Emergency Connectivity Fund

Eric Ogden

Emergency Connectivity Fund

What is the Emergency Connectivity Fund?

$7.17B set aside by the federal government for schools and libraries to help with distance learning for this fiscal year.

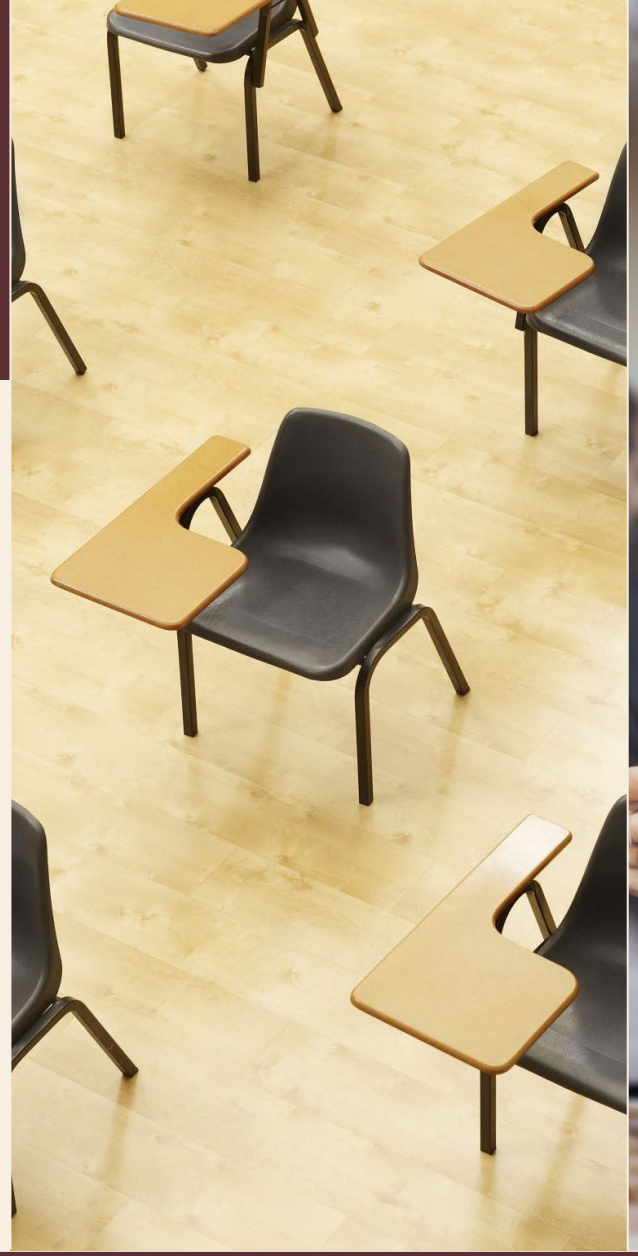
These funds are earmarked for laptops and tablets (up to $400), WiFi hot spots (up to $250) and modems, routers and broadband connections.

For Students, school staff and library patrons.

Emergency Connectivity Fund

What is the purpose of the Emergency Connectivity Fund?

To fund unmet needs of students and staff that would otherwise lack access to connected devices and/or broadband services sufficient to engage in distance learning.



Emergency Connectivity Fund

Who can receive ECF Funds?

K-12 Public Schools and Libraries

Charter Schools

Private Schools – Non-Profit, with endowments of less than $50M

Emergency Connectivity Fund

When are these funds available?

