FCC ANNOUNCES NEARLY $55 MILLION IN EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

To date, the Commission Has Committed Over $5.9 Billion to Schools And Libraries Across the Country

WASHINGTON, September 21, 2022—The Federal Communications Commission today announced it is committing nearly $55 million in new funding rounds through the Emergency Connectivity Program, which provides digital services for students in communities across the country. Today’s funding commitments support applications from all three application windows, benefiting approximately 125,000 students across the country, including students in California, Indiana, Michigan, Puerto Rico, and Texas.

“With the school year in full swing, kids need to be able to connect with teachers and homework assignments when they are away from school grounds,” said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. “Our latest funding commitments will provide this support, and continue our ongoing progress to close the Homework Gap.”

To date, the Commission has committed over $5.9 billion to schools and libraries across the country as part of the Emergency Connectivity Program, which launched last year. Today’s announcement includes nearly $775,000 from the first and second application window and over $54 million from the third window. Funding from all three rounds will support over 200 schools, 20 libraries, and 2 consortia.

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 $5.9 billion in funding commitments approved to date, approximately $4.1 billion is supporting applications from Window 1; $833 million from Window 2; and $947 million from Window 3.

A list of the total number of funded connections and connected devices by state is available here: 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).