

Justin Ballou
Whiteside School District 115
111 Warrior Way
Belleville, IL 62221-2523

Billed Entity Number: 136427
Form 471 Application Number: 1027621
Form 486 Application Number:



Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2015-2016

November 10, 2015

Carol Underriner
BTU Consultants, LLC
4 Media Court
St. Louis, MO 63146

Re: Applicant Name: WHITESIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 115
Billed Entity Number: 136427
Form 471 Application Number: 1027621
Funding Request Number(s): 2790925
Your Correspondence Dated: September 09, 2015

After review of the information and documentation provided, 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 commitment decision for the FCC Form 471 Application Number and funding requests number(s) FRN(s)) referenced above. This letter provides an explanation for USAC's decision. The date of this letter also begins the sixty (60) day time period for appealing this decision. If your Letter of Appeal included more than one FCC Form 471 Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate decision for each funding application.

Funding Request Number(s): 2790925
Decision on Appeal: **Denied**
Explanation:

- During appeal review of your FCC Form 471 application number 1027621 you requested to increase the amount of funds approved under FRN 2790925. Program procedures allow applicants to amend their applications and correct ministerial and clerical errors on their FCC Forms (including adding a funding request) until a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) is issued. Increases in funding requests cannot be submitted through the appeals process and after the issuance of the FCDL. Consequently, USAC denies your appeal.
- Your appeal requests additional funds that were not included in the FCC Form 471 that you are appealing. FCC rules require that funding requests must be submitted via an FCC Form 471. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.504(a). Considerations for funding requests depend on the date the FCC Form 471 is received and the

amount of funds available if it is received after the close of the filing window. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.507(f). The FCC directed USAC to allow applicants to amend their forms to correct clerical and ministerial errors on their FCC Forms 470, FCC Form 471 applications, or associated documentation until an FCDL is issued. Such errors include only the kinds of errors that a typist might make when entering data from one list to another, such as mistyping a number, using the wrong name or phone number, failing to enter an item from the source list onto the application, or making an arithmetic error. *See* Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, FCC 11-60 para. 5 (rel. April 14, 2011). Additional correctable errors can be found in the FCC Order DA 10-2354. *See* Requests for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, Michigan, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, File Nos. SLD-542873, et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, DA 10-2354 para. 2 (rel. December 16, 2010).

- The FCC's Bishop Perry Order directed USAC "to provide all E-rate applicants with an opportunity to correct ministerial and clerical errors on their FCC Form 470 or FCC Form 471, and an additional opportunity to file the required certifications" without posting new FCC Forms 470 and 471. *See* Request for Review of the Decision of the Universal Service Administrator by Bishop Perry Middle School, New Orleans, Louisiana, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Mechanism, File Nos. SLD-487170, et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, 21 FCC Red 5316-5317, FCC 06-54 para. 23 (May 19, 2006) (Bishop Perry Order). As a result, USAC sends an applicant a Receipt Acknowledgement Letter (RAL) when the FCC Form 471 has been successfully data entered and provides the applicant with an opportunity to make allowable corrections to its FCC Form 471. *See* Ministerial & Clerical Errors posted in the Reference Area of the SLD section of the USAC website. Per the FCC's directive, applicants should be allowed to amend their forms to correct clerical and ministerial errors until a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) is issued. Such errors include only the kinds of errors that a typist might make when entering data from one list to another, such as mistyping a number, using the wrong name or phone number, failing to enter an item from the source list onto the application, or making an arithmetic error. *See* Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, FCC 11-60 para. 5 (rel. April 14, 2011). Additional correctable errors can be found in the FCC Order DA 10-2354. *See* Requests for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, Michigan, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, File Nos. SLD-542873, et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, DA 10-2354 para. 2 (rel. December 16, 2010). An applicant's request to remove entities from its application, when such removal would raise the average discount percentage for the relevant funding request above the funding threshold for that year, is not justifiable as a ministerial or clerical error. *See* Request for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Alexander County School District, Taylorsville, North Carolina, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, File No. SLD-827833 et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, DA 13-1383 para. 2 (rel. June 14, 2013).

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may file an appeal pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart I. Detailed instructions for filing appeals are available at:
<http://www.usac.org/sl/about/program-integrity/appeals.aspx>.

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

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company