The FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) is a $7.17 billion program that will help eligible schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period. The Emergency Connectivity Fund will help provide relief to millions of students, school staff, and library patrons and will help close the Homework Gap for students who currently lack necessary Internet access or the devices they need to connect to classrooms.

Here are some important things to know about the Emergency Connectivity Fund:

**What Is the Emergency Connectivity Fund?**

- The Emergency Connectivity Fund is a $7.17 billion program to help schools and libraries support remote learning. The program will provide funding to schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and services for off campus use by students, teachers, and library patrons who lack connected devices such as WiFi hotspots, laptop or tablet computers and/or lack broadband access during the pandemic.
- The Emergency Connectivity Fund was created by the American Rescue Plan Act.

**Who Is Eligible to Receive Funds Through Emergency Connectivity Fund Program?**

- Schools, libraries, and consortia of eligible schools and libraries (e.g., regional or statewide groups of schools or libraries that apply together) that are eligible for support under the [FCC's E-Rate program](https://www.fcc.gov/), are eligible to request and receive support through the Emergency Connectivity Fund program. Tens of thousands of schools and libraries across the country receive support for their on-campus broadband connectivity needs through the [E-Rate program](https://www.fcc.gov/).
- Tribal libraries eligible for support under the Library Services and Technology Act are also eligible for support under the program.
- Schools and libraries eligible for program support do not need to be current E-Rate participants. Eligible entities that have not applied for E-Rate support should be prepared to demonstrate eligibility as a school or library under the program rules during USAC’s application review.

**What Equipment and Services Are Covered by the Emergency Connectivity Fund?**

- The following types of equipment purchased for off-campus use by students, school staff, and library patrons who would otherwise lack sufficient connectivity to engage in remote learning are eligible for support:
  - Laptop and tablet computers
  - Wi-Fi hotspots
  - Modems (including air cards)
  - Routers
  - Devices that combine a modem and router.
- Schools and libraries can also receive funding for commercially available broadband Internet access service that provides a fixed or mobile broadband connection for off-campus use by students, school staff, or library patrons who would otherwise lack access to connectivity sufficient to engage in remote learning.

In limited circumstances where a school or library can demonstrate that there are no available service options sufficient to support remote learning for its students, school staff, or library patrons, the ECF Program may support the construction of new networks and the equipment needed to receive datacasting services.

**What Are the Reasonable Support Amounts for Eligible Equipment and Services?**

- The program will reimburse eligible schools and libraries a maximum of $400 for each laptop or tablet, and a maximum of $250 for Wi-Fi hotspots.
  - Schools and libraries may buy more expensive laptops, tablets, or Wi-Fi-hotspots, but they can only be reimbursed up to $400/$250.
- For other eligible equipment and services, USAC will review costs to ensure they are reasonable.

**Can a Student Receive Emergency Connectivity Fund Support and Receive Emergency Broadband Benefit/Affordable Connectivity Program Support at the Same Time?**

- No, the ECF will not reimburse for equipment and/or services that are paid for by another federal pandemic relief program.
  - But a student could receive broadband access service through the [Emergency Broadband Benefit](https://www.fcc.gov/emergency) or [Affordable Connectivity Program](https://www.fcc.gov/affordableconnectivityprogram) and a connected device through the Emergency Connectivity Fund.

**Where Can an Interested School or Library Apply or Find Out More Information about the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program?**

- A third ECF application filing window will open on April 28, 2022 and close on May 13, 2022. During this third application filing window, eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of eligible schools and libraries can submit requests for funding to purchase eligible equipment and up to 12 months of services between July 1, 2022 and December 31, 2023.
- To learn more, please visit: [www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org](http://www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org).
- Contact the Emergency Connectivity Fund Customer Support Center (CSC) at (800) 234-9781 with questions about the Program.
- [Sign up for emails](https://www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org/) to stay informed about the Emergency Connectivity Fund, including announcements about future funding windows and invitations for future training sessions.

**Highlights From the First and Second Application Filing Windows**

- The FCC and USAC have opened and closed two application filing windows where eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of eligible schools and libraries, could submit requests for
funding to purchase eligible equipment and services purchased and received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

- Applicants requested over $6.4 billion to fund nearly 11.5 million connected devices and nearly 6 million broadband connections.
- Applications came in from all 50 states, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia.
- The FCC and USAC are reviewing applications and issuing funding commitment decisions on a rolling basis. Current information on commitments is available at https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/ecf-current-funding-commitments.xlsx. You can also view demand by state: https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/ecf-state-demand/.

Detailed information on the status of Emergency Connectivity Fund applications is available in the Open Data Platform, including applicant details, requested funds, individual product or service details, and funding commitment information.