



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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Schools and Libraries Universal Service) CC Docket No. 02-6
Support Mechanism) GN Docket No. 09-51

REPLY COMMENTS BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO PUBLIC NOTICE DA 13-1513 REGARDING DRAFT E-RATE ELIGIBLE SERVICES LIST FOR FUNDING YEAR 2014

Background

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction implements the State's public school laws and State Board of Education's policies governing pre-kindergarten through 12th grade public education. The Department of Public Instruction develops the Standard Course of Study which describes the subjects and course content that should be taught in North Carolina public schools and develops the assessments and accountability model used to evaluate school and district success.

Introduction

The NCDPI would like to support the Initial Comments of the State E-rate Coordinator's Alliance (SECA)¹ agreeing that contracts for the installation of Internal Connections components on Priority 2 FRNs are eligible, so long as they are for the installation of simultaneously approved Internal Connections components.

Comments on Installation Charges

Many school district systems have large purchasing departments where RFPs are posted and contracts let for hundreds of services, goods and merchandise. Installation of equipment is no different. If a bid for installation of Internal Connections components is the most cost effective solution, in other words,

¹ Initial Comments posted August 2, 2013, CC Docket 02-6, pp 4-6

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more cost effective than the Internal Connections component vendor itself, who, in many instances does not provide installation, those contracts, competitively bid, are valid under North Carolina statute and therefore valid for E-rate purposes.

Conclusion

NCDPI supports SECA's suggestion to modify the existing language in the ESL to read:

Installation, activation, and initial configuration of eligible components are eligible. Such services may include basic design and engineering costs and basic project management costs, if these services are directly related to the purchase and initial implementation of these eligible components and are not duplicative of services provided as part of the purchase agreement.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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