ECF extension

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition, the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) and the American Library Association (ALA) submitted to FCC that requesting that it take the following actions:

- (1) extend the June 30, 2022, service delivery deadline;
- (2) open a third funding window in the spring of 2022 to distribute the program's remaining funds;
- (3) extend the gift rule to coincide with the extended service delivery deadline;
- (4) reconsider the record-keeping requirements with respect to library applicants; and
- (5) waive the cost allocation rule in the E-rate program, at least for the duration of the public health emergency.

EBB- ACP Transition

- EBB recipients fully enrolled as of December 31, 2021 will automatically continue to receive their current monthly benefit of \$50 until March 1, 2022.
- Most Emergency Broadband Benefit households will not have to take any action to continue receiving the new \$30 monthly benefit after March 1, 2022.
- If your out-of-pocket costs will increase as a result of the reduced monthly benefit amount, your service provider will contact you to let you know if you need to take any additional steps in order to continue to receive an Affordable Connectivity Program benefit.
- Households located on qualifying Tribal lands will continue to receive a \$75 monthly benefit and will not need to take any action to continue receiving the Affordable Connectivity Program benefit
- After the transition period ends on March 1, 2022, the monthly discount for all legacy EBB participants not located on qualifying Tribal lands will be reduced to \$30.
- Contact your provider If you are concerned about a possible increase in your monthly service bill or are interested in changing to a different service plan.

For more information on the transition, you may contact ACPinfo@fcc.gov.

ACP RESOURCES:

J	FCC Consumer Information page (<u>Link</u>)
J	Request a speaker for your local event (<u>Link</u>)
J	Apply at the Universal Service Administrative Company's website (Link)
J	Check on the Status of your application or any other application questions (Link)

FCC BIDDING PORTAL

Notice of Rule Making is out Comments are due on or before March 28, 2022, and reply comments are due on or before April 27, 2022. ALA, SHLB, and several organizations are filing their comments. Thanks to those who reached out and sent me your comments.

- Taking management of the bidding process away from local procurement officials...who are qualified experts.
- USAC's role would expand significantly to include management of the procurement of more than 44,500 contracts, causing significant delays. E-rate Reviewers do not have Procurement/Contracts expertise
- Forcing a national timeline for a local process which in many cases is dependent on local board and council meetings. Our State Master Contracts begin their process nearly a year before the expiration of the current
- Forcing applicants to consider non-responsive bids/robot responses
- Opening up the selection and evaluation of bids often a confidential process / Eliminating public bid openings
- Requiring a national, one-size-fits-all format for price proposals.
- Making applicants submit cost justifications for single-bid purchases.
- Stopping applicants from using their current bidding platforms, especially for State Master Procurements and Contracts.
- The above are anticipated problems for larger procurement systems but it is anticipated that the smaller applicants- one person Libraries/ tribal entities will have enormous burden trying to learn and battle with one more portal. It puts an enormous burden on the State Coordinators to help applicants through this process.