

Appeal to the FCC

Lamar CISD

Funding Year 2014

October 3, 2014

**Letter of Appeal**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

Lamar CISD would like to appeal the decision made by the PIA reviewer and the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company to deduct an incorrect amount for ineligibles for FRNs 2606724 and 2606709 of funding year 2014 on the FCC Form 471 # 959630.

**Appellant**

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Applicant Name: Lamar CISD

Billed Entity Number: 141295

<b>Form 471:</b>	959630	959630
<b>FRN</b>	2606724	2606709
<b>SPIN</b>	143035542	143030766
<b>Amount Committed post-discount</b>	\$55,878.00	\$136,912.76

**Explanation of Appeal**

We are writing to appeal the decision made by the PIA reviewer and the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company to deduct an incorrect amount for ineligibles for FRNs 2606724 and 2606709 of funding year 2014 on the FCC Form 471 # 959630.

The FRN 2606724 requested the funding of Internet Access and FRN 2606709 requested the funding of Telecommunications for Lamar CISD. The Program Integrity Assurance, PIA, Dated 05/28/2014, conducted by SarahAnn James, concerned the Powell Point Campus and the inclusion of services for children under the age 3 in the discount for that campus/school. See enclosure document "PIA\_5/28/2014". It was stated that 10 out of 51 children were under the age of 3 at the Powell Point Campus. Furthermore, Response 4. b. identified the eligible student cost to be 80.4% for that campus.

The discount ineligible portion for Powell Point Campus is 19.6% as stated on PIA 4.a. See enclosure document "PIA\_05/28/2014".

The Funding Commitment Decision Letter, FCDL, dated 06/11/2014, stated the following:

1. For FRN 2606724 - "The amount of the funding request was changed from \$6950/month to \$5,587.80/month to remove: the ineligible services: \$1362.20/month for head start student costs." **This lowered the request for shared services for 39 schools funding by 19% instead of just the Powell Point School discount by 19.6%.**
2. For FRN 2606709 - "The amount of the funding request was changed from \$21,180.28/month to \$17,028.95/month to remove: the ineligible service: head start student costs \$4,151.33/month." **This lowered the request for shared services for 39 schools funding by 19% instead of just the Powell Point School discount by 19.6%.**

The amounts funded should not have been changed by lowering the shared discount funding amount by the ineligible portion/percent of a single campus, Powell Point Campus. The Block 4 Worksheet # 1657613 should have been modified for only the Powell Point Campus which is entity number 16065592. See graphic below for that portion of the Block 4 Worksheet that was originally submitted.\*

\*Original Block 4

Original Submission	
1. Name of School: POWELL POINT CAMPUS	
2. Entity Number: 16065592	NCES: 48 26580 0000
New School Construction: N	Administrative Entity N
3. Urban or Rural: Urban	
4. Total # of Students : 40	5. # of Students Eligible for NSLP: 40
6. % Students Eligible for NSLP (#5 / #4): 100.000%	
7. Discount % from Discount Matrix: 90%	8. Weighted Product for Calculating Share Discount (#4 * #7): 36
9. Entity Sub-Type:	10. Alt. Disc. Mech: N

The following should have been modified in the Block 4 Worksheet for Powell Point Campus:

3. Total # of students: 51      5. # of Students Eligible for NSLP: 41
6.  $41/51 = 81\%$
7. Using the discount matrix below and #6 above, the Discount would be 90%.



**Discount Matrix**

Applicants use the discount matrix to determine the correct discount level for an individual school or library outlet.

An applicant for discounts on eligible services must calculate the percentage discount that it (and the entities it represents) is eligible to receive.

For detailed information on how to calculate the percentage discount for particular types of entities (schools, school districts, library outlet or branch, library system, or consortium), see the Form 471 instructions.

<b>INCOME</b> Measured by % of students eligible for the National School Lunch Program	<b>URBAN LOCATION</b> Discount	<b>RURAL LOCATION</b> Discount
<i>If the % of students in your school that qualifies for the National School Lunch Program is...</i>	<i>...and you are in an URBAN area, your discount will be...</i>	<i>...and you are in a RURAL area, your discount will be...</i>
Less than 1%	20%	25%
1% to 19%	40%	50%
20% to 34%	50%	60%
35% to 49%	60%	70%
50% to 74%	80%	80%
75% to 100%	90%	90%

This discount is the same as the original discount submitted and certified on 03/26/2014 on the Form 471 # 959630 for the Powell Point Campus. The amount funded for the two FRNs in this request should have remain unchanged by the PIA reviewer.

**Conclusion:**

It is our opinion that the FCC allow the modification of the amounts funded on FRN 2606709 and FRN 2606724 in order to correct the error made by the PIA reviewer and the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company and that the SLD of the Universal Service Administrative Company should proceed with a complete review of the information submitted that is included in this appeal.

- This request was for eligible services.
- Lamar CISD correctly calculated the discount and funding for the two FRNs mentioned in this appeal.
- There was no need to modify the funding amounts for the two FRNs mentioned in this appeal. Lamar CISD stated to the reviewer “the 19.6% ineligibility at Powell Point Campus did not need to be district-wide.
- A mistake was made by the PIA reviewer and this mistake needs to be corrected.
- There is no evidence of waste, fraud, or abuse, misuse of funds, or a failure to adhere to core program requirements.

When the FCC allows this appeal to be meritorious, Lamar CISD will be able to fulfill its commitment to its students for full, robust connectivity to global resources which would not be possible without E-Rate support.

Sincerely,



David Jacobson  
Chief Technology Information Officer  
Lamar CISD

CC: Kevin Witte  
Region ESC 12  
Personal E-Rate Partner  
LOA

Enclosures: 1) LOA 2) Request for Waiver 3) Program Integrity Assurance Documents 4) Funding Commitment Decision Letter 5) Excel Sheet for Two FRNS and 6) Funding "Status Memo" for Two FRNs