

Madison Healthcare Services Consortium HCP 49272  
900 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Madison, MN 56256

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Letter of Appeal

USAC – Rural Healthcare Program – Consortium

700 12<sup>th</sup> St. NW #900

Washington, DC 20005

To Whom It May Concern:

Contact Person	Pheona Riddle
Contact Information	
Mailing Address	2213 16 <sup>th</sup> St. Bedford, IN 47421
Phone Number	812-675-4257
Email	<a href="mailto:pr@espyervices.com">pr@espyervices.com</a>
Funding Year	2016
Application Type & Application Number	Form 462 100015459
FRNs	16986751 & 16985661
Appeal Reason	Denied FRNs for Competitive Bid Issues (Equipment Purchased before ACSD)

**Appeal Explanation:**

Madison Healthcare Services Consortium consists of 3 Rural Hospitals, Johnson Memorial Health, Appleton Area Health Services, and Madison Healthcare Services. All locations have participated as members of the Rural Healthcare Program beginning in Fund Year 2014 and have been competitively bid each fund year since that time. FY 2014 ACSD 12/4/14; FY 2015 ACSD 6/19/15; and FY 2016 ACSD 2/9/16.

The appeal is for equipment purchased for Appleton Area Health and Madison Healthcare Services. Each of these locations has an individual ACSD of 2/9/2016. The supporting documentation will show the equipment was purchased on 8/6/2016 and 2/3/2016.

Before submitting any funding requests for equipment we sought clarification from USAC on what we could file. On July 29, 2016 we received an email from Blythe Albert, Manager of Program Management at USAC, stating equipment could be purchased prior to the fund year and still be submitted within that fund year. I have included this email in the supporting documentation for this appeal. There is nothing in the FCC Order that states equipment must be purchased within a specific time frame. The equipment was filed within the guidelines of eligibility as it supports the broadband connectivity to the eligible sites and said connectivity is funded through the Rural Healthcare Program.

We would like you to accept this documentation and reconsider USAC's decision to deny the funding request. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

