

The E-rate program is highly beneficial and our library supports the ALA position regarding its value. However, the application process is entirely too burdensome and extensive, particularly for small libraries. My feeling is that if an institution is applying only for basic telecommunications (phone) discounts, the only documentation necessary should be copies of one year of phone bills. There have been several years when the hours required to complete the numerous forms and provide other information have outweighed the financial benefit of the discount itself. I strongly urge you to reduce the number of forms required to simply apply for basic telephone service discounts