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For Immediate Release

## FCC ANNOUNCES OVER \$24 MILLION IN EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

To Date Nearly \$6.6 Billion in Funding Committed in Ongoing Work to Close the Homework Gap

WASHINGTON, February 15, 2023—The Federal Communications Commission today announced it is committing over \$24 million in a new funding round through the <u>Emergency Connectivity Program</u>, which provides digital services for students in communities across the country. Today's funding commitments support applications from the third application window, benefiting approximately 50,000 students across the country, including students in Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

"We need all our students to have access to digital tools for connecting with teachers and keeping up with homework assignments," **said FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel**. "This program continues to make progress in our ongoing work to close the Homework Gap."

The Emergency Connectivity Program, which launched in 2021, has provided schools and libraries three different "application windows" for schools and libraries to apply for support. Today's announcement will support over 140 schools, 8 libraries, and 3 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 11,000 schools, 1,000 libraries, and 100 consortia, and providing nearly 13 million connected devices and over 8 million broadband connections. Of the nearly \$6.6 billion in funding commitments approved to date, approximately \$4.1 billion is supporting applications from Window 1; \$833 million from Window 2; and \$1.6 billion 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).