Dear Tribal Leader,

We write you today to highlight two of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) broadband funding opportunities – the E-Rate program for schools and libraries and the new Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for low-income households. These programs may support your efforts to connect Tribal communities and households to broadband services.

E-Rate Program Update for Tribal Libraries and Pilot Program

Each year, the E-Rate program provides eligible schools and libraries with discounts of up to 90 percent of the costs for broadband services, connections, equipment, and maintenance. Recognizing the vital role Tribal libraries play in providing free, public Internet access on Tribal lands, the FCC is committed to increasing Tribal library access to affordable broadband services through the E-Rate program. To accomplish this, the FCC updated its rules earlier this year to make it easier for Tribal libraries to apply for and receive E-Rate support. But we understand there are still many Tribal libraries that do not know about the E-Rate program. That's why, as we approach a new E-Rate funding cycle, the FCC is promoting this broadband funding opportunity in support of Tribal libraries.

We are especially excited to let you know about a pilot program we're launching with our E-Rate fund administrator, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), to provide one-on-one technical assistance for Tribal libraries through all phases of the E-Rate application and reimbursement process. At this time, we are hoping to include at least 20 Tribal libraries in the pilot program. If your Tribal library would like to participate, please begin the application process at **https://tinyurl.com/tribalpilot**. Applications for the E-Rate Tribal Libraries Pilot Program are due by Friday, November 18, 2022. To learn more about the pilot program, please join us for a virtual Interest Meeting that will be held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. ET. Please register by emailing TribalTraining@usac.org. If you have questions about E-Rate or the pilot program, please contact us at native@fcc.gov or visit www.fcc.gov/tribal-libraries.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

Another FCC initiative that provides opportunities for broadband Internet service support in Tribal communities is the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). This program provides discounts of up to $75 per month toward Internet service for eligible households on qualifying Tribal lands and a one-time discount of up to $100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased from a participating provider. The program also provides discounts of up to $30 per month toward Internet service for eligible residents on non-Tribal lands. You can learn more by visiting www.fcc.gov/acp.

In this packet, you will find helpful materials for applying for the E-Rate program and the Affordable Connectivity Program. We ask you to help us by sharing these materials with Tribal libraries and qualifying Tribal households that may be interested in applying for these programs. Together, we can work to ensure that households, schools, and libraries in Tribal communities can afford the broadband services they need for work, school, healthcare, and more. FCC staff will also be in attendance at several upcoming tribal conferences and are available to provide additional information.

The FCC values our government-to-government relationship and welcomes any input on how it can improve and increase Tribal participation in these two programs. If you have any questions or feedback about the programs and our outreach efforts, please contact our Office of Native Affairs and Policy at native@fcc.gov.

Sincerely,

Trent Harkrader   Alejandro Roark
Bureau Chief   Bureau Chief
Wireline Competition Bureau   Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Federal Communications Commission   Federal Communications Commission

List of Documents Included:

E-Rate Program

- **Attachment 1 –** E-Rate Program One-Page Overview for Tribal Libraries
- **Attachment 2 –** E-Rate Checklist for New Libraries
- **Attachment 3** – Pilot Program Brochure

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

- **Attachment 4** – Tribal ACP Flyer
- **Attachment 5** – ACP Tribal Consumer Handout