (1) carriers that contributed to the federal universal service fund (USF); OR (2) USAC or state sources for universal service support.	Edit
Lines 403-417	End-User This section is for reporting revenues received from end-users, or carriers that did not contribute to the federal USF, for providing telecommunications or interconnected VoIP services.	Edit
Lines 418.1-418.3	Non-Telecommunications This section is for reporting revenues received for providing non-telecommunications services.	Edit
Line 418.4	Non-Interconnected VoIP This section is for reporting revenues received for providing non-interconnected VoIP services.	Edit
Lines 511	Excluded Reseller Revenue This section is for reporting revenues from carriers that did not contribute to USF that you would like to exclude from other contribution bases (e.g., NANPA, TRS, LNP).	Edit
Lines 421-422	Uncollectible Revenue or Bad Debt This section is for reporting any uncollectible revenue or bad debt.	Edit
Lines 503-510	Regional Percentages This section is required for carriers and providers of interconnected VoIP with revenue to indicate regional billing data.	Edit
	Certifying Officer Information This section you will need to fill out the filer's Certifying officer information.	Edit
@ 2020 U.S S A d	Save & Close Form Go To Main Page	

Fixed Local Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing fixed local service for resale - from carriers that contribute to USF (see above)?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Per-minute charges for originating and terminating calls

Did you receive any revenues from carriers for the origination or termination of calls?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Private Line & Business Data Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing **private line and business data** service for resale - **from carriers that contribute to USF (see above)?**

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Payphone Services

Did you receive any payphone compensation from long distance carriers?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Other Local Telecommunication Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing other local telecommunicatons service for resale - from carriers that contribute to USF (see above)?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Universal Service Support Funding

Did you receive any **universal service funding** from either state sources or from USAC for high cost or low income support?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next
question

Mobile Services (i.e., wireless telephony, paging, messaging, and other mobile services)

Did you receive any revenues for providing: 1) mobile service for resale - from carriers that contribute to USF (see above); OR 2) other carriers with roaming service for its customers - from carriers that contribute to USF (see above)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next question

Long Distance Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing any long distance services (i.e., operator assisted calls, ordinary long distance, private line, satellite, other long distance) for resale - from carriers that contribute to USF (see above)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next

question

Wholesale Revenue

Most likely, the wholesale mobile revenues will be recorded in these two categories.

Click on the 'Expand All' option to see every category and line number



Wholesale Revenue

Mobile Services (i.e., wireless telephony, paging, messaging, and other mobile services)

Did you receive any revenues for providing: 1) **mobile** service for resale - **from carriers that contribute to USF** (see above); OR 2) other carriers with **roaming** service for its customers - **from carriers that contribute to USF** (see above)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next question

Please report revenues for all mobile service provided to contributing resellers, including revenues received from another carrier for roaming service provided to customers of that carrier.

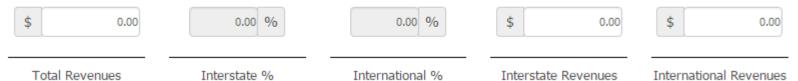
Show Helpful Hint

309 Monthly service, activation, and message charges except toll



Please report revenues for ordinary long distance revenues (direct-dialed MTS, customer toll-free (800/888, etc.) service, "10-10" calls. Include revenues from most toll calls placed for a fee and flat monthly charges billed to customers, account maintenance, PICC pass-through charges and monthly minimums. Include, but do not limit to, separately stated toll revenues from wireline, wireless, and interconnected VoIP services.

