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## Funding Status – FY 2018

USAC issued Wave 22 on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, for \$7.5 million. Cumulative funding as of Wave 22 is \$1.71 billion, including \$69.2 million for North Carolina.

## E-Rate Updates and Reminders

### *Upcoming 2018 E-Rate Dates:*

September 10 FY 2017 Form 486 deadline for funding committed in Wave 54. Other upcoming Form 486 deadlines include:

Wave 55	09/12/2018
Wave 56	10/26/2018
Wave 57	11/26/2018

Applicants missing these (or earlier) deadlines should watch carefully for “Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letters” in EPC. The Reminders will afford applicants with 15-day extensions to submit their Form 486s without penalty.

The first Form 486 deadline for FY 2018 is not until October 29, 2018.

September 10 Deadline to submit comments on the Department of Agriculture’s Rural Utilities Service proposal for the implementation of its \$600 million pilot broadband program ([e-Connectivity Pilot](#)). Coincidentally, this is the same deadline for the submission of comments on the FCC’s \$100 million pilot broadband telehealth program ([FCC 18-112](#)). Neither pilot program is directly related to E-rate, but both are designed to promote broadband in rural areas.

September 13 Deadline to submit reply comments on the FCC’s Proposed Eligible Services List for FY 2019 ([DA 18-789](#)).

September 19 USAC webinar entitled [Navigating the E-rate Invoicing Process](#).

September 30 Service Delivery Deadline (“SDD”) for FY 2017 non-recurring FRNs. This is also the deadline for requesting a one-year SDD extension.

October 8 Deadline for submitting nominations to the FCC for the USAC Board of Directors ([DA 18-921](#)).

### *FCC Seeks Nominations for USAC Board:*

The FCC issued a Public Notice ([DA 18-921](#)) seeking nominations for six positions on the USAC Board of Directors. Terms of the current Board members in these slots expire December 31, 2018. From an E-rate perspective, the most important nomination is for the seat representing schools currently held by Dr. Miguel Hernandez, State Superintendent, Office of Coordinated Service and Support, Monticello, AR. Nominations are due by October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### *FBI E-Rate Enforcement Action:*

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, together with the FBI and the District Attorney of Rockland County (NY) [announced](#) indictments of seven individuals, subsequently arrested, for E-rate fraud. The defendants included four vendors, two consultants, and one parochial school administrator. All are alleged to have taken part in a scheme to defraud the E-rate program, in one instance purportedly draining \$14 million in funds from the program between 2010 and 2016. Other allegations include:

- Requests for hundreds of thousands of dollars for sophisticated technology serving no real purpose for day care students.
- Overbilling for E-rate products and services.
- Billing for ineligible services or services not provided.
- False certifications on E-rate forms.
- Acceptance of payments from vendors by reportedly independent E-rate consultants.

This recent enforcement action — possibly just the start — is the result of an apparently longstanding investigation linked in part to a series of raids on yeshivas and technology companies in early 2016. Perhaps not coincidentally, hundreds of potentially-related E-rate applications over the past several years have been denied or remain pending at USAC.

### **USAC News Brief Dated September 7 – USAC Fall Training**

[USAC's Schools and Libraries News Brief of September 7, 2018](#), announced USAC's [fall 2018 training schedule](#). Applicant workshops are planned for Washington DC (two workshops both of which were oversubscribed within a few hours), Palatine IL (outside of Chicago), Sacramento CA, Omaha NE, and one location to be announced later. Each workshop includes a half-day beginners session to be followed by a more detailed full-day session.

USAC will also conduct two full-day service provider workshops in Washington DC (the second including a half-day beginner's session).

<p><b>Applicant Trainings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 15/16 – Washington, DC</li> <li>• October 18/19 – Washington, DC</li> <li>• October 22/23 – Palatine, IL (Chicago area)</li> <li>• November 1/2 – Sacramento, CA</li> <li>• November 13/14 – Omaha, NE</li> </ul>	<p><b>Service Provider Trainings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 3 – Washington, DC</li> <li>• December 4/5 – Washington, DC</li> </ul>
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*Newsletter information and disclaimer: This newsletter may contain unofficial information on prospective E-rate developments and/or may reflect E-Rate Central’s own interpretations of E-rate practices and regulations. Such information is provided for planning and guidance purposes only. It is not meant, in any way, to supplant official announcements and instructions provided by the SLD, FCC, or NCDPI.*

*Additional North Carolina specific E-rate information is available through our Web site — <http://www.e-ratecentral.com/us/stateInformation.asp?state=NC>. Note that this site provides easy access to formatted North Carolina applicant E-rate histories via the Billed Entity Number (“BEN”) search mechanism in the upper left-hand corner. Detailed information can be obtained by “drilling down” using the links for specific funding years and individual FRNs.*

*For further information, follow E-Rate Central on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.*



*If you have received this newsletter from a colleague and you would like to receive your own copy of the North Carolina E-Rate Forum, send an email to [join-ncerate@lists.dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:join-ncerate@lists.dpi.state.nc.us). Please include your name, organization, telephone, and e-mail address.*

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