

- Funding Status – FY 2018
- Updates on USAC’s E-Rate Productivity Center and Legacy System
  - EPC School Entity Profile Updates
- E-Rate Updates and Reminders
  - Upcoming E-Rate Dates
- USAC News Brief Dated September 21 – New Invoice Deadline Extension Tool

## **Funding Status – FY 2018**

USAC issued Wave 24 on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cumulative funding as of Wave 23 was \$1.75 billion, including \$69.8 million for North Carolina.

The PIA logjam which has been holding up fiber and special construction applications appears to be breaking up. We saw an increased number of fiber applications approved in Wave 23 and the initiation of more detailed PIA inquiries on special construction.

## **Updates on USAC’s E-Rate Productivity Center and Legacy System**

### *EPC School Entity Profile Updates:*

Later this week, USAC plans a bulk upload of updated school entity profiles in EPC based on information collected during the FY 2018 PIA application review process. The updated data will include student enrollment and eligibility counts, school name and address corrections, and restructured parent-child relationships. USAC is then expected to announce (probably in its next News Brief) that it has opened an “Administrative Window” to permit school applicants an opportunity to further update their entity profiles in preparation for the FY 2019 application window. Once the FY 2019 application window opens, probably on January 10<sup>th</sup>, USAC will again lock entity profiles in order to stabilize Form 471 filings for libraries and consortia.

The Administrative Window, expected to run from October 1<sup>st</sup> to January 7<sup>th</sup>, provides a limited three-month period for schools to review, correct, and update their entity profiles. Schools that have recently made their own entity updates should confirm that those changes are still in place, i.e., that they have not been overwritten by this week’s USAC upload.

One note of caution: USAC’s bulk upload may not yet reflect changes in entity types, e.g., from “school” to “district.” USAC changes of this type are still being made. Entities affected may want to hold off their own review and updates until later in the Administrative Window.

## E-Rate Updates and Reminders

### *Upcoming E-Rate Dates:*

- September 30** Critical Service Delivery Deadline (“SDD”) for FY 2017 non-recurring FRNs. This is also the deadline for requesting a one-year SDD extension.  
Note: September 30<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday this year. This deadline does **not** roll-over to the next business day.
- October 1 Estimated opening of the “Administrative Window” for the FY 2019 application cycle (see EPC School Entity Profile Updates article above). The EPC update window is expected to close January 7<sup>th</sup>, three days before the Form 471 application window should open.
- October 8 Deadline for submitting nominations to the FCC for the USAC Board of Directors ([DA 18-921](#)).
- October 26 FY 2017 Form 486 deadline for funding committed in Wave 56.
- October 29 FY 2018 Form 486 deadline for funding committed in Waves 1–12 (all issued before July 1<sup>st</sup>).  
Note: Applicants missing any Form 486 deadline should watch carefully for “Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letters” in EPC. These Reminders afford applicants 15-day extensions to submit their Form 486s without penalty.
- October 29 Invoice deadline for FY 2017 recurring services. Note: For applicants and service providers unable to submit invoices by this date, October 29<sup>th</sup> is also the deadline for filing 120-day Invoice Deadline Extension Requests (“IDERS”).

## USAC News Brief Dated September 21 – New Invoice Deadline Extension Tool

[USAC’s Schools and Libraries News Brief of September 21, 2018](#), announced USAC’s plan to transition to a new tool for submitting Invoice Deadline Extension Requests (“IDERS”) for funding years after FY 2015. The new tool, to be implemented within EPC, will replace the legacy IDER tool previously available to applicants through the online BEAR system (and still available if needed for FY 2015 or earlier). One major advantage of the new tool will be to permit extension requests to be filed for multiple FRNs at one time.

The transition to the IDER system began last weekend and is expected to be completed by Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Although USAC recommends waiting until the new EPC-based system is operational, IDERS can be filed in the interim by opening a customer service case.

Additional details (including screenshots) on the new IDER tool will be available once the system becomes operational.

As noted in the Upcoming E-rate Dates section above, please remember that October 29<sup>th</sup> is the filing deadline for BEAR (and SPI) invoices for FY 2017 recurring service FRNs. It is also the deadline for filing IDERs for the same FRNs, if needed.

---

*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.*

*In compliance with federal law, the NC Department of Public Instruction administers all state-operated educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.*