311 Ordinary long distance

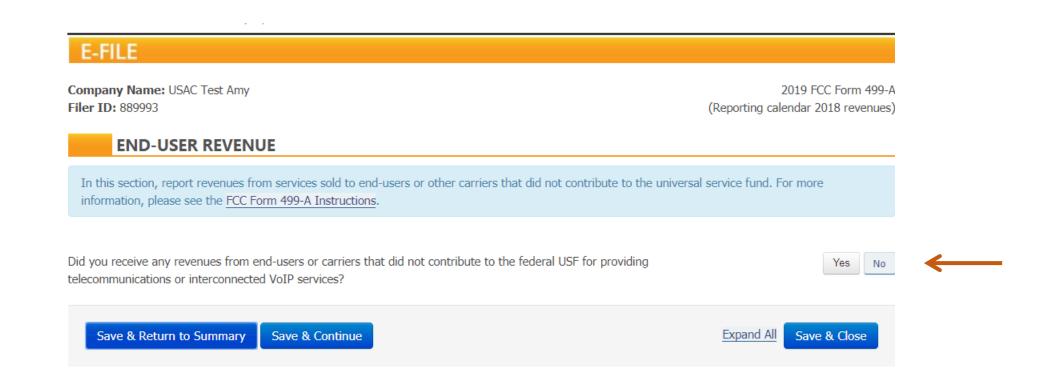


End User Revenue Reporting

Revenue Reporting Sections

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Lines 418.1-418.3	Non-Telecommunications This section is for reporting revenues received for providing non-telecommunications services.	Edit
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Lines 511	Excluded Reseller Revenue This section is for reporting revenues from carriers that did not contribute to USF that you would like to exclude from other contribution bases (e.g., NANPA, TRS, LNP).	Edit
Lines 421-422	Uncollectible Revenue or Bad Debt This section is for reporting any uncollectible revenue or bad debt.	Edit
Lines 503-510	Regional Percentages This section is required for carriers and providers of interconnected VoIP with revenue to indicate regional billing data.	Edit
	Certifying Officer Information This section you will need to fill out the filer's Certifying officer information.	Edit
	Save & Close Form Go To Main Page	

End User Revenue Section



End User Revenue Categories



Company Name: USAC Test Amy Filer ID: 889993

2019 FCC Form 499-A (Reporting calendar 2018 revenues)

END-USER REVENUE

In this section, report revenues from services sold to end-users or other carriers that did not contribute to the universal service fund. For more information, please see the FCC Form 499-A Instructions.

Universal Service Surcharge Revenues

Did you receive any USF surcharge revenues from customers to recover state or federal USF contributions?

YES - Click here
NO - Continue to next

question

Local Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing local services (i.e., local voice, local interconnected VoIP, local private line, payphone, or other local service)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next guestion

Mobile Services (i.e., wireless telephony, paging, messaging, and other mobile services)

Did you receive any revenues for providing wireless mobile services (i.e., cellular, paging, messaging, SMR, and other mobile services)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next

question

Long Distance Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing long distance services (i.e., prepaid calling card, operator assisted calls, ordinary long distance, interconnected VoIP, private line, satellite, audio bridging, or other long distance)?

YES - Click here

NO - Continue to next

question

Save & Return to Summary

Save & Continue

Expand All Save & Close

The resulting screen will show all of the end user revenue categories. The intent is that you read the questions, and answer if your company has that type of revenue.

If you prefer to reference the actual line numbers from the FCC Form 499-A (i.e Line 403, 404.4, 404.5), click the 'Expand All' at the bottom of the screen.



E-FILE

Company Name: USAC Test Amy Filer ID: 889993

2019 FCC Form 499-A (Reporting calendar 2018 revenues)

END-USER REVENUE

In this section, report revenues from services sold to end-users or other carriers that did not contribute to the universal service fund. For more information, please see the FCC Form 499-A Instructions.

Universal Service Surcharge Revenues

Did you receive any USF surcharge revenues from customers to recover state or federal USF contributions?

YES - Click here NO - Continue to next

question

Please report revenues from state and federal USF surcharges. Please note that revenues from federal USF surcharges should be reported as 100%

Surcharges or other amounts on bills identified as recovering state or federal USF contributions



Local Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing local services (i.e., local voice, local interconnected VoIP, local private line, payphone, or other local service)?

YES - Click here NO - Continue to next question

Local Voice Services

Did you receive any revenues for providing local voice service (i.e., traditional fixed local service or local interconnected VoIP service)?

YES - Click here NO - Continue to next

Please report local voice revenues, including monthly service, local calling, connection charges, vertical features, and other local exchange service charges, except for federally tariffed subscriber line charges and PICC charges. Please report your revenues from all local exchange services that should be included with the basic local service revenues. Break out these revenues as follows:

Traditional Circuit Switched

Bundled service - local and long distance service provided at a flat rate



Expanded Revenue Data Entry

...and here you will see every category of end user revenue explained along with the corresponding FCC Form 499-A line numbers.

This listing is LOOONG.

