

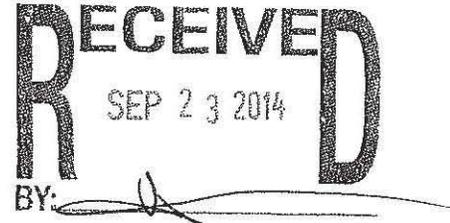
Appendix A –
USAC Decision on Appeal dated September 11, 2014



Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2014-2015

September 11, 2014

David V. Abbott
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of Education, Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3400



Re: Applicant Name: R.I. DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY
Billed Entity Number: 120839
Form 471 Application Number: 936734
Funding Request Number(s): 2627626, 2627750, 2632881
Your Correspondence Dated: July 03, 2014

After thorough review and investigation of all relevant facts, the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has made its decision in regard to your appeal of USAC's Funding Year 2014 Funding Commitment Decision Letter for the Application Number indicated above. This letter explains the basis of USAC's decision. The date of this letter begins the 60 day time period for appealing this decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If your Letter of Appeal included more than one Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate letter for each application.

Funding Request Number(s): 2627626, 2627750, 2632881
Decision on Appeal: **Denied**
Explanation:

- According to our records, it was determined that no contract was in place when the FCC Form 471 and Certification was filed. FCC rules require that a contract be signed and dated by the applicant prior to the filing of the FCC Form 471 for products/services requested. USAC cannot waive the rules of the program. Since your contract was dated March 26, 2014 which was after the Certification Postmark Date of March 25, 2014 your appeal is denied.
- USAC has determined, that at the time you submitted your FCC Form 471 application, you did not have a contract with your service provider(s), which met your state and local or the FCC's definition of a contract. Except for services to

be delivered under non-contracted tariff or month-to-month arrangements, FCC rules require that applicants submit a completed FCC Form 471 "upon signing a contract for eligible services." The services you requested are not non-contracted tariff or month-to-month services. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.504(a). In your appeal, you did not demonstrate that USAC's decision was incorrect. As USAC does not have authority to waive the FCC rules of the program, your appeal is denied.

Since your appeal was denied in full, dismissed or cancelled, you may file an appeal with the FCC. Your appeal must be postmarked within 60 days of the date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found under the Reference Area/"Appeals" of the SLD section of the USAC website or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.

We thank you for your continued support, patience and cooperation during the appeal process.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company

David V. Abbott
State of Rhode Island and Providence
Plantations
Department of Education, Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3400

Billed Entity Number: 120839
Form 471 Application Number: 936734
Form 486 Application Number: