



**Universal Service Administrative Company**  
Schools & Libraries Division

---

**Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2011-2012**

January 29, 2013

Carol A. Black  
Wakisha Charter School  
900 W Jefferson Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Re: Applicant Name: WAKISHA CHARTER SCHOOL  
Billed Entity Number: 218547  
Form 471 Application Number: 812439  
Funding Request Number(s): 2206840  
Your Correspondence Dated: January 08, 2013

After thorough review and investigation of all relevant facts, 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 Year 2011 Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter for the Application Number indicated above. This letter explains the basis of USAC's decision. The date of this letter begins the 60 day time period for appealing this decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If your Letter of Appeal included more than one Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate letter for each application.

Funding Request Number(s): 2206840  
**Decision on Appeal: Partially Approved, Funding Denied**  
**Explanation:**

- Your appeal is partially approved with regard to the documentation provided to validate the requested service. However, funding is denied for the reason stated below.

You have failed to provide support documentation during the appeal review process that validates the requested discount of 90%. Your discount level is determined by the discount matrix. Additionally, you filed an FCC Form 471 seeking funding for Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections. For Funding Year 2011, there are not sufficient funds to provide Priority Two discounts to applicants at your discount rate.

FCC rules provide that the discount available to an applicant is determined by indicators of poverty and high cost. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(b). The level of poverty is measured by the percentage of students enrolled in a school or school district that are eligible for a free or reduced price lunch under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), or a federally-approved alternative mechanism. Alternatively, the level of poverty is measured according to participation in Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplementary Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8, or Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). See Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 8776, 9045, FCC 97-157 para. 510, n.1334 (rel. May 8, 1997). The high cost determination is made pursuant to FCC rules that classify a school or library as rural or urban. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(b)(3). An applicant's discount rate is determined by reference to a matrix based upon the level of poverty and whether the entity is classified as rural or urban. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(c).

USAC Schools and Libraries Committee oversees the administration of the schools and libraries support mechanism and has the authority to make decisions concerning the administration of the application process, including activities to ensure compliance with Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.705 (a)(1)(iii). To conduct these reviews, USAC has put in place administrative measures to ensure the prompt resolution of applications. If applicants do not respond within the designated time period, USAC reviews the application based on the information before it. See Request for Review by Marshall County School District, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21, 18 FCC Rcd 4520, 4522, Order, DA 03-764 para. 6 (rel. Mar. 13, 2003). Typically, applicants are required to respond to USAC's requests for additional information necessary to complete their application within 15 days of being contacted. See Request for Review of the Decision of the Universal Service Administrator by Bishop Perry Middle School, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, 21 FCC Rcd 5316-5317, FCC 06-54 para. 23 (rel. May 19, 2006). See also SLD section of the USAC website, Reference Area, "Deadline for Information Requests," [www.usac.org/sl](http://www.usac.org/sl). For those instances where USAC contacts the applicant in reference to a Selective Review Information Request, the applicant is provided 30 days to comply with the request. This procedure is necessary to prevent undue delays during the application review process.

- FCC rules require that where demand for funding exceeds available support, first priority be given to requests for Telecommunications Services and Internet Access. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.507(g)(1)(i). FCC rules further require that requests for Internal Connections be given second priority and be funded only if funds remain after support has been reserved for Telecommunications and Internet Access through all discount levels in a funding year. See 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.507(g)(1)(ii). For schools and libraries that create consortia for the purposes of making funding requests and sharing products and/or services, the discount level

is calculated by averaging the applicable discounts of the schools and libraries that are members of the consortia. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(b)(4). Because discount levels for consortia are determined in this manner, the discount levels for shared products and/or services requests are single discount level percentages rather than the broad discount level percentages for individual schools and libraries as determined by the matrix. *See* Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45, Fifth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 97-21, Eleventh Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 14 FCC Rcd 6033, FCC 99-49 (rel. May 28, 1999). Where demand for discounts for Internal Connections exceeds available support, FCC Rules require that funding be allocated to the most economically disadvantaged schools and libraries as determined by the matrix. *See* 47 C.F.R. secs. 54.505(c), 54.507(g)(1)(ii). Consequently, where demand for discounts for Internal Connections exceeds available support, FCC rules require that funding be awarded first to applicants eligible for a 90 percent discount level and then at each descending single discount percentage until funds are depleted. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.507(g)(1)(iii).

If your appeal has been approved, but funding has been reduced or denied, you may appeal these decisions to either USAC or the FCC. For appeals that have been denied in full, partially approved, dismissed, or canceled, you may file an appeal with the FCC. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD section of the USAC website or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.

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

Schools and Libraries Division  
Universal Service Administrative Company

Carol A. Black  
Wakisha Charter School  
900 W Jefferson Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Billed Entity Number: 218547  
Form 471 Application Number: 812439  
Form 486 Application Number: