

#### ECF FCC Form 472 (BEAR) / FCC Form 474 (SPI) Request for Reimbursement Decisions for Batch X – ENTITY NAME

Thank you for participating in the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). Attached to this notification, you will find the statuses of the Request for Reimbursement(s) FCC Form(s) 472 (BEAR) or /474 (SPI) submitted by the applicant or service provider.

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is providing this information to both the applicant(s) and the service provider(s) so that all parties are aware of the status of the request for reimbursement and can work together to complete the next steps.

#### Next Steps

Payment will be provided via check or direct deposit from the U.S. Treasury to the bank account listed in SAM.gov. This process may take up to five business days. Applicants that requested reimbursement prior to paying their service provider are required to pay the service provider within 30 days of funds receipt. If line items on the accompanying excel document are marked as "Yes" in the "Requires proof of payment to service provider" column, the applicant must pay the service provider within 35 days of the date on this letter (timeframe includes 5 additional days for U.S. Treasury processing time) and must submit verification of their payments in the ECF Program Portal as soon as possible after paying their service providers. After 35 days from the date of this letter, USAC will reach out to collect verification of payment to the service provider with a verification reminder letter. Those that have already submitted verifications may ignore this reminder. Others that have not provided payment verifications in the ECF Portal. Verification may include processed checks, bank statements with redacted information, credit card statements, ACH statements, or money orders.

For more information, including how to appeal a decision, please see the attached letter. Please keep a copy of this notification for your records.

If you have questions or believe that you received this notification in error, please call the ECF Customer Support Center at (800) 234-9781 for further assistance. Do not reply to this email because it has been sent from an unmonitored email account.

Sincerely,

Universal Service Administrative Company

NOTE: Please do not reply to this email.

This message has been sent by the ECF Portal.

The information contained in this electronic communication and any attachments and links to websites are intended for the exclusive use of the addressee(s) and may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering this communication to the intended recipient, be advised you have received this communication in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing or copying is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies of this communication and any attachments.



# ECF Request for Reimbursement Decision Letter

Contact Information: CONTACT NAME CONTACT ADDRESS CONTACT EMAIL Reimbursement Decision Batch Number: XX

Total Approved Amount \$XXX

#### What is in this letter?

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has completed its review of one or more Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) FCC Forms 472 (BEAR) or FCC Forms 474 (SPI) related to the entity or service provider listed above. Based on the information provided, USAC has approved the request for reimbursement for the above-listed amount. See the accompanying spreadsheet for a detailed breakdown of this total.

## **Next Steps**

Payment will be provided via check or direct deposit from the U.S. Treasury to the bank account listed in SAM.gov. This process may take up to five business days.

Applicants that requested reimbursement prior to paying their service provider are required to pay the service provider within 30 days after receiving funds. If line items on the accompanying excel document are marked as "Yes" in the "Requires proof of payment to service provider" column, the applicant must pay the service provider within 35 days of the date on this letter (this time frame includes an additional 5 days for U.S. Treasury processing time) and must submit verification of their payments in the ECF Program Portal as soon as possible after paying their service providers. After 35 days from the date of this letter, USAC will reach out to collect verification of payment to the service provider with a verification reminder letter. Those that have already submitted all required payment verifications may ignore this reminder. Others that have not provided payment verifications will have 30 days from the verification reminder letter to submit payment verifications in the ECF Portal. Verification may include processed checks, bank statements with redacted information, credit card statements, ACH statements, or money orders.



#### Notice on Rules and Requirements

The receipt of financial support is contingent on compliance with all federal, statutory, regulatory, and procedural requirements of the ECF Program and the FCC's rules. This also includes the certifications under penalty of perjury contained in the funding application(s) and request for reimbursement(s). Funding recipients are subject to audits and other reviews that the Commission and other appropriate authorities may undertake to ensure that committed funds are being used in accordance with such requirements and for their intended purpose. Please see paragraphs 116-134 of the Commission's *Emergency Connectivity Fund Report and Order* for more information regarding the Program's documentation, certification, and audit requirements.

As referenced in paragraph 101 of the *Emergency Connectivity Fund Report and Order,* attached to this letter is the full text of Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 170, which provides additional information about the reporting requirements for reporting executive compensation (through <u>https://www.sam.gov</u>) and subaward activity (through <u>http://www.fsrs.gov</u>) under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 as amended by the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (collectively the Transparency Act or FFATA/DATA Act) for award and subaward payments that equal or exceed \$30,000.

On behalf of the FCC, USAC may be required to reduce or cancel funding commitments that were not issued in accordance with these requirements, whether due to action or inaction of USAC, the applicant, or the service provider. The Commission and other appropriate authorities may pursue enforcement actions and other means of recourse to collect improperly disbursed funds.

**Note:** If at any time, the requested services are not initiated or provided to the applicant, or the applicant has otherwise stopped receiving the approved services, the applicant or service provider must notify USAC immediately so that the funding commitment is properly adjusted.

### How to Appeal or Request a Waiver of a Decision

You can appeal or request a waiver of a decision in this letter **within 30 calendar days** of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this deadline will result in an automatic dismissal of your appeal or waiver request. **Please note that this is shorter than the deadline for submitting appeals and requests for waiver in the E-Rate Program.** 

**Note:** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will not accept appeals of ECF Program decisions that have not first been appealed to USAC. However, if you are seeking a waiver of ECF Program rules, you must submit your request to the FCC and not to USAC. USAC is not able to waive the ECF Program rules.

- To submit your appeal to USAC, visit the Appeals section in the <u>ECF Portal</u> and provide the required information. USAC will reply to your appeal submissions to confirm receipt. Visit the ECF Program's <u>website</u> for additional information on submitting an appeal to USAC, including step-by-step instructions.
- To request a waiver of the FCC's rules, please submit it to the FCC in proceeding number WC Docket No. 21-93 using the <u>Electronic Comment Filing System</u> (ECFS). Include your contact information, a statement that your filing is a waiver request, identifying information, the FCC rule(s) for



which you are seeking a waiver, a full description of the relevant facts that you believe support your waiver request and any related relief, and any supporting documentation.

For all appeals and waivers, be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal or waiver document, including any correspondence and documentation, and provide a copy to the affected applicant or service provider(s).