



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Office of Native Affairs and Policy

From: Native <Native@fcc.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 5, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Native-FederalOfficials <native-federalofficials@info.fcc.gov>
Subject: FCC Virtual Tribal Library E-Rate Consultation and Listening Session (May 19, 2023)

Dear Tribal Representative:

On behalf of Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, you are cordially invited by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to an upcoming consultation and listening session regarding the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to address Tribal schools' and libraries' barriers to participation in the E-Rate Program. The NPRM is available online at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-10A1.pdf>. This meeting will be held virtually.

Registration: All attendees must register. To register, please send an email message to tribal.events@fcc.gov by Wednesday, May 17, 2023. Please include the names and titles of anyone attending and include the Tribal affiliation. The FCC has also invited leaders from all 574 federally recognized Tribes to participate in the consultation. Tribal library, school, and information technology (IT) representatives are also welcome to attend and may participate during the listening session portion of the event. You may also send any questions to tribal.events@fcc.gov, as this email address is monitored by the FCC's Office of Native Affairs and Policy.

Date: Friday, May 19, 2023

Time: 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. EDT

Host: FCC Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Office of Native Affairs and Policy

Location: Virtual (Link provided upon registration)

Summary: The FCC's Schools and Libraries Program, commonly known as the E-Rate Program, provides support for eligible schools and libraries to access Internet service, internal connections (e.g., Wi-Fi network equipment, routers, cabling), basic maintenance of internal connections, and managed internal broadband service (e.g., managed Wi-Fi).

On February 16, 2023, the FCC adopted an NPRM seeking comment on steps the FCC can take to address barriers and encourage greater participation by Tribal schools and libraries in the E-Rate Program, including proposals to simplify the E-Rate forms and cost allocation requirements, to enhance E-Rate support for Internet connections to schools and libraries, and to allow Tribal college libraries that also serve as the community's public library to be eligible for support.

The deadline to submit comments is **Tuesday, May 23, 2023**. Written comments can be submitted to TribalE-RateNPRM@fcc.gov or in the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard>. Please include CC Docket Nos. 02-6, 96-45, and 97-21 in your written responses regarding this NPRM.

Included with this letter is the Framing Paper that provides additional information about the NPRM, and the questions that we kindly request that you consider. You can also find further information about FCC's Tribal libraries initiatives and how to participate in the E-Rate Program at <https://www.fcc.gov/tribal-libraries> and <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/>.

We hope that you will be able to participate in this important discussion and we value your time and participation. If you have questions regarding this consultation and listening session, you can also contact Bambi.Kraus@fcc.gov.

Sincerely,

Alejandro Roark
Bureau Chief
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

Bambi Kraus
Chief, Office of Native Affairs and Policy
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau