

## E-Rate Central News for the Week of July 9, 2018

- Funding Status – FY 2018
- Updates on USAC’s E-Rate Productivity Center and Legacy System
  - USAC Seeks IT Enhancement Feedback
- E-Rate Updates and Reminders
  - Upcoming 2018 E-Rate Dates
  - Reply Comments re. National Security Threats NPRM
- USAC News Brief Dated July 3 – “Submit a Question” Discontinued

## Funding Status – FY 2018

USAC issued Wave 13 for FY 2018 on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup> for \$32.9 million – none for Nevada. Cumulative funding as of Wave 13 is \$1.32 billion, including \$2.51 million for Nevada.

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

### *USAC Seeks IT Enhancement Feedback:*

USAC’s latest News Brief (referenced below) encourages E-rate participants to submit their ideas and feedback on Schools and Libraries information systems via the USAC web page [“Share Your E-rate Technical System Ideas.”](#) The site can also be used to volunteer to help test new IT features.

### Share Your E-rate Technical System Ideas

This form is to be used solely to suggest improvements to E-rate information technology systems. This form is not meant to be used for support and/or assistance related to your participation in the E-rate program, nor to suggest changes to E-rate program rules. If you need assistance related to your participation in the E-rate program, please call the Client Service Bureau at (888) 203-8100 or open a customer case within EPC by selecting “Contact Us” from the menu in the top right-hand corner of your landing page and then providing the requested information.

**\* Required**

**Name \***

Your answer

**Email address \***

Your answer

Check here if you’d like to be contacted in the future to participate in E-rate software beta testing. You may let us know if you no longer wish to be contacted by sending an email to [privacy@usac.org](mailto:privacy@usac.org), or if you are contacted, that you no longer wish to participate.

## E-Rate Updates and Reminders

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

July 13      FY 2017 Form 486 deadline for funding committed in Wave 46. Other upcoming Form 486 deadlines include:

Wave 47	07/12/2018
Wave 48	07/27/2018
Wave 49	07/30/2018 (hurricane relief wave)

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.

July 23      Deadline for submitting Form 470/471 comments (see [Federal Register notice](#)).

### *Reply Comments re. National Security Threats NPRM:*

Last week was the deadline for submitting reply comments 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](#) and our [newsletter of April 2<sup>nd</sup>](#)). Initial comments filed by the State E-Rate Coordinators’ Alliance (“[SECA](#)”) and the American Library Association (“[ALA](#)”) both urged the FCC to base compliance with any resulting E-rate rules on service provider assurances and certifications.. Additional support for this position was provided in the reply comments filed by Kellogg & Sovereign Consulting (“[KSLLC](#)”).

Most of the other reply comments — none taking issue with the SECA/ALA position — were filed by national or regional telecommunications associations concerned primarily with FCC authority and with the preeminence of Congressional and other federal agencies (e.g., the Departments of Commerce, Homeland Security, or Defense and the National Security Agency). Several rural broadband and wireless associations warned the FCC about the detrimental impact of banning affordable equipment currently being provided by Chinese companies. Copies of all reply comments are available in the FCC’s [Electronic Comment Filing System](#) under the proceeding designated “18-89.”

## **USAC News Brief Dated July 3 – “Submit a Question” Discontinued**

[USAC’s Schools and Libraries News Brief of July 3, 2018](#), indicates that the much beloved “[Submit a Question](#)” feature, long a staple of the “Resources & Tools” list on USAC’s E-rate site will be retired as of Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>.

## RESOURCES & TOOLS

E-rate Productivity Center

Forms

Reference Area

Tools

Latest News

Samples & Examples

Trainings & Outreach

Submit a Question



The News Brief reminds users of the newer ways to handle the following questions and requests, including:

- General questions
- Appeals, service substitution requests, and SPIN change requests
- Invoice deadline extensions requests
- Submissions of attachments to customer service cases or other requests

For “Submit a Question” cases pending as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, USAC is creating new customer service case numbers, linked through EPC.

---

*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.*

For further information on E-rate, follow us 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 Nevada E-Rate Weekly News, send an email to [nevada@e-ratecentral.com](mailto:nevada@e-ratecentral.com) Please include your name, organization, telephone, and e-mail address. This email address can also be used to unsubscribe. E-Rate Central is a nationally recognized E-rate consulting firm providing complete E-rate application and processing services for applicants and is official E-rate partner with the State of*



Nevada.