You'll need to use your scroll button on your browser to see every line number.

Wireless Service Provider Revenue

Mobile Services Revenue

	eive any revenues for providi mobile services)?	ing wireless mobile ser	vices (i.e., cellular, pagii	ng, messaging, SMR,	YES - Click here NO - Continue to next questio
Please re	port revenues for providing v	vireless mobile services (i.	e., cellular, paging, messa	ging, SMR, and other mobil	e services).
Show Helpf 409	ful Hint Monthly and activation cha	arges			
	\$ 0.00	0.00 %	0.00 %	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	Total Revenues	Interstate %	International %	Interstate Revenues	International Revenues
410	Message charges including	roaming and air-time cha	rges for toll calls, but exclu	uding separately stated toll	charges
	\$ 0.00	0.00 %	0.00 %	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	Total Revenues	Interstate %	International %	Interstate Revenues	International Revenues

Toll Services Revenues

Ordinary Long Distance

Please report ordinary long distance revenues (e.g., direct-dialed MTS, customer toll-free (800/888, etc.) service, or "10-10" calls). Include revenues from most toll calls placed for a fee and flat monthly charges billed to customers, account maintenance, PICC pass-through charges, and monthly minimums. Break out the revenues as follows:

Show Helpful Hint

414.1 Itemized long distance charges on wireline and wireless bills except interconnected VoIP

\$	0.00	0.00 %	0.00 %	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
T(otal Revenues	Interstate %	International %	Interstate Revenues	International Revenues

Bundles & Revenue Reporting

Bundling Safe Harbor

Say you sell a bundled package of smart phone, voice, and data to your customers for \$100. The price for each of the three bundled items by itself is \$40 and the unbundled total is \$120. The voice is assessable for USF, and the smart phone and data are not. You can either declare the entire bundle assessable for USF, or you can take only the voice service at its non-discounted rate. In this case, the non-discounted rate for the voice service is \$40.

Other Methods

Filers may choose to use allocation methods other than the two described above. Filers should realize, however, that any other allocation method may not be considered reasonable and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in an audit or enforcement context.

Mobile Safe Harbor

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The FCC provides the following safe harbor percentages of interstate revenues associated with Line 309, Line 409, and Line 410:

- 37.1% of cellular and broadband PCS telecommunications revenues
- 12.0% of paging revenues
- 1.0% of analog SMR dispatch revenues

Data Entry of Safe Harbor

To enter revenues using the safe harbor percentage, enter in the total revenue in the 'Total Revenues' box.

The system does not allow you to enter a % in the 'Interstate %' box.



On your calculator, take the amount of total revenue you entered and multiply by .371 (Cellular Safe Harbor %) and enter the resulting answer in the 'Interstate Revenues' box.

You'll then see the 'Interstate %' box auto populate with the 37.1%.

Traffic Studies

- 1. Wireless telecommunications providers, interconnected VoIP providers, and non-interconnected VoIP providers may rely on traffic studies if they are unable to determine their actual interstate and international revenues.
- 2. Pursuant to the FCC Form 499 Instructions, companies that rely on traffic studies and elect not to use the 37.1% Safe Harbor must submit a traffic study to USAC. Beginning this year, traffic studies only submitted once a year when filing the annual FCC Form 499-A.
- 3. Filers should use the same methodology (traffic study or safe harbor) to report interstate and international jurisdictions on the FCC Form 499-A as used on the FCC Form 499-Qs to forecast revenue in each quarter of the applicable calendar year.

