**DA 17-802**

**Released: August 24, 2017**

**video relay service compensation order effective date for rule amendments and compliance deadline**

**CG Docket Nos. 10-51 and 03-123**

On July 6, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a Report and Order and Order[[1]](#footnote-2) in the above-referenced proceeding adopting compensation rates for video relay service (VRS) and amending its rules to permit server-based routing for VRS and point-to-point calls, authorize the continued use of money from the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) Fund for research and development, and eliminate rules requiring the development of a neutral video communications service platform. The Commission ordered that the Report and Order and amended rules shall become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.[[2]](#footnote-3) A summary of the Report and Order and Order and final rules was published in the Federal Register on August 22, 2017.[[3]](#footnote-4) Accordingly, the Report and Order and final rules become effective September 21, 2017.[[4]](#footnote-5)

In the Order, the Commission reestablished the effectiveness of the rule incorporating the VRS Interoperability Profile.[[5]](#footnote-6) Specifically, the Order requires providers to comply with the VRS Provider Interoperability Profile within 120 days after the date of publication of a summary of the Order in the Federal Register,[[6]](#footnote-7) which will be December 20, 2017.[[7]](#footnote-8)

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1. *Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, Report and Order and Order, FCC 17-86, (rel. July 6, 2017) (*VRS Compensation Rates Order*). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. *VRS Compensation Rates Order* at para. 87. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. FCC, Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Services Program, 82 FR 39673 (Aug. 22, 2017) (VRS Final Rules Summary). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. VRS Final Rules Summary, 82 FR at 39673. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. *VRS Compensation Rates Order* at para. 81. The VRS Interoperability Profile is an interoperability technical standard that in January 2017 the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau ordered be incorporated by reference in the Commission’s rules. *See Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 32 FCC Rcd 687 (CGB 2017). The Commission had set aside the effectiveness of the technical standard in the *2017 VRS Improvements Order*. *See Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Notice of Inquiry, and Order, 32 FCC Rcd 2436, 2489, para. 138 (2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. *VRS Compensation Rates Order* at para. 88. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. VRS Final Rules Summary, 82 FR at 39673. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)