

## Telecommunications Services

### Eligibility Requirements for All Telecommunications Services:

To be eligible for support, Telecommunications Services must be provided by a telecommunications carrier, that is, one who offers telecommunications on a common carriage basis.

A telecommunications service is "the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public..." [47 U.S.C. 153(46)]. Telecommunications is defined as "the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received" [47 U.S.C. 153(43)].

All telecommunications carriers are required under FCC rules to be common carriers and to file FCC Form 499A (*Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet*).

Except as otherwise indicated in this section, support in this funding category is only available for telecommunications services or for services that are an integral component part of a telecommunications service. Support in this category of service is not available for equipment purchases by applicants.

In addition, some service offerings provide a combination of both Internet Access and Telecommunications Services. For example, a service provider may offer local phone service, long distance service, cellular service, and Internet access for one price. For administrative convenience, such a combined offering, if provided by an eligible telecommunications carrier, may be requested in the Telecommunications Services category of service. Alternatively, funding may be requested as two separate requests, with the price of the offering appropriately allocated between the Telecommunications Services and Internet Access categories.

If Internet access is being requested in the Telecommunications Services category, applicants must indicate that Internet access is being sought when filing FCC Form 470. Please note that funding of Internet access in the Telecommunications Services category does not relieve applicants of responsibilities they may have under the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Function	Description
Digital Transmission Services	A telecommunications service that provides transmission from an eligible school or library facility to other locations beyond the school or library is eligible for discount. Digital transmission services refer to data links that connect multiple points using any available technology. An eligible digital transmission service may be used to connect an eligible location to the Internet or <a href="#">Internet2</a> . Digital transmission services used to link

	<p>local networks are commonly called “wide area networks” (WANs).</p> <p>Eligible digital transmission technologies include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">DS-1</a>, DS-2, DS-3</li> <li>• <a href="#">Fiber optics</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Frame Relay</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN, BRI, PRI)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">OC-1</a>, OC-3, OC-12, OC-n</li> <li>• <a href="#">Satellite service</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Switched Multimegabit Data Service (SMDS)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">T-1</a>, T-2, T-3, Fractional T-1</li> <li>• Wireless</li> </ul> <p>Components required as an integral part of a digital transmission service are eligible for discount, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• costs of a <a href="#">permanent virtual circuit (PVC)</a></li> <li>• costs of <a href="#">trunk lines</a></li> <li>• reasonable installation costs</li> </ul> <p>The telecommunications component of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a <a href="#">distance learning</a> capability,</li> <li>• <a href="#">video service</a>, or</li> <li>• <a href="#">interactive television</a> is eligible for discount.</li> </ul>
Paging	<p><a href="#">Paging services</a> are eligible when integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students. Services occurring at eligible locations are presumed to meet this standard, as well as, for example, paging services used by a bus driver delivering students to school, a library staff member in a mobile van, and teachers on field trips.</p>
Telephone Service	<p>“Telephone Service” refers to communication that takes place using the public switched telephone network. Costs to subscribe to a telephone service are generally eligible for discount. Examples of telephone services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">800 service</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Centrex</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Local phone service</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Long distance telephone service</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">POTS</a> (“Plain Old Telephone Service”)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Radio loop</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Wireless telephone services</a>, e.g., <a href="#">cellular service</a> and Personal Communications Services (PCS)</li> <li>• Shared telephone service (only that portion of the shared service relating to the eligible use and location is eligible)</li> <li>• Telecommunications services and voice mail services</li> </ul>

	<p>used to provide a homework hotline service are eligible. For example, a toll-free telephone number for students to contact school regarding questions about homework</p> <p>Various payment options may be used with these eligible services, and phone bills may include billing terms such as <a href="#">flat rate</a>, <a href="#">local measured service</a>, and <a href="#">message rate service</a>. <a href="#">Phone calling cards</a> may be used if they are used for an educational purpose.</p> <p>Service to an eligible location for educational or library purposes can provide voice communication, fax connections, modem connections, <a href="#">911/E911 trunks/lines</a> or an <a href="#">alarm telephone line</a>.</p>
<p>Telephone Service Components</p>	<p>Telephone features indicated in this section are eligible for discount if they are a component part of a telephone service. Generally, this requirement means that these charges will appear on the same bill as the telephone service itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">900/976 call blocking</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Custom calling services</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Direct Inward Dialing (DID)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Directory assistance charges</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Inside wire maintenance plan</a>. An inside wire maintenance plan is eligible as a component part of a telephone service only if charges are minimal.</li> <li>• Installation charges—see the entry for “<a href="#">Installation and Configuration</a>” in the Miscellaneous section</li> <li>• <a href="#">Network access register</a> charges</li> <li>• <a href="#">PIC change charge</a></li> </ul>
<p>Other Eligible Telecommunications Services</p>	<p>The telecommunications component of voice or video <a href="#">conferencing services</a> that provide a means for multiple users to participate in group discussions can be eligible if the services are limited only to eligible educational or library purposes or if an auditable monitoring system is in place that provides a way to allocate between eligible and ineligible uses.</p> <p>Maintenance and technical support appropriate to maintain reliable operation is eligible for discount when provided as a component of an eligible telecommunications service.</p> <p>Please see the <a href="#">Miscellaneous</a> section of this document for additional entries applicable to Telecommunications Services, such as charges for installation and configuration.</p>
<p>Ineligible for E-rate Funding as Telecommunications Services (<i>Not Eligible</i>)</p>	<p>The following services are <b>NOT ELIGIBLE</b> for discount:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">900 /976 charges</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Dark fiber</a> service</li> <li>• <a href="#">Direct Broadcast Satellite</a> and other services that provide broadcast content or cable television</li> <li>• <a href="#">Directory advertising</a></li> <li>• Extra costs for directory listings</li> </ul>

- [Payphone telephone service](#)
- [Reverse directory assistance](#)
- [Non-telecommunications components](#) of a distance learning service, video service, or interactive television service, such as a scheduling service or services for creation, maintenance, and storage of content
- [Internet2](#) membership dues
- [Residential telephone service](#) is not eligible except in cases where state or local law or tariffs allow a school or library to receive local service at the residential rates
- Charges for creation, configuration, or maintenance of content
- Services that go beyond a telecommunications service, such as monitoring services for 911, E911, or an alarm telephone line
- Services that connect to a residential facility or home
- Services that provide voice, video, or data connectivity exclusively within school or library grounds are not eligible for funding as Telecommunications Services but may be eligible as Internal Connections
- Services to ineligible locations, such as telephone service to residential facilities

Please see the [Miscellaneous](#) section of this document for additional entries applicable to Telecommunications Services. For example, finance charges and termination charges are not eligible.