

CES PROCUREMENT PARTNER NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022



VENDOR HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:

Please make sure your Bluebook profile is updated at all times with the following, if not currently on file.

1. LOGO: For ease of identification of your company.
2. NAME CHANGE: If you have changed your name or ownership, please contact CES Procurement Department as soon as you can, there are documents CES needs in order to update your contract and Bluebook profile.
3. CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE: CES and its members need your insurance updated yearly.
4. PRICING: Please update pricing as needed. If pricing does not match a quote, you will be contacted by a Purchasing Specialist and your quote, and member PO, will be placed on hold.

4. W-9: If you have recently updated your company information, please let CES know as well.

5. This video can help you to navigate eProcurement as you produce updates:
<https://youtu.be/it6MLyjclto>

For questions and general assistance, please contact Lisa Romo, Procurement Department, at 505-344-5470 ext. 116.

CES FACILITY MANAGERS CONFERENCE

We had a great turnout at the CES Facility Managers Conference, and we enjoyed seeing and spending some time with you all. Every year this conference gets bigger and better because of your participation. "Thank You". We look forward to seeing you again next year!



Upcoming RFPs

RFP #	RFP Description	Proc Mgr.	Release	Pre-prop	Due	Evaluations	Exp.
2023-02	Indoor and Outdoor Athletic, Recreational + Auditorium Lighting Systems - Rigging, Fixtures, Equipment, Install, Maint., and Repair (combining RFPs 19-014 & 19-015)	JT	1/16/23	1/19/23 (2:00 pm)	2/17/23	2/21 – 3/2	3/8/23
2023-11	Indoor / Outdoor Scoreboards, Marquees, Message Boards, Street and Building Signage	JV	1/16/23	1/19/23 (2:00 pm)	2/17/23	2/21 – 3/2	3/8/23
2023-12	Solar Power Consulting, Design, Engineering, Installation and Related	GR	1/16/23	1/19/23 (2:00 pm)	2/17/23	2/21 – 3/2	3/8/23

E-Rate News

Funding Status for E-Rate and Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

E-Rate for FY 2022:

Wave 27 for FY 2022 was issued on Thursday, October 20th, for \$42.4 million including \$1.31 million for two New Mexico applicants. Cumulative commitments to date are \$2.61 billion including \$31.7 million for New Mexico. Nationwide, USAC has funded 96.4% of the FY 2022 applications representing 86.1% of the requested funding.

FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) for 2021-2023:

Wave 24 for Windows 1 and 2 and Wave 10 for Window 3 were released on Wednesday, October 19th, for a total of \$77.5 million of which \$77.4 million was for Window 3 applicants. Funding in last week's waves included \$8.19 million for four New Mexico applicants. Total commitments for all three ECF windows are \$6.08 billion including \$71.2 million for New Mexico. Nationwide, USAC has funded 96.4% of the applications from ECF Windows 1 & 2 and 38.0% of applications from ECF Window 3. Total disbursements as of last Friday remain at \$1.96 billion.

Updates and Reminders

Upcoming Dates:

October 25 Continuation of USAC's fall virtual E-rate training program (see registration information on USAC's Webinars page at <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/learn/webinars/>).

Category 2 Budgets October 25

EPC Administrative Window October 27

Post-Commitment Process November 3

Eligible Services TBA

October 25 EPC administrative window opens to allow E-rate entity updates (see News Brief below).

October 28 Invoice deadline for FY 2021 recurring service FRNs and/or the deadline for requesting a one-time 120-day extension to February 27, 2023.

October 31 The first Form 486 deadline for FY 2022 Waves 1-11, committed before July 1, 2022.

E-Rate Pilot Program for Tribal Libraries:

The FCC announced a pilot program aimed at helping Tribal libraries apply for E-rate funding during the upcoming FY 2023 funding cycle. The



new program, staffed by USAC, will supply one-on-one help in all aspects of preparing, applying, and receiving E-rate support. For more information, see Tribal Libraries E-Rate Pilot Program.

