E-Rate and Broadband Task Table

August 4, 2025



Annual E-Rate Cycle:

Step 1: Plan

Step 2: Form 470 (if applicable)

Step 3: Form 471 Funding Application

Step 4: Receive Funding Commitment, Form 486

Step 5: Invoice USAC (applicant or vendor)

Step 6: Documentation Retention (10 years)

Applies To School Year / E-Rate Funding Year:

1. 26-27 / 2026

2. 26-27 / 2026

3. Not available until January

4. 25-26 / 2025

5. 24-25 / 2024

6. All

FCC Form	470	Admin Window	471	486	472	500, or Service Substitution
Purpose	Solicit bids for service or hardware	Maintain current information	Apply For Funding	Enables Invoicing	E-Rate Invoicing	Report a change to a funded application
When	Procurement	Every Year				As needed
Months	July – January	November – December	January – March	Once service and/or hardware is officially delivered and in use.	Invoice E-Rate for reimbursement. Not applicable if service provider discounts line item.	500: Changes involving dates on application, deadlines, cancellations. Service Substitution: Change bandwidth or vendor/hardware.
Step	Step 2	Step 1	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	As needed