



Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma

"Rich in Culture and Tradition"
"Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider"

July 14, 2017

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing a letter of appeal on behalf of the Ponca Tribe Library. We are requesting that a waiver be granted on our application for E-rate for Tribal Libraries. This is the first year the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma has filed for E-rate for our library and it has been a very complicated process. We found out about this program just days before the filing period ended for the Form 470. We submitted our 470 in a timely manner. When we received estimates, there were many and we had a difficult time knowing how to compare them. With the help of USAC employees, we were finally able to get this process completed.

We have just renovated our Tribal Library through a grant received by USDA, to include a 6-person computer work station that we will use for many activities such as tutoring, resume writing classes, on-line classes, computer classes for our children as well as tribal members of all ages. We also want to offer medical related information for our tribal population concentrating on our elders. There are limitless opportunities we can provide through the use of the internet. We will also have 4 laptops and 4 iPads located in the Library and available for our community. Without internet service all the above activities become unattainable.

Our library is located at the edge of our community which has made it very difficult to provide the needed internet coverage to this building. On behalf of the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma and the Ponca Tribe Library, we ask that you please consider our waiver request that we may be funded for E-rate services. Without this funding, we will not be able to provide the needed services that are vital to the community.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Bellmard".

Sue Bellmard, Grant Writer
Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma