

E-RATE eNEWS

September 2026



Earlier this summer, we alerted you to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) examining the future of the E-Rate program. The FCC is asking important questions about the program's scope, structure, and continued support—and this is the time for E-Rate stakeholders to make their voices heard.

We strongly encourage every school, library, district, consortium, administrator, educator, and community stakeholder who depends on E-Rate to **submit comments directly to the FCC**.

We encourage you to visit SaveOurERate.com, which provides resources, guidance, advocacy materials, and information to help stakeholders prepare and submit comments. Our earlier notice also highlighted the importance of sharing specific local stories and encouraging board members, colleagues, and community partners to participate.

Please don't assume someone else will speak for you!

This does not require a lengthy legal filing or technical policy analysis. In fact, some of the most valuable comments may simply explain, in your own words:

- How E-Rate funding benefits your students, educators, library patrons, and community
- What services or technology your organization has been able to obtain because of E-Rate
- What the financial impact would be if E-Rate support were reduced or eliminated
- Why continued access to affordable broadband and network infrastructure remains essential to your organization

The FCC needs to hear directly from the people who use this program. Industry groups, consultants, service providers, and national organizations will certainly participate in this proceeding, but there is no substitute for comments from the schools and libraries E-Rate was created to serve.

The FCC's record will help inform what happens next. If E-Rate matters to your organization, now is the opportunity to explain why. The future of the program should not be decided without hearing from the schools and libraries that rely on it every day!



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