

E-Rate Central News for the Week of June 11, 2018

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Funding Status – FY 2018

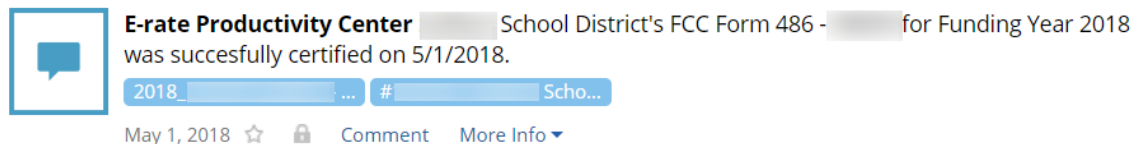
FY 2018:

Wave 9 for FY 2018 was released Friday, June 8th for \$66.8 million which included \$293.3 thousand for Nevada. Cumulative funding as of Wave 9 is \$1.10 billion, including \$2.51 million. Wave 10, expected later this week, has not yet been announced.

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

Corrected Form 486 Notification Letters

USAC issued a number of “corrected” Form 486 Notification Letters last week. Many of the original letters, issued in May and still available in the News feeds, included the cover letter but failed to include the report portion of the PDF file.



The EPC News feeds for the revised letters are prominently labeled “CORRECTED” and now include all pages of the PDF files.



E-rate Productivity Center -- CORRECTED -- USAC has received and reviewed FCC Forms 486 containing Funding Request Numbers (FRNs) included in the attached files. You may receive additional FCC Form 486 notifications about funding requests that you identified in other FCC Forms 486. Each service provider included on the FCC Form 486 Notification Letter will also be provided with the information in this notification.

Please read the attached FCC Form 486 Notification Letter and corresponding Excel file for important information about any changes made to the form and/or the FRNs.

NEXT STEPS

- If not determined already, we recommend applicants and service providers discuss invoicing options, and ensure that both parties are familiar with the invoice deadline date.
- Applicants have the option of receiving a bill from service providers for any non-discounted portion, as stated in program rules. Program rules also require participants to maintain documentation for at least 10 years after the last day of the applicable fun **...More**



School District FCC Form 486 Notification Letter
PDF 15 KB



FCC Form 486 - ...
XLSX 4 KB

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Shortfalls on U.S. Treasury Invoice Payments:

When Universal Service Fund (“USF”) banking was transferred from commercial banks to the U.S. Treasury earlier this spring, applicants and service providers were assured that the transfer would be transparent to end users. Scattered reports now indicate that such transparency may not always be the case.

Historically, USAC would not pay invoices to applicants and service providers who were on “[Red Light](#)” status. i.e., those owing money to either USAC or the FCC. By a broader token, the U.S. Treasury will not pay, or will reduce payments, based on any outstanding federal agency debt. Currently there appears to be no reciprocal link from the U.S Treasury back to USAC if BEAR or SPI payments are reduced due to federal repayments. As a result, it is possible that USAC invoice notifications may indicate E-rate payments in excess of amounts electronically transferred. Additional information, should this occur, can be found on the [Treasury Offset Program](#) site or by calling 800-304-3107.

E-Rate Updates and Reminders

Upcoming 2018 E-Rate Dates:

June 11 FY 2017 Form 486 deadline for funding committed in Wave 40. Other upcoming Form 486 deadlines include:

Wave 41	06/15/2018
Wave 42	06/22/2018
Wave 43	06/29/2018

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.

- June 20 USAC webinar on [Understanding Post-Commitment Actions](#).
- June 30 Last day to file a [special construction implementation deadline extension request](#) for FY 2017.
- July 2 Reply comment deadline on the FCC’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NPRM”) on *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs* (see [FCC 18-42](#)).
- July 23 Deadline for submitting Form 470/471 comments (see [Federal Register notice](#)).

New FCC Commissioner Nominated:

President Trump has nominated Geoffrey Sparks to fill the remaining four years of the minority Democratic term held by Mignon Clyburn (who is stepping down). Mr. Sparks is a communications attorney, most recently serving as an assistant bureau chief of the FCC’s Enforcement Bureau.

USAC News Brief Dated June 8 – Service Substitutions and Open Data Platform

[USAC’s Schools and Libraries News Brief of June 8, 2018](#), reminded applicants that service substitutions must:

- Have the same functionality as the original product or service.
- Not violate any contract or state/local procurement laws.
- Not result in an increased percentage of ineligible services or functions.
- Be consistent with the establishing Form 470 including any associated RFP.

USAC clarified that answering “Yes” to these certifications means that the statements are true — and that “No” means they are not true. While this seems obvious, this guidance is welcomed due to the ambiguity of the certifications’ phrasing.

The USAC News Brief also referenced [Release Notes](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) on the [USAC Open Data](#) platform.

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 OSIT.

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