



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU REMINDS PRIORITY 1 RIP-AND-REPLACE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS OF THEIR MAY 8, 2026 REMOVAL, REPLACEMENT, AND DISPOSAL DEADLINE

WC Docket No. 18-89

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) reminds Priority 1 recipients¹ in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Rip-and-Replace Program or Program) of their May 8, 2026 deadline to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment and services in their networks.²

The Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (Secure Networks Act) directed the Commission to establish the Rip-and-Replace Program.³ The Program reimburses eligible providers for reasonable costs incurred in the removal, replacement, and disposal of communications equipment and services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation.⁴ Pursuant to the Secure Networks Act, recipients must complete their removal, replacement, and disposal (RRD) work “within one year of receiving the initial draw down disbursement from their funding allocation.”⁵ When the Bureau approved applications to participate in the Program in 2022, demand exceeded available funding, which resulted in recipients receiving 39.5% of their approved allocation amounts.⁶ Between 2022 and 2024, Program recipients indicated that this funding shortfall was a significant impediment to their ability to timely complete their removal, replacement, and disposal projects.⁷ In December 2024, Congress authorized additional funding to support the goal of removing, replacing, and disposing of the

¹ This designation, defined as advanced communications service providers with 2 million or fewer customers, applies to 85 of the 86 unique entities participating in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program. *See* 47 CFR § 1.50004(f).

² *See* 47 CFR § 1.50004(h).

³ Secure and Trusted Communications Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-124, 134 Stat. 158 § 4 (2019) (codified as amended at 47 U.S.C. § 1608), as amended by Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, § 901, 134 Stat. 1182 (2021) (Secure Networks Act).

⁴ *See generally* *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – Huawei Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-351, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6604 (PSHSB 2020); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – ZTE Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-352, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6633 (PSHSB 2020).

⁵ 47 CFR § 1.50004(h).

⁶ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Grant of Applications for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, 37 FCC Rcd 8590, 8591-92 (WCB 2022).

⁷ Wireline Competition Bureau, Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program Fifth Report at 11 (Dec. 30, 2024), <https://www.fcc.gov/document/supply-chain-reimbursement-program-fifth-report>.

insecure equipment and services.⁸

On April 15, 2025, the Bureau announced that the Commission made a further allocation of funding to all active Priority 1 recipients.⁹ On May 8, 2025, the Bureau issued to all active Priority 1 recipients the initial draw down disbursement from this funding allocation. This action established a new deadline of May 8, 2026 for these recipients to complete the work to permanently remove, replace, and dispose of the covered communications equipment and services listed in their application to the Program.

More than three years have elapsed since July 2022, when the Bureau approved the applications of Priority 1 recipients to participate in the Program,¹⁰ and they should be fully prepared to meet the RRD deadline of May 8, 2026. The Bureau is encouraged by the progress many recipients have made since the Commission allocated further funding. Several recipients have filed final certifications indicating they have completed their RRD work, and a number of those have also completed the close-out process to conclude their participation in the Program. The Bureau previously told recipients of its expectation that, with the additional funding allocated in 2025, recipients should move swiftly to complete their RRD work by the deadline set under the Commission's rules.¹¹ The Bureau therefore continues to expect all Priority 1 recipients to conclude their work by the May 8, 2026 deadline. Recipients must file an FCC Form 5640 Part M – Final Certification within 10 days after their RRD deadline expires.¹² After filing their Final Certification and a final spending report, Recipients must work with the Fund Administrator to initiate and complete the close-out process.¹³

Additional Information and Resources. Recipients with questions may contact the Fund Administrator Help Desk by email at SCRPFundAdmin@fcc.gov or by calling (202) 418-7540 from 9:00 AM ET to 5:00 PM ET, Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays. General information and Commission documents regarding the Program are available on the Rip-and-Replace Program webpage, <https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/reimbursement>.

⁸ Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, Pub. L. No. 118-159, § 5401-5405 (Spectrum and Secure Technology and Innovation Act), § 5404(c) (2024). Specifically, Section 5404(c) authorized the Commission “to borrow from the Treasury of the United States an amount not to exceed \$3,080,000,000 to carry out the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).” Section 5405 amended Section 4(k) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1603(k)) by striking “\$1,900,000,000” and inserting “\$4,980,000,000.”

⁹ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Availability of Additional Funding for the Rip-and-Replace Program*, WC Docket 18-89, Public Notice, DA 25-342, 40 FCC Rcd 2520 (WCB Apr. 15, 2025) (*Additional Funding Public Notice*).

¹⁰ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Grant of Applications for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 22-774 (WCB Jul. 18, 2022).

¹¹ *Additional Funding Public Notice* at 1, 40 FCC Rcd at 2520; see also *Wireline Competition Bureau Reminds Rip-and-Replace Program Recipients of Their September 29, 2025 Status Update Filing Obligation*, WC Docket 18-89, Public Notice, DA 25-985, at 2 (WCB Nov. 25, 2025); *Wireline Competition Bureau Urges Rip-and-Replace Program Recipients to Complete Removal of Insecure Equipment From Our Nation's Networks*, WC Docket 18-89, Public Notice, DA 25-158, 40 FCC Rcd 1339 (WCB Feb. 21, 2025).

¹² 47 CFR § 1.50004(m); *Wireline Competition Bureau Updates User Guides for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, Public Notice, DA 24-91 (WCB Jan. 31, 2024). The User Guide for Final Certifications are at <https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/reimbursement> under the button for User Guides (Part M). The Bureau reminds recipients that filed a Final Certification prior to receiving a further funding allocation that they must file an updated Final Certification when their work is completed, as explained in the Program FAQs. Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program: Frequently Asked Questions, at 39-40 (updated Aug. 20, 2025), <https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/scrp-faq-082025.pdf>.

¹³ The User Guide for the close-out process is at <https://www.fcc.gov/supplychain/reimbursement> under the button for User Guides.

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