WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU DIRECTS USAC TO EXTEND E-RATE APPLICATION FILING WINDOW FOR FUNDING YEAR 2020 DUE TO POTENTIAL CORONAVIRUS DISRUPTIONS

CC Docket No. 02-6

To minimize potential disruptions caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) directs the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to extend the deadline for E-Rate applicants to submit their Funding Year (FY) 2020 FCC Form 471 applications by an additional 35 days. E-Rate applicants will now have until Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. EDT to submit their FY2020 FCC Form 471 applications. Recognizing that E-Rate applicants undergoing Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) reviews may not be able to respond to PIA requests in a timely manner, we also direct USAC to provide all applicants with an automatic, 14-day extension for PIA requests.

We will continue to monitor the situation to determine whether any additional extensions of these deadlines are needed. During this time, we encourage all applicants to continue to monitor USAC’s webpage (https://www.usac.org/) and newsfeed for relevant information. We also encourage all applicants, to the extent practicable, to continue work on their applications and submit them as they are able, so that funding decisions can be made in a timely manner.

For more information, please contact James Bachtell, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or (202) 418-0484 (TTY), or at james.bachtell@fcc.gov.

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1 The Funding Year 2020 FCC Form 471 window was originally scheduled to close on March 25, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. EDT.