

E-Rate Glossary

Common Terms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
Bandwidth	Internet speed is measured in bandwidth, the capacity at which a network or Internet Service provider can transmit data.
Broadband	High-speed Internet
Broadband infrastructure improvement Grant (B.I.I.G.)	A grant managed by the SDE that awards state monies to LEAs to expand fiber broadband access to places where there is none.
Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR)	FCC Form 472; One of two invoicing methods (BEAR and SPI) that allows applicants to be reimbursed by E-rate.
Billed Entity Number (BEN)	The number used by E-rate to identify an LEA.
Category One Services	Services used to connect broadband or internet to eligible locations, or services that provide the basic conduit access to the internet. Data Transmission Services and Internet Access are Category One services.
Category Two Services	Internal connections services needed to enable high-speed broadband connectivity and broadband internal connections components. Category Two includes local area networks/ wireless local area networks (LAN/ wireless LAN), internal connections components, basic maintenance of internal connections components, and managed internal broadband services.
Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)	A law that mandates certain internet safety policy and filtering requirements for recipients of E-Rate program discounts for services other than telecommunications services.

Term	Definition
Data Transmission Services and/or internet Access	A Category One service type on the Eligible Services List. Includes broadband connectivity and basic conduit access to the internet. This does not include charges for content, equipment purchases, or other services beyond basic conduit access to the internet. This service type also covers lit or dark fiber and, in special circumstances, self-provisioning of dark fiber.
Eligible Entity	An entity that meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in the program.
Eligible Services	Products and services that are eligible for universal service support. Eligible services are compiled on the Eligible Services List (ESL). An FCC-released annual list of the products and services approved for funding by the FCC under the Schools and Libraries Program. USAC - Eligible Services List
Education Opportunity Resource Committee (EORC)	The committee that oversees the Broadband Reimbursement Program for schools and libraries and determines reimbursement methodologies. The committee meets at least three times a year, or more often if needed
Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)	A temporary program administered through E-rate included in the American Rescue Plan signed into law in Spring 2021.
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)	The U.S. government agency that regulates interstate and international communications and oversees the universal service fund.
Fiber	Hard wired broadband connection capable of delivery several Gigabits of speed.
Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL)	A letter that contains USAC's funding decisions on an applicant's funding requests.
Funding Request Number (FRN)	The line item on an E-rate Form 471 application that specifies the service or hardware being requested for funding.

Term	Definition
Gigabit Per Second (Gbps)	Sometimes abbreviated Gb/s or Gbit/s is a data transfer rate equivalent to one billion bits, or simple binary units, per second. 1 Gbps = 1,000 Megabits per second Mbps
Internet Service Provider (ISP)	A company that provides subscribers with access to the internet.
Local Education Agency (LEA)	A public school district, or charter school.
Megabit per second (Mbps)	A standard measurement of bandwidth speed. Sometimes abbreviated as Mbit/s.
Microwave	Wireless point-to-point broadband connection
Monthly Recurring Cost (MRC)	Any cost your incurred weekly, monthly, or annually.
Non-Recurring Cost (NRC)	An NRC may be an installation or setup fee.
Special Construction (SC)	A one-time cost that requires construction to implement fiber-based Internet connectivity.
Idaho State Board of Education (OSBE)	The Idaho State Board of Education makes policy for K-20 public education in Idaho, to create opportunity for lifelong attainment of high-quality education, research, and innovation.
Service Provider Invoicing (SPI)	FCC Form 474; One of two invoicing methods (BEAR and SPI) that allows ISPs to invoice both applicants and E-rate directly so that applicants are only billed for their remaining percentage.
Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)	An independent, not-for-profit corporation created by the FCC in 1997 to administer the four universal service programs (E-rate) which help provide communities across the country with access to affordable telecommunications services.

|| FCC Forms

Form Number/Name	Description
470 - Description of Services Requested Form	<p>The form for applicants to request services and/or hardware for ISPs to openly and fairly competitively bid for.</p> <p><i>Step 1 of the E-rate process</i></p>
471 - Description of Services Ordered Form	<p>The application to receive E-rate discounts for services and/or hardware that were competitively bid on via an FCC Form 470.</p> <p><i>Step 2 of the E-rate process</i></p>
472 - BEAR Reimbursement Form	<p>One of two invoicing methods (BEAR and SPI) that allows applicants to be reimbursed by E-rate.</p> <p><i>Step 4 of the E-rate process if LEA is billing E-rate.</i></p>
474 - SPI Reimbursement Form	<p>One of two invoicing methods (BEAR and SPI) that allows ISPs to invoice both applicants and E-rate directly so that applicants are only billed for their remaining percentage.</p> <p><i>Step 4 of the E-rate process if Service Provider is billing E-rate.</i></p>
486 - Receipt of Service Confirmation and Children's Internet Protection Act Certification Form	<p>An FCC form that schools and libraries file to inform USAC that services have begun, and of their CIPA compliance.</p> <p><i>Step 3 of the E-rate process</i></p>
498 - The Service Provider and Billed Entity Identification Number and General Contact Information Form	<p>Is issued to collect contact, remittance, and payment information from service providers and applicants receiving universal service support. Service providers must fill out this form to participate in any of the universal service programs. As of July 1, 2016, applicants who choose the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) payment method will need to file this form to receive an ID number (498 ID) for reimbursement payments.</p>
500 — Funding Commitment Adjustment Request Form	<p>Filed by schools and libraries to notify USAC of reductions to or cancellations of approved FRNs and/or changes to reported Service Start Dates or Contract Expiration Dates, to request a service delivery extension for non-recurring services, or to notify USAC of an allowable equipment transfer.</p>

More information can be found on the USAC website in their [Glossary of Terms](#).

For Questions Contact

Idaho State Board of Education

Daniel Vogt | E-Rate Coordinator: 208 332 6993

Jonathan Steele | Broadband Coordinator: 208 332 6992

208 332 6993 | boardofed.idaho.gov

broadband@sde.idaho.gov