



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU EXTENDS E-RATE PROGRAM DEADLINES DURING E-RATE PRODUCTIVITY CENTER (EPC) BLACKOUT PERIOD

CC Docket No. 02-6

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) is extending the deadline for E-Rate participants with any form or program process deadline (e.g., FCC Form 486 deadline, USAC appeals deadline, program integrity assurance (PIA) requests, or FCC Form 472) that must be filed within the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) between October 31 and November 7, 2023.¹ The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is consolidating its Schools and Libraries (SL) legacy invoicing systems into EPC between October 30, 2023 and November 7, 2023.² The last day to submit an invoice in the SL legacy invoicing systems is October 30, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET and new invoices for funding year (FY) 2016 and later will be submitted in EPC beginning on November 7, 2023 at 9 a.m. ET. Between November 3 and November 7, 2023 at 9 a.m. ET, access to EPC will be unavailable to all users. To reduce the need for E-Rate participants to request a waiver or extension of any filing deadline, entities and service providers with a deadline within EPC between October 31 and November 7, 2023 will now have until 11:59 p.m. ET on November 8, 2023 to submit their request or filing.

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.

¹ The Commission has delegated authority to the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau to resolve unanticipated technical and operational issues relating to the universal service mechanisms (including the E-Rate program) that may arise. *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Third Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 22485, 22488-89, para. 6 (1997). See also *Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries*, WC Docket No. 13-184, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 29 FCC Rcd 8870, 8922, para. 133 (2014) (reaffirming this delegation of authority to the Bureau).

² USAC, Schools and Libraries Program, Schools and Libraries News Brief (dated Oct. 12, 2023), <https://apps.usac.org/sl/tools/news-briefs/preview.aspx?id=1072> (last visited Oct. 27, 2023).