Questions

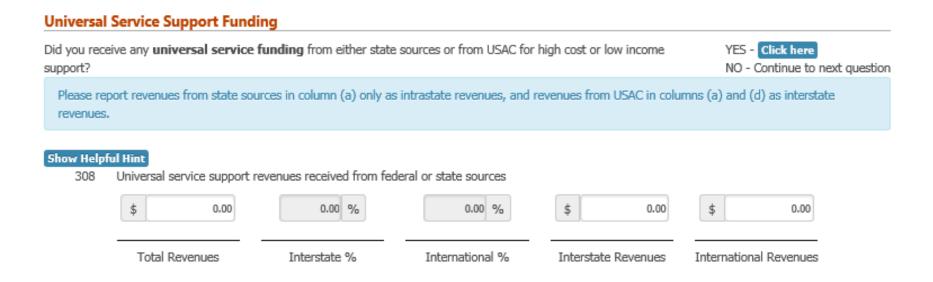
Common Revenues Line by Line

Revenue Reporting Summary

Revenue Reporting Sections

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Lines 403-417	This section is for reporting revenues received from end-users, or carriers that did not contribute to the federal USF, for providing telecommunications or interconnected VoIP services.	
Lines 418.1-418.3	Non-Telecommunications	Edit
	This section is for reporting revenues received for providing non-telecommunications services.	
Line 418.4	Non-Interconnected VoIP	Edit
	This section is for reporting revenues received for providing non-interconnected VoIP services.	
Lines E44	Excluded Reseller Revenue	Edit
Lines 511	This section is for reporting revenues from carriers that did not contribute to USF that you would like to exclude from other contribution bases (e.g., NANPA, TRS, LNP).	
Lines 421-422	Uncollectible Revenue or Bad Debt	Edit
LITC5 421 422	This section is for reporting any uncollectible revenue or bad debt.	
Lines 503-510	Regional Percentages	Edit
LINC3 303 310	This section is required for carriers and providers of interconnected VoIP with revenue to indicate regional billing data.	
	Certifying Officer Information	Edit
	This section you will need to fill out the filer's Certifying officer information.	
	Save & Close Form Go To Main Page	

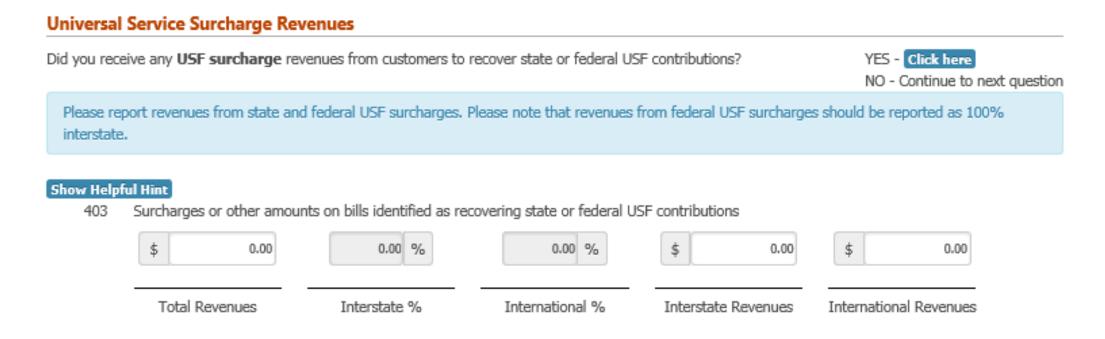
Universal Service Support



Line 308 — universal service support revenues should include all amounts that filers receive as universal service support from either states or the federal government. This includes payments received as cash or as a credit against contribution obligations.

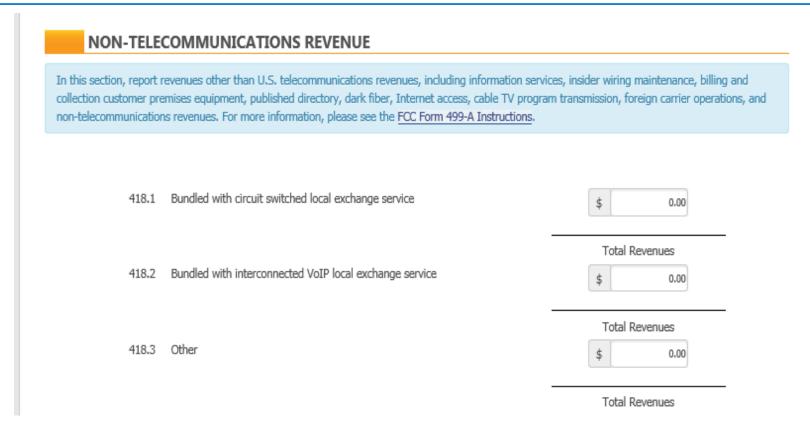
Disbursements from Lifeline Program and High Cost Program support are reported here.

Universal Service Surcharge Revenues



Itemized charges levied by the reporting entity in order to recover contributions to state and federal universal service support mechanisms should be reported on line 403.