Tribal libraries may also want to explore the \$2 billion in broadband connectivity funding available through the NTIA under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments portion of the Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program ("BEAD").

USAC E-Rate News Brief Dated October 20 – Administrative Window and Other Topics

USAC's E-Rate News Brief of October 20, 2022, provides the following tips for applicants needing to update their EPC entity data in preparation for the FY 2023 application window. The "administrative window" for making these changes opens Tuesday, October 25th, and will close shortly before the Form 471 window opens in mid-January.

- Update student enrollment and NSLP data (including Category 2 student counts).
- Add new entities if needed.
- Submit any FY 2022 RAL modifications or appeals before updating EPC profiles.
- Small school districts (ten or fewer schools) should consider reporting student counts for Category 2 budget purposes on a school-by-school basis.
- Charter schools associated with a public school district and planning to apply using their own Category 2 budget will need to show financial and administrative independence.
- Independent schools with only part-time students can count those students as full-time.
- Only five school types may be shown as having zero students but still count as a part of a Category 2 budget calculation.
- Library branches showing zero square footage will not count as a part of a Category 2 budget calculation.

SECA/SHLB/CoSN Respond to DOJ Bidding Portal Comments

Last August, the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice ("DOJ") filed a letter with the FCC in strong support of a mandatory E-rate national bidding portal. The E-rate applicant community has been deeply concerned with the FCC's bidding portal proposal (see FCC 21-124 and our newsletter of January 31st) considering it unnecessary and fearing that it would unduly complicate the E-rate competitive bidding process and would conflict with many state procurement rules. Earlier this month, three major stakeholder organizations — the State E-Rate Coordinators' Alliance ("SECA"), the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband ("SHLB") Coalition, and the Consortium for School Networking ("CoSN") — filed an extensive response to the DOJ letter. The response stressed the following points:

1. The DOJ's claim that E-rate applicants and service providers simply self-certify compliance with bidding requirements does not acknowledge the frequent, extensive pre-funding and post-commitment auditing of underlying bidding documentation to confirm the veracity of these certifications.
2. A data analytics program, cited as a missing element in USAC's review of bidding practices, will be addressed because of a recent USAC contract to develop a fraud risk framework and conduct a fraud risk assessment of the E-rate program.
3. Representations that a bidding portal will best preserve source documents and preclude falsification of bidding documents ignores the reality that false bidding documents could be submitted — or that improper bidding practices can be conducted outside the portal prior to the submission of bid documents.
4. Strictly limiting communications between consultants, applicants and service providers will adversely affect the quality of the bids received by, for example, prohibiting bidders' conferences and site visits. More importantly, many state and local regulations prescribe the manner and procedure for submitting bids and are at odds with a national E-rate bid portal.

The SECA/SHLB/CoSN response concluded that "there are numerous compelling reasons to



conclude the portal is not in the public interest and should not be adopted. There has been no evidence or rationale offered to justify such a seismic change in the competitive bidding process that has been effective during the past 25 years to enable the nation's students and library patrons to benefit from faster internet at lower prices."

EducationSuperHighway ("ESH") No-Home-Left-Offline Initiative and FCC Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Pilot Programs

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

Who Is Eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program?

A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

1. Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
2. Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income internet program;
3. Participates in one of these assistance programs:
4. Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision schools.
5. SNAP
6. Medicaid

7. Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8 Vouchers)
8. Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)/202/811
9. Public Housing
10. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
11. WIC
12. Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits
13. or Lifeline;
14. Participates in one of these assistance programs and lives on Qualifying Tribal lands:
15. Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
16. Tribal TANF
17. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
18. Tribal Head Start (income based)
19. Affordable Housing Programs for American Indians, Alaska Natives or Native Hawaiians
- 20.

