



August 17, 2022

## E-Rate Form 470 Filing Window Open

### Get Your Piece of the E-Rate Funding Pie

The E-Rate program makes Internet access service more affordable for schools and libraries in America. Congress mandated in 1996 that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) use the federal Universal Service Fund to provide support to companies that give discounts to eligible schools and libraries. The Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC) administers the E-Rate program for the federal government.



Contributions from telecommunications companies provide discounts of 50-90% on the cost of Internet access, and network wiring within library and school buildings. Libraries and schools in low-income urban communities and rural areas qualify for the highest discounts .

All libraries that receive E-Rate discounts for Internet Access, Internal Connections, Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections or Managed Internal Broadband Services must be compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

### E-Rate Forms and Timeline

Each year, libraries that wish to receive E-rate discounts must file three forms with USAC. The first, is Form 470, and that filing window is now open for funding which affects July 2023- June 2024!

The Form 470, submitted by the library, opens the required bidding process for internet service providers. Service providers review the posted FCC Form 470 information and submit bids. Libraries compare received bids on a Bid Matrix to choose a service provider for the upcoming fiscal year.

The district LRTs are ready to schedule appointments to walk you through the Form 470 filing process in the EPC system.

#### Please reach out by phone or email:

- **North Central and Northeast Districts:** [trisha.frazier@iowa.gov](mailto:trisha.frazier@iowa.gov) or call phone # 515-725-3365
- **Central and Southwest Districts:** [dori.buls@iowa.gov](mailto:dori.buls@iowa.gov) or call phone # 515-281-5790
- **Northwest and Southwest Districts:** [amanda.grom@iowa.gov](mailto:amanda.grom@iowa.gov) or call phone # 515-725-3366

Find out more about E-rate

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