



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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**DA 24-162**

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## **TRIBAL LISTENING SESSION ON PROPOSED SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES CYBERSECURITY PILOT PROGRAM (FCC 23-92)**

**Interactive Session will be held at 1:00 p.m. ET on February 29, 2024**

The Federal Communications Commission's Office of Native Affairs and Policy (ONAP) and the Wireline Competition Bureau will host a listening session for Tribal government leaders, Tribal service providers and IT managers, and representatives of Tribal schools, and libraries staff to inform participants about the Commission's recently proposed Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program.

This interactive, one-hour session will discuss a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) ([FCC 23-92](#)) adopted on November 13, 2023, which proposes the creation of a Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program that would allow the Commission to obtain valuable data concerning the cybersecurity services that would best help K-12 schools and libraries, including Tribal schools and libraries, address the growing number of cyber threats and attacks against their broadband networks and student, school staff, and library patron data. This webinar will provide an overview of the proposed pilot program and how you can participate in the rulemaking proceeding. Participants will also have an opportunity to ask questions they may have during, or in advance, of the event.

The proposed pilot program calls for an investment of up to \$200 million over three years to fund cybersecurity equipment and services for selected participants. The proposed pilot would be within the Universal Service Fund (USF), but funded separately from the Commission's E-Rate Program, to ensure gains in enhanced cybersecurity protections do not come at a cost of undermining E-Rate's success in connecting schools and libraries, and promoting digital equity. The proposed pilot program seeks to learn more about which cybersecurity services will have the greatest impact in helping K-12 schools and libraries protect their broadband networks and data, while also ensuring that limited USF funds are being utilized in the most effective manner. The NPRM seeks comment on a number of questions including, for example: (1) the proposed goals for the pilot program; (2) the structure of the pilot program and the participant evaluation process; (3) who should be eligible to participate in the pilot program; (4) the types of services and equipment that should be eligible for support; (5) the applicability of E-Rate and other program rules, forms and processes to the proposed pilot; and (6) the Commission's authority to establish the proposed pilot.

The interactive listening session will include an overview of the NPRM and the recently proposed cybersecurity pilot program, followed by an opportunity for Tribal participants to ask questions and provide informal feedback about the proposed cybersecurity pilot program. Commission staff will prepare a written summary of the input received during the listening session and enter it into WC Docket No. 23-234, the public record, for this proceeding. In addition, interested parties may submit written comments using the FCC's [Electronic Comment Filing System \(ECFS\)](#) using WC Docket No. 23-234, or request a meeting with Commission staff to discuss the proposed pilot program.

The listening session will take place at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

To register, please send an email with your name, contact information, and Tribal affiliation to [tribal.events@fcc.gov](mailto:tribal.events@fcc.gov) stating “Cybersecurity Pilot” in the subject line.

Prior to this event, questions can be submitted by sending an email to [tribal.events@fcc.gov](mailto:tribal.events@fcc.gov). Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted via e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or by calling the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for FCC staff to contact the requester if more information is needed to fill the request. Last minute requests will be accepted but it may not be possible to accommodate the request.

For questions about the listening session, please contact ONAP at [Native@fcc.gov](mailto:Native@fcc.gov).

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