

Thursday, October 8, 9:00 am

Cyber Security Updates:

The latest cyber attack utilized the same vectors as previous attacks to infiltrate and infect the network. Schools and school systems need to review and ensure their networks are minimally secured using the protocols provided last fall. Documentation on the secure protocols are posted within the cyber security toolbox on the Department's Technology-Rich Learning Environments webpage.

E-Rate

Q: Should I put my entire request (original and additional bandwidth) in my second window FCC Form 471, or just the difference between the two?

A: The FCC's second window order ([DA 20-1091](#)) indicates that new applications should include funding requests for only the additional bandwidth, but applicants may find it easier to submit requests for the aggregate bandwidth. USAC indicates that either approach will be acceptable as long as the approach used is described in the FRN narrative. PIA reviewers will work with applicants to assure that requests are not duplicated.

Q: My original Category 1 funding request for internet access was denied and I have filed an appeal with USAC. Can I still apply for additional bandwidth?

A: Yes, but. Funding of the second window application will be held pending resolution of the appeal. If the first request is denied due to a competitive bidding violation, the second window request will also be denied.

Q: I filed a service substitution for my original internet access funding request. Can I apply for additional bandwidth?

A: Yes, but. Details of the earlier filed service substitution should be included in the FRN narrative in the second window application.

Q: If I post a new FCC Form 470 now, can I sign a multi-year contract and receive discounts on those services for the life of the contract?

A: No. The waiver of the competitive bidding requirements only applies to additional bandwidth requested for FY 2020 (i.e., services received through June 30, 2021). You would have to rebid the services that will start on July 1, 2021 (following the Kalamazoo Order precedent discussed below).