

Our Campus TeleVideo subsidiary provides educational, international and entertainment cable television services to over 150 college campuses across the country, including Philadelphia area schools. Some of our schools have requested that we provide them Comcast Sportsnet, which no longer sells directly to independent providers like ourselves.

Two of the local system operators, including Time Warner and a Comcast system, has explicitly told us that they will not provide us Comcast Sportsnet under any circumstances since they want to "win" the right to provide cable service and data services at our schools, which include Drexel and Rowan Universities.

I understand that current rule making allows the cable operator to sell the sportschannel on a discriminatory basis because it is not satellite delivered. Given the market power of a combined Comcast/ATT and their incentive to move sportschannels off the satellite so as to use their exclusive programming to head off independent competitors, the FCC should consider waiving the terrestrial exemption; volume and bulk discounts on programming fees seem reasonable, but by refusing to sell exclusive programming to independent competitors, the cable operators and Comcast Sportsnet are engaging in anti competitive behavior. The room for abuse is only compounded if ATT and Comcast combine.