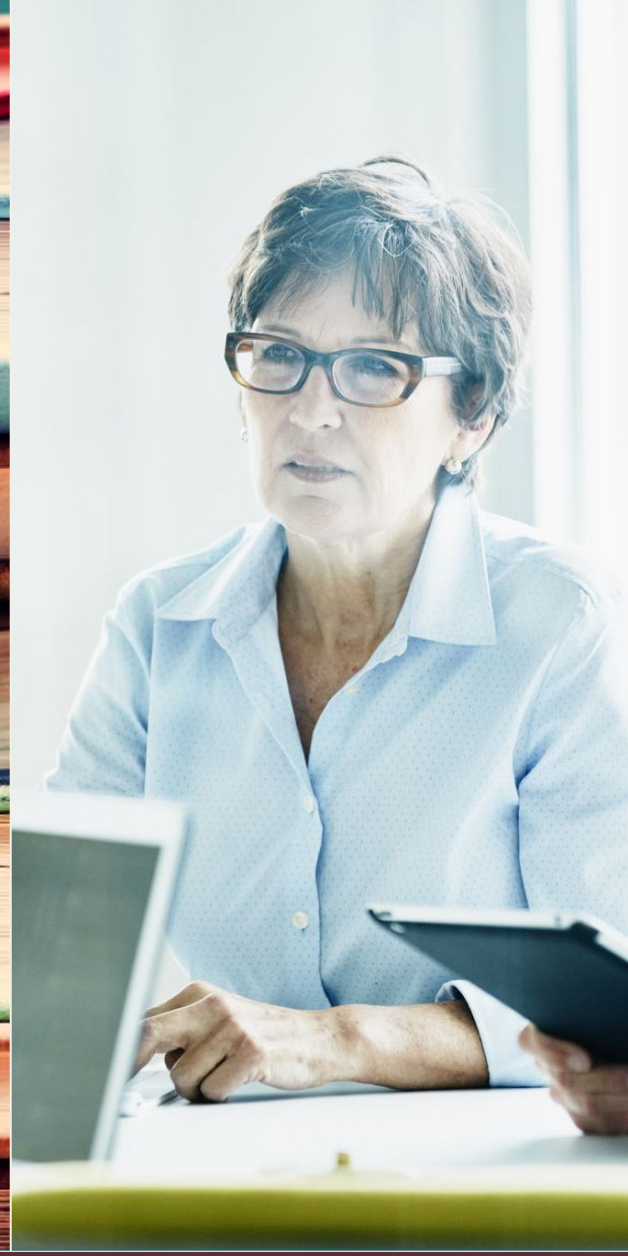
Applications for funding must be filed:

June 29 – August 13

*Other potential funding windows

What fiscal year are these funds for?

2021-2022 July 1 – June 30



Emergency Connectivity Fund

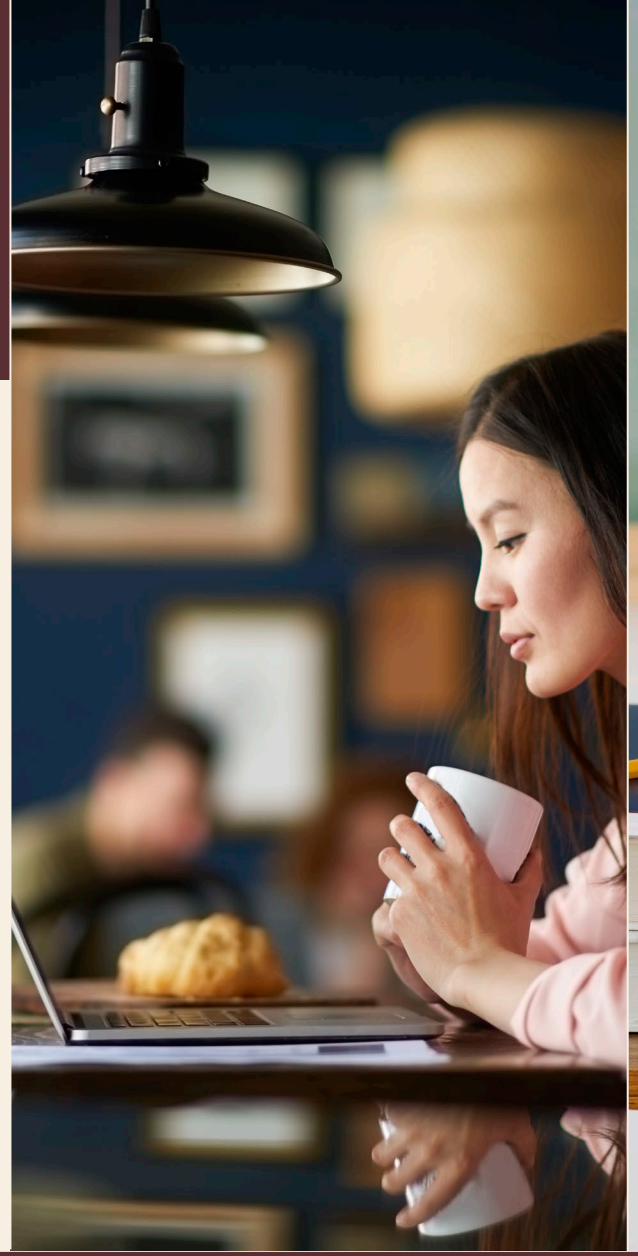
How does the application process work?

The process follows the traditional E-rate process with some exceptions.

