By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces the availability of a FCC Form 5640 Application Request for Funding Allocation User Guide (FCC Form 5640 User Guide) for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Reimbursement Program). The FCC Form 5640 User Guide, as well as other important documents related to the Reimbursement Program, are available at https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain (the Supply Chain webpage).

The FCC Form 5640 User Guide provides step-by-step instructions for navigating the online filing portal and completing the FCC Form 5640 Application Request for Funding Allocation. Subsequent iterations of the FCC Form 5640 User Guide will include instructions for completing additional filings related to the Reimbursement Program. Separately, the Bureau has made available on the Supply Chain Webpage, the Excel batch upload templates to assist applicants with completing the location and equipment portions of the FCC Form 5640 Application Request for Funding Allocation. Finally, the Bureau has also published an updated version of the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to reflect additional questions received.

As directed by the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (Secure Networks Act), as amended, the Federal Communications Commission established the $1.9 billion Reimbursement Program to reimburse providers of advanced communications services with ten million or fewer customers for costs incurred in the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services from their networks that pose a national security risk. On September 27, 2021, the

1 The Bureau is in the process of updating the Excel batch upload template for the equipment section of the application to remove the Location ID field so users of the existing template will need to transfer information to the latest version of the template before uploading the file into their application.

Bureau announced that the filing window to file applications to participate in the Reimbursement Program will open on **Friday, October 29, 2021 at 12:00 AM ET and close on Friday, January 14, 2022 at 11:59 PM ET**.³ To participate, eligible providers must file an FCC Form 5640 Application Request for Funding Allocation,⁴ using the Bureau’s dedicated online application filing portal, which will be made available via the Supply Chain Webpage once the filing window opens on October 29, 2021.⁵

We encourage applicants to regularly consult the Supply Chain Webpage for updates related to the Reimbursement Program. Interested parties should also review the *Finalized Reimbursement Process Public Notice* for additional information about the Reimbursement Program application and filing process.⁶ Questions specific to the Reimbursement Program or application process should be directed to the Reimbursement Program Fund Administrator at SCRPFundAdmin@fcc.gov or at (202) 418-7540. For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact supplychain@fcc.gov.

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⁴ 47 CFR § 1.50004(c).


⁶ *See generally Finalized Reimbursement Process Public Notice.*