Two Steps to Enroll

Apply Now

1. Go to AffordableConnectivity.gov to apply or print out a mail-in application.
2. Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

EducationSuperHighway ("ESH") began a major push last week to encourage local and state organizations — including schools and school districts — to help promote the use of ACP discounts to supply free (or greatly reduced-priced) home internet service for low-income households. The ESH report, entitled "No Home Left Offline," calculates that 51.6 million homes are ACP eligible, but that only 25% have subscribed. Perhaps worse, from a broadband policy perspective, most of the participating households already had internet service. ESH estimates that 17.7 million ACP-eligible households are currently



unconnected. If we are ever going to solve the Homework Gap, these homes must be brought online.

ESH also provides an ACP Enrollment Dashboard that shows current ACP usage by state (% in New Mexico) and highlights those states (including New Mexico) whose governors have made ACP adoption a priority.

Consistent with the goal of promoting ACP adoption, the FCC released a public notice last week (DA 22-1076) providing more information on two pilot programs it will be funding. These pilot programs will give neutral third-party entities (such as schools, school districts, or other local or state governmental entities) access to the centralized National Verifier system for purposes of aiding customers with ACP

applications. Funding for these pilot programs is budgeted at \$100 million for up to 40 participants. Details on the application process should be released next month.

E-Rate Central encourages larger school districts, particularly those with a high proportion of unconnected households, to consider applying for participation in the "ACP Navigator Pilot Program." This pilot is specifically targeted for "[p]ublic and government entities, such as public schools and public-school districts, and local, state, or Tribal government entities." Schools already supplying ECF-funded internet to low-income families might consider proposing transitional programs to facilitate household ACP adoption as ECF funding runs out.

Information from the CES' Business Department

CONSTRUCTION Procurement Partners:
This information is repeated from the August edition of the Newsletter, as it is deemed relevant for the many new contracts being awarded in December.

A new uploading portal has been created for construction related documents; bonds, Wage Decision, documents, etc., that CES needs to process payments. This new process will allow you to upload documents directly into CES' files. No more having to send documents multiple times and/or emails not

coming through, CES staff will now have only one place to look for your documents. Instructions on how to access CES' system for uploading follow. If you need help with uploading, CES staff are available to assist you. We have you will appreciate the increased efficiency of this upload portal. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed. Call us at 505.344.5470.



Welcome to ImageSilo®

Entity ID
10571

User Name
CVENDOR *Enter user name*

Password
..... *Auto populates*

Source IP
216.207.130.146

Language
English

Multi-Factor Authentication Code
Multi-Factor Authentication Code

Use Multi-Factor Authentication

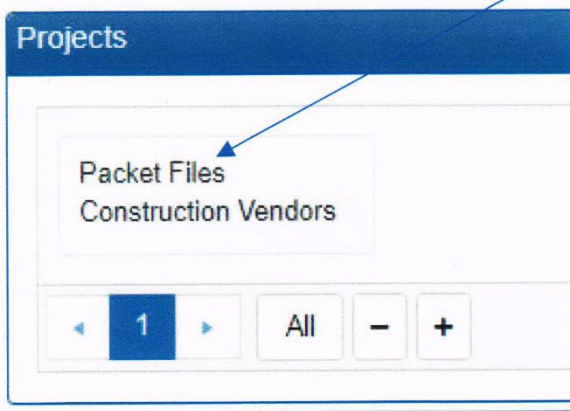
Login

[Forgot your password?](#)

Once you log in you will see this screen



Hover your cursor over the Packet Files Construction Vendors and click on the cloud icon (upload)



You will see this screen * all fields are required

Upload Documents: Packet Files Construction Vendors

Document Index Fields

CES PO #

00 Type

Vendor Name

Uploaded By/Name

Files

Select File...

Save Clear All Fields Cancel

Step 1 – Enter the **CES PO#**, it is important that you get this correct or the document will not be filed correctly.

Step 2 – Choose the type of document that you are uploading from the drop-down list.

Step 3 – Choose your company name from the drop-down list.

