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E-rate & You

HELPING CLIENTS GET THE FUNDING THEY NEED –
HELPING STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL!

Universal Service Fund (Erate)

"Full access to telecommunications and information resources makes possible the rich teaching and learning that take place in schools and libraries. The universal service Schools and Libraries Program, commonly known as 'Erate', helps ensure that schools and libraries can obtain telecommunications and Internet access at affordable rates.

Eligible participants include public and most non-profit K-12 schools as well as public and some private libraries. All program participants must carry out a competitive bidding process to select the most cost-effective companies to provide the goods and/or services requested.

"Funding may be requested under two categories of service: **Category One** services include Data Transmission Services and Internet Access, and Voice Services.

"**Category Two** services include Internal Connections, Managed Internal Broadband Services, and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections.

Is your school/library getting the financial support it needs?

"Discounts for support depend on the category of service requested, the level of poverty and the urban/rural status of the appropriate school district. Discounts range from 20 percent to 90 percent of the costs of eligible services.

"Voice Services are subject to a phasedown of 20 percent each funding year until Funding Year (FY) 2019 when voice services will no longer be funded."

• Universal Service, 1997-2017. Schools and Libraries Division.



Confused?

We are Here to HELP!

As E-rate Consultants since 2006, we are able to help guide your school or library through this oftentimes complicated and confusing process. **Contact us TODAY!**

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Filing Your Form 486 Online And On Time!

"The FCC Form 486 Receipt of Service Confirmation and Children's Internet Protection Act and Technology Plan Certification Form is used by the Billed Entity who filed an FCC Form 471, Description of Services Ordered and Certification Form, on behalf of an eligible school, school district, library (outlet/branch, system), or a consortium of those entities. The FCC Form 486 informs USAC when the Billed Entity and/or the eligible entities that it represents is receiving, is scheduled to receive, or has received service in the relevant Funding Year from the named service provider(s). Receipt of a

properly completed Form 486 triggers the process for USAC to receive and process invoices.

"The FCC Form 486 must be filed to accomplish the following:

- To notify USAC of initial service start dates and authorize the payment of invoices from your service provider(s)
- To certify that entities are covered by approved technology plans if required by program rules
- To certify the status of compliance with the Children's Internet

Protection Act (CIPA)

File ONLINE in EPC!

"You may file a FCC Form 486 no earlier than the receipt of an FCDL from USAC.

"The completed FCC Form 486 – with certification – MUST be received by USAC, submitted online no later than 120 days after the Service Start Date featured on the FCC Form 486 or no later than 120 days after the date of your FCDL, whichever is later, in order to receive discounts retroactively to the Service Start Date."

- USAC, "FCC Form 486 Instructions", Dec 2016

Outsourcing Your E-rate

Is it right for you?

Is E-rate confusing? Do you find the process complicated and frustrating? It doesn't have to be!

- We specialize in the E-rate process – so you don't have to.
- We let educators do what they do best – teach!
- We develop strategies to help ensure that you get the maximum benefit from the program.
- We work with you and the SLD throughout the entire review process.
- Our fees are based on the amount of funding you receive/use.

**Contact Us
TODAY!**



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"Full access to telecommunications and information resources makes possible the rich teaching and learning that take place in schools and libraries. For these institutions to provide the high level of service necessary for their students and patrons, the costs can be great." (Universal Service SLD, 1997)