- Form 470 not required

Schools must certify they are compliant with their state and local procurement requirements

- Funding is not based on your FRLP %
- Funding is up to 100% of the funding limits



Emergency Connectivity Fund

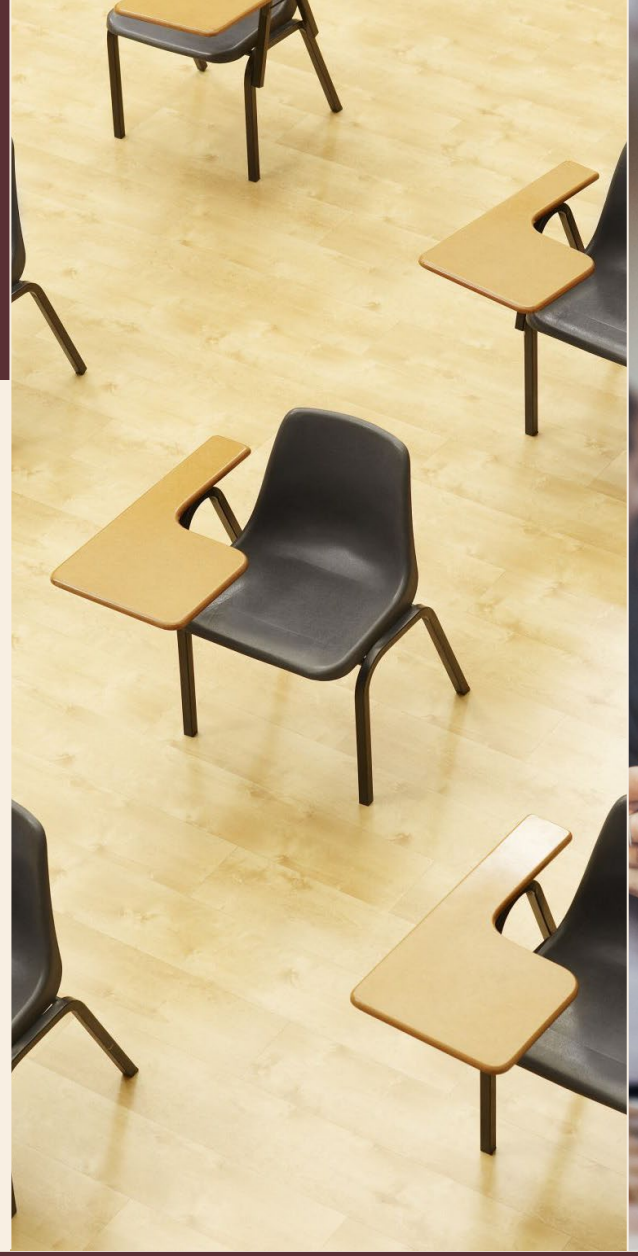
When can I expect my application to be approved?

Once the filing window closes, USAC will begin the application approval process.

Their initial target is to have 50% of the applications approved within 60 days

Their second target is to have 70% of the applications approved within 100 days

Some estimate all should be approved by September – November



Emergency Connectivity Fund

How are the funds paid?

School files a Form 472 Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR)

In this instance the customer would pay the service provider and get reimbursed from the FCC.

This method doesn't require the service provider to have a SPIN number.

Service Provider files a Form 474 Service Provide Invoice (SPI)

This method requires a letter from the service provider stating that they will submit for reimbursement.

This method does require the service provider have a SPIN number.

Emergency Connectivity Fund

Is there anything else I can get with the devices I am requesting funding on?

YES

3 Year Warranty

Google Management

White Glove Service/Installation

Shipping, Taxes & e-Waste fees

*All must be included in the base price of the device.

How do I get started?

Register with the FCC to get a CORES ID

* If you have previous applied for E-rate you should be registered with the FCC already.

Register with SAM.gov (not required if for SPI)

- This registration is not traditionally required for E-rate. This can take 1-2 weeks to complete.

*This does not have to be completed, just submitted at the time of your application.

Participate in the Emergency Connectivity Fund trainings

https://www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org/training/

- e-Learning Modules
- Live Sessions

How do I get started?

Here are the questions you will be required to answer:

1. What is number of student/educators who did not have access to adequate laptops/tablets, Internet access, or both when the pandemic began?

2. What is number of student/educators who do not currently have access to these devices/services?

3. How do you expect those numbers to change with receipt of requested ECF support?

4. Describe how and when you collected the information you used for the estimates in questions 1-3. https://www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org/ecf-fcc-form-471/entity-information/

- Use the district's National School Lunch Program (NSLP) percentage, NTIA's "Indicators of Broadband Need Map" or other publicly available data to provide best estimates

DON’T WAIT, GET STARTED TODAY

Questions?

Resources

Emergency Connectivity Fund

www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org

https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-connectivity-fund-faqs

By Phone:

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET

Phone: (800) 234-9781

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