

Appeal/Waiver Request

Regarding CC Docket # 02-6

Applicant Name:
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
Entity Number: 16077563
Funding Year: 2015-16

CONTACT INFORMATION

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant 471 Main Contact Name: Paul McLaurin
Applicant Name: SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
BEN: 16077563

**This is a request for a Waiver/Appeal of the USAC designation for
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

Waiver/Appeal Request Detail:

471 Out of Window Certification Letter 6-29-2015 - Funding Year 2015-16

Date Submitted: Apr 16, 2015

Date Certified: Jun 08, 2015

Form 471 Information: 1020109

FCDL Date -N/A

Funding Request Number(s): 2827615

Service Provider Name: Level 3 Communications, LLC

Service Provider Identification Number: 143021460

Total Post Discount Request: \$1,624.80

Funding Request Number(s): 2827617

Service Provider Name: Level 3 Communications, LLC

Service Provider Identification Number: 143021460

Total Post Discount Request: \$8,044.80

USAC Designation/ reason for appeal:

'1020109 SWFLCA15 Certified - Out of Window'

Rationale for this Request:

During the 2015-16 eRate filing window, I was tasked with implementing the new eRate changes for the school, this meant confirming the changes with the school and walking through the new rules and eligibilities, and compiling the item 21 data in a fillable format prior to the 471 submission. The school worked feverishly to supply me with this information in time for the effective completion of the Form 471. I was also processing these requests with the new 471 form submission system, which took some practice to understand. This system also had some glitches, occasionally showing incorrect data. All of these changes made for a difficult task to confirm form certifications.

Process that Lead To the Error

As a result, this Form 471 not certified within the certification deadline. Certification was **incorrectly confirmed** for this school when in fact they were not complete. The form 471 however was actually **filed by Apr 16, 2015, within e 2015 funding window. The error noting the certification being complete was resolved only after a painful understanding that the data was being read incorrectly, after thwe certification deadline..**

Circumstances to Consider –

- **Form 471 1051419 was filed on Apr 16, 2015, within the 2015-16 funding window.**
- Past FCC eRate rulings approving waivers of this nature
- The new eRate submission system was implemented along with the new program changes, which made noting discrepancies in the data significantly more difficult
- The new 471 system was showing some incorrect data on 471 submissions during the funding window

Past FCC Ruling

FCC

DA 12-1469

September 14, 2012

The Order and Order on Reconsideration reviewed 39 requests from petitioners seeking review of decisions made by USAC under the eRate program. These petitioners were seeking waivers on the Form 471 filing window deadline.

The requests were granted for those schools within 14 days after the filing window deadline.

Justification was sited on past FCC Rules specifically File Nos. SLD-487009, et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, 25 FCC Rcd 9256 (2010) (Academy of Math

and Science Order) (finding special circumstances exist to justify granting waiver requests where, for example, petitioners filed their FCC Forms 471 within 14 days after the FCC Form 471 filing window deadline or filed their Form 471 on time, but failed to timely file their certifications); Also, the following order or docket #: CC Docket NO. 02-6, Order, 26 FCC red 354.

This request is made on behalf of the Billed Entity for a Waiver/appeal to be granted. By granting this Waiver/Appeal, USAC could be directed to review SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY's application for funding during the Funding Year 2015.

Your favorable consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.
Please feel free to contact me at any time should you have questions.

Paul McLaurin
Consultant
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