Step 4 – Add the name of the person uploading the document.

Step 5 – Use the select file button or simply move your PDF document into the gray box.

Step 6 – Click the save button

Here is an example of a completed form

Upload Documents: Packet Files Construction Vendors

Document Index Fields

CES PO #

2022-2963

00 Type

1 Performance/Payment Bond

Vendor Name

Farmington Construction Inc

Uploaded By/Name

Sue Smith

Files

Select File... Done

BOND.pdf
143.91 KB

Save Clear All Fields Cancel



WAGE Decision reminders about supporting documentations: When CES requests the Wage Decision, we can only complete the NOA, To do this we need to know the estimated start and end date of the project. Once the NOA is submitted, the rest is up to you. You, the contractor must complete the subcontractor list, complete and submit the Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages (SOI), and at the end of the project submit the Affidavit of Wages Paid, (AWP). Please upload copies of these documents to CES using the uploading portal. Bonds need to be uploaded before the first payment can be made. The other documents are needed as the project progresses.

When the Owner requests the Wage Decision, the only documents CES needs are the bonds. All Wage Decision documents, and their submission are the responsibility of you, the contractor, and the Owner.

Subcontractor bonds are required when the sub-contractor does \$125,000 or more work for your project. Statute requires that as the contractor, you get payment and performance bonds from your sub-contractor. It is your responsibility to get these bonds. CES will no longer require you to submit sub-contractor bonds to process payments.

As always, CES is here to assist you. Please let us know what we can do to better serve you.





Other CES Contact List and Information

Purchasing Specialist Contact Information for Purchase Orders, Direct Purchase and Member Support

Team 1 Members A through D	Margaret and Rhonda-Team1@ces.org Margaret@ces.org Ext. 126 Rhonda@ces.org Ext. 106
Team 2 Members E through K	Patricia and Michael-Team2@ces.org Patricia@ces.org Ext. 147 Michael@ces.org Ext. 131
Team 3 Members L through P	Monica and Kara-Team3@ces.org Monica@ces.org Ext. 134 Kara@ces.org Ext. 125
Team 4 Members Q through Z	Bryan and Gino-Team4@ces.org Bryan@ces.org Ext. 110 Gino@ces.org Ext. 137
EANs and ARP Non-Public School Support	Bertha and Jason Bertha@ces.org Ext. 123 Jason@ces.org Ext. 125
Submit Invoices	Invoice@ces.org
Construction Documents Link	https://login.imagesilo.com/home/login

Construction Collections / Accounts Receivable & Accounts Payable Specialist

Collections/Accounts Receivable	Bridget Bridget@ces.org Ext. 122
Accounts Payable	Kelly Kelly@ces.org Ext. 135

Payroll Specialist

Payroll	Kelley and Tanya Kscheib@ces.org Ext. 107 Tanya@ces.org Ext. 144
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Business Department Administration

Executive Deputy Director	Robin Strauser Robin@ces.org Ext. 108
Finance Manager	Anthony Montañó Anthony@ces.org Ext. 128
Administrative Assistant	Vacant





Other CES Contact List and Information

Website: www.ces.org

Office: 505.344.5470

Fax: 505.344.9343

Procurement Department

Procurement Manager	Gustavo Rossell Gustavo@ces.org Ext. 117
Administrative Assistant	Lisa Romo Lisa@ces.org Ext. 116
Contract Specialist	John Tortelli Johnt@ces.org Ext. 129
Contract Specialist	Joe Valencia Joe@ces.org Ext. 124
Blue Book	https://eprocurement.ces.org/public/bluebook.html

Member Services

Northern Services Manager, REAP Services	Paul Benoit Paul@ces.org Ext. 141 Portales Office Phone: 575.562.2922 Cell: 575.760.9002
Southern Services Manager	Jim Barentine Jim@ces.org Ext. 140 Las Cruces Office Phone: 575.646.5965 Cell: 602.689.0652

