

E-Rate Update for May 14, 2018 ACTEM Business Meeting

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E-Rate Updates

1. FY2018 Funding Waves

The first funding wave was issued on April 20. To date, there have been 5 funding waves.

Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) will be issued via email as a well-formatted PDF attachment and will also be available in your EPC profile. Currently, the email is only being sent to the Form 471 certifier, but USAC has announced that they will also include the form contact person at some point in the future. After every wave rolls out, I will continue to email a notice and instructions to every contact I have for each applicant in that wave.

2. Upcoming Forms and Deadlines

a. FY2018 Form 486

After you go through PIA review and receive a Funding Commitment Decision Letter, you will need to file a Form 486 to indicate the start of services and certify CIPA compliance. The Form 486 must be certified no later than 120 days after the service start date or 120 days after the date of the FCDL, whichever is later. Each funded FRN must be included on a Form 486 in order to receive E-Rate monies for it. Unless you want to do early installation for a project, I would recommend waiting until services actually start on July 1 to file this form.

b. FCC Form 498

If you have not filed a Form 498 for your organization, you will need to do so before you can receive any BEAR reimbursements via direct deposit.

If you have an approved 498ID that was sent to you after you both filed a Form 498 and the form was approved by USAC, you do not need to complete another Form 498. You will continue to use your existing 498ID when filing BEARs.

c. BEAR Forms

BEARs will continue to be filed in the existing BEAR applicant login area (not in EPC). Once you have received an FCDL, have filed a Form 486, and have paid the bill(s) associated with the BEAR request for reimbursement, you may file your BEARs as often as you desire (monthly, quarterly, once a year) up to your funding commitment dollar amount.

The deadline for FY2017 BEARs (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018) is October 28, 2018.

The deadline for FY2018 BEARs (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) is October 28, 2019.