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For Immediate Release

## FCC ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$68 MILLION IN EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

## Over 13 Million Students Benefitting from Program to Help Close the Homework Gap

WASHINGTON, August 10, 2022—The Federal Communications Commission today announced it is committing nearly \$68 million in two new funding rounds through the <a href="Emergency Connectivity Program">Emergency Connectivity Program</a>, which provides digital services for students in communities across the country. Today's funding commitments support applications from all three application windows, benefiting over 100,000 students across the country, including California, Florida, North Carolina, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

"As we inch closer to the start of another school year, the Homework Gap remains a real concern for far too many students who lack internet access after the school day ends," **said Chairwoman Rosenworcel**. "We're working hard to fix this and support students as they prepare to return to the classroom in the coming weeks and this latest round of funding will help us do just that."

To date, the Commission has committed over \$5.7 billion to schools and libraries across the country as part of the Emergency Connectivity Program, which launched last year. The program has provided schools and libraries three different "application windows," for schools and libraries to apply for support. Today's announcement includes over \$24 million from the first and second application windows providing support in the upcoming school year for one school, three libraries, and one consortium. For the third application window, the Commission is committing nearly \$44 million that will support over 200 schools, seven libraries, and one consortium.

The funding can be used to support off-campus learning, such as nightly homework, to ensure students across the country have the necessary support to keep up with their education. To date, the program has provided support to approximately 10,000 schools, 900 libraries, and 100 consortia, and providing nearly 12 million connected devices and over 7 million broadband connections. Of the over \$5.7 billion in funding commitments approved to date, approximately \$4.1 billion is supporting applications from Window 1; \$830 million from Window 2; and \$774 million from Window 3.

More details about which schools and libraries have received funding commitments can be found at https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-connectivity-fund.

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).