Non-Telecommunications Revenue



- Revenues that are not derived from telecommunications (i.e., rent or sale of equipment).
- Revenues that are derived from telecommunications related functions, but should not be included in the universal service or other fund contribution bases.

Revenue Reporting Summary

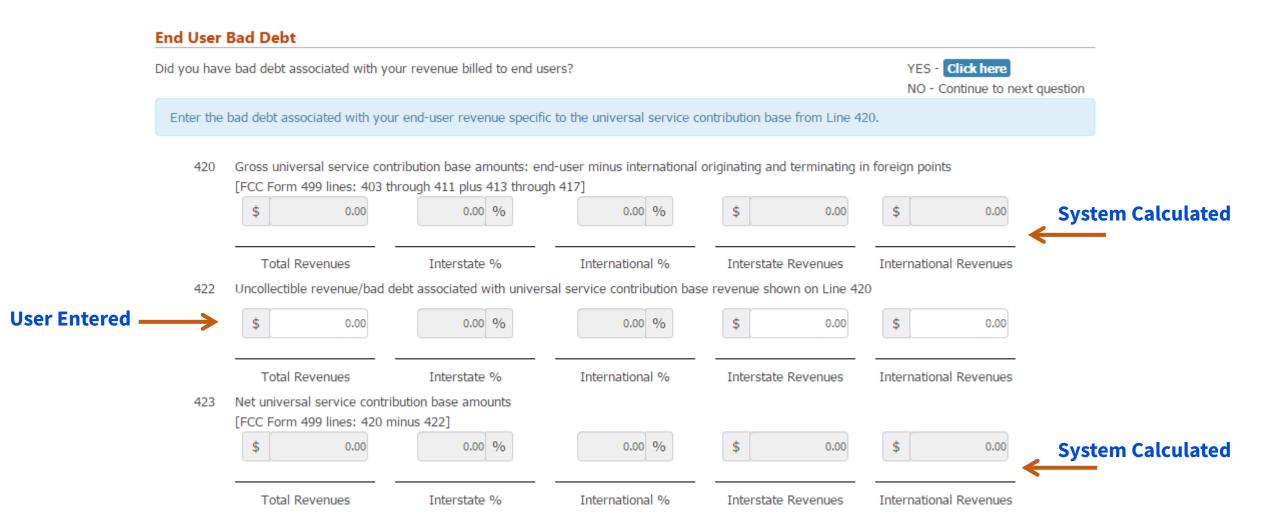
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© 2020 Universal Service Administra	Save & Close Form Go To Main Page	

Uncollectible Revenue or Bad Debt

Total Bad Debt Enter the bad debt associated with your total gross billed revenue from all sources (Line 419 above). Show Helpful Hint Gross billed revenue from all sources: Carrier's Carrier, End-User, Non Telecom, Non-Interconnected VoIP [FCC Form 499 lines: 303 through 314 plus 403 through 418] **System Calculated** 0.00 % 0.00 0.00 0.00 % 0.00 Total Revenues Interstate % International % Interstate Revenues International Revenues Uncollectible revenue/bad debt associated with gross billed revenue shown on Line 419 0.00 % \$ 0.00 0.00 % 0.00 0.00 **User Entered** Total Revenues International % International Revenues Interstate % Interstate Revenues Gross billed revenue from all sources net of bad debt [FCC Form 499 lines: 419 minus 421] **System Calculated** 0.00 % 0.00 0.00 % 0.00 0.00 Total Revenues International % Interstate Revenues International Revenues Interstate %

Net Universal Service Contribution Base



Revenue Reporting Summary

Revenue Reporting Sections

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Lines 503-510	Regional Percentages This section is required for carriers and providers of interconnected VoIP with revenue to indicate regional billing data.	Edit	—
	This section you will need to fill out the filer's Certifying officer information.	Edit	
	Save & Close Form Go To Main Page		

LNPA Regional Percentages

REGIONAL REVENUE PERCENTAGES FOR LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY (LNP)

