



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2016 FCC FORM 499-A, FCC FORM 499-Q, AND ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS

WC Docket No. 06-122

Comment Date: December 9, 2016

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment on proposed revisions to the (1) annual Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, FCC Form 499-A (FCC Form 499-A) and accompanying instructions (FCC Form 499-A Instructions) to be used in 2017 to report 2016 revenues, and (2) quarterly Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, FCC Form 499-Q (FCC Form 499-Q) and accompanying instructions (FCC Form 499-Q Instructions) to be used in 2017 to report projected collected revenues on a quarterly basis.

The Commission has delegated authority to the Bureau to revise the FCC Forms and accompanying instructions to, among other things, ensure “sound and efficient administration of the universal service programs.”<sup>1</sup>

Redlined versions of the FCC Forms and instructions are attached to this Public Notice, showing proposed changes from the FCC Forms and instructions currently in effect.

The revisions to the 2017 FCC Forms 499-A and 499-Q and the accompanying instructions, as applicable, are summarized below:

Changes to the 2017 FCC Form 499-A instructions:

- **Consolidated Filers:** Consolidated filers are reminded to include all legal and trade names of entities covered by the filing.

Changes to both the 2017 FCC Forms 499-A and FCC Form 499-Q, where applicable, and instructions:

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<sup>1</sup> *Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 97-21, Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration, 12 FCC Rcd 18400, 18442, para. 81 (1997) (“Because it is difficult to determine in advance precisely the information that will be needed to administer the new universal service programs, the [Common Carrier, now Wireline Competition] Bureau will have delegated authority to waive, reduce, or eliminate contributor reporting requirements that may prove unnecessary. The Bureau also will have delegated authority to require any additional contributor reporting requirements necessary to the sound and efficient administration of the universal service programs.”). Consistent with this authority, the Bureau annually revises the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet Instructions to provide instructions and guidance for complying with existing rules and requirements. See 47 CFR § 54.711(c). The FCC Forms and accompanying instructions are modified based on experience in administering the universal service program and explicit rulings by the Commission. See, e.g., *Universal Service Contribution Methodology et al.*, WC Docket No. 06-122 et al., Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 21 FCC Rcd 7518, 7533-50, paras. 24-62 (2006).

- **USAC Address Change:** The address for USAC was updated to reflect its new location.
- **Date Changes:** Dates were updated throughout the FCC Forms and instructions. References to “2016” were changed to “2017,” and references to “2015” were changed to “2016.”
- **Traffic Study Submission:** The instructions were updated to reflect that traffic studies are now required to be submitted only to USAC.
- **Language Conforming to Commission Orders:** The instructions were updated to reflect recent Commission decisions.
- **Circularity Factor Update:** The circularity factor was adjusted and updated in the FCC Form 499-A and the FCC Form 499-Q instructions based upon the quarterly contribution factors.
- **Stylistic Changes:** In a number of instances, minor stylistic changes, such as typos and spacing, were corrected in the FCC Forms 499-A and 499-Q instructions, without changing the substance. Citations were updated as appropriate in the FCC Form 499-A for clarification purposes.

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Interested parties may file comments **on or before December 9, 2016.**

All pleadings are to reference **WC Docket No. 06-122**. Comments may be filed using the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.<sup>2</sup>

- *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.
- *Paper Filers:* Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission’s Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission’s Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.
- **People with Disabilities:** To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

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<sup>2</sup> See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1999).

In addition, we request that one copy of each pleading be sent to each of the following:

- (1) Carol Pomponio, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 5-A360, Washington, DC 20554; e-mail: [Carol.Pomponio@fcc.gov](mailto:Carol.Pomponio@fcc.gov); and
- (2) Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 5-B521, Washington, DC 20554; e-mail: [Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov).

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.<sup>3</sup> Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

For further information, please contact Carol Pomponio, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1898 or (202) 418-0484 (TTY).

**Attachments:**

- Attachment 1: 2017 FCC Form 499-A (Redline Copy)
- Attachment 2: 2017 FCC Form 499-A Instructions (Redline Copy)
- Attachment 3: 2017 FCC Form 499-Q (Redline Copy)
- Attachment 4: 2017 FCC Form 499-Q Instructions (Redline Copy)

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<sup>3</sup> 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*