		Carrier's Carrier Revenue Regions	End User Revenue Regions
503 Southeast:	Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and U.S. Virgin Islands	0 %	0 %
504 Western:	Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming	0 %	0 %
505 West Coast:	California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Johnston Atoll, Midway Atoll, Northern Mariana Islands, and Wake Island	0 %	0 %
506 Mid-Atlantic:	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia	0 %	0 %
507 Mid-West:	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin	0 %	0 %
508 Northeast:	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont	0 %	0 %
509 Southwest:	Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas	0 %	0 %
510 Total:		0 %	0 %

Expand All

Save & Close

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Certify and Submit

Certify the FCC Form 499-A

Company Name:

Filer ID: 822

2018 FCC Form 499-A (Reporting calendar 2017 revenues)



MAIN PAGE: 2018 FCC FORM 499-A (REPORTING ACTUAL REVENUES FROM CALENDAR YEAR 2017)

Thank you for choosing to electronically file your FCC Form 499-A. Use this E-File system to update your registration information and to report your actual revenues from calendar year 2016. As you enter your data, be sure that you understand the requirements as indicated in the 2017 FCC Form 499-A Instructions.

Update Registration Information

(Pages 1-3 of FCC Form 499-A)

Enter/Update Revenue Information

(Pages 4-8 of FCC Form 499-A)

Review and update your registration information, including your company contact names and addresses, carrier type and activities, and jursidiction. The E-File system has prepopulated this information from your prior FCC Form 499 submissions.

Enter or update your revenue information for calendar year 2016. If you are submitting a revision, the E-File system has pre-populated revenue information from your last filing.

Submitting the Form

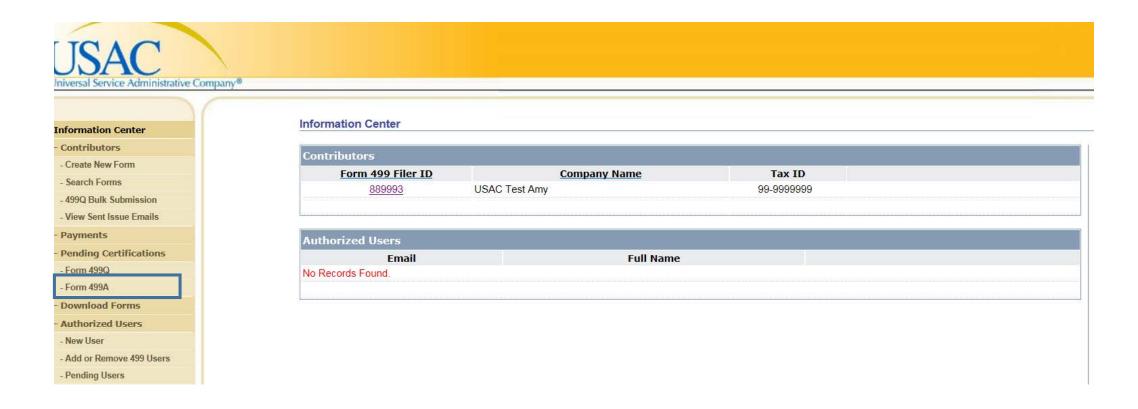
Throughout the data entry process, the E-File system will conduct validations of your data and will advise you of any issues it detects. The "Review and Certify My Filing to USAC" button will be enabled only when any identified issues have been resolved.

Save & Close Form

Review & Certify
My Filing to USAC

Certify the FCC Form 499-A

Officer Certification - Alternative



Officers Only: Upon signing in to E-File, from the Left Hand Navigation menu, look for "Pending Certifications" and select "Form 499A".

Officer Certification

Confirmation Message

FORM 499-A - FILING COMPLETE - CONFIRMATION MESSAGE



Thank you for submitting your 499 worksheet to the Form 499 Data Collection Agent (DCA).

You have successfully completed the Online Submission and Certification process.

Thank you for using USAC's online filing application.

Both the Preparer and the Officer will get a confirmation that the form was submitted.

Questions

For More Assistance

- ✓ Call Form 499-A Hotline beginning March 1
 - Phone: (866) 411-8722
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM to 5 PM ET
- ✓ Submit an email to Form499@usac.org
- ✓ Visit our <u>online learning library</u>

- ✓ USAC's Regular Customer Support Available Year Round
 - **√**(888) 641-8722

2020 FCC Form 499-A Webinar Series

Providers of All Other Types of Services

Thursday, February 20, 2020 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Register: USAC | Service Providers | Learn | Webinars

