

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

CC Docket No. 02-60
Request for Reconsideration

Secretary Dortch,

BEN: 16050459

Application Numbers: 868305, 834513, 834515, 834522, 834526, 868317

FRN: 2288765, 2274185, 2274185, 2372726, 2303782, 2372504, 2366877, 2373217

Goal Academy is requesting reconsideration of the appeal denial dated April 16, 2014 by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) reducing the above referenced FRNs on the entities listed. The reason for this appeal is that the State of Colorado does not yet assign individual school location codes to schools with multiple locations, only the main location is given the school code. This situation is very similar to what other schools have faced in other states when dealing with erate requests for multiple locations. (See references highlighted below). While the Colorado Department of Education is starting to realize that there is a need for a multiple location school database much like New York and possibly other states have developed, no such tool exists today.

The GOAL Academy School with its multiple physical locations is given only one school code by the Colorado Department of Education. Much like New York State has recognized, many schools have multiple instructional locations but are only given one state entity number that identifies the school as a whole, including the schools multiple physical locations, but does not issue a state school identification number to each individual school location.

We are asking for the Federal Communication Commission to waive the requirements that each of the schools physical entities receive a state school code. We additionally request the Erate program recognize that the Multiple Location Schools do exist and they meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements. GOAL Academy as a school district entity is being recognized by the Colorado Department of Education (See Attached: GOAL Academy 2014 Verification) and all the students associated with the school including the Multiple Location Schools are receiving full funding from the state. The chartering district, Falcon School District, which is in charge of making sure that GOAL Academy and the Multiple Location Schools meets all of the NCLB requirements, has certified that GOAL Academy and it Multiple School Locations do meet NCLB. (See attached: GOAL Falcon 49 E-rate 4-29-14). Attached are multiple documents that state that GOAL Academy has and does meet the entire requirements put forth by the State of Colorado and NCLB.

In the State of Colorado, each student receives a designated funded amount sent to the school or school district for their education, which is determined by what is called the Long Bill. These Multi-Location Schools are currently being funded by State of Colorado through the Long Bill, but do not receive a separate school code for each of the schools multiple locations. The Colorado Department of Education assigns the schools main location a school code and funds all students associated with the school via one code. In GOAL Academy's case students are at Multiple School locations throughout the state.

The states of New York and North Carolina (see attached: New York E-rate Elig Multi Location, and North Carolina E-rate Forum, Dec. 2009.) have solved the issue by developing a database where the Multi-Location Schools, like GOAL Academy and other Colorado Schools, have a database for the sole purpose of establishing the eligibility for E-rate. Based upon documents attached, E-rate is funding Multiple Location Schools in those states. With precedence already set by E-rate, GOAL Academy should also receive the same consideration as other schools in the nation.

We will be presenting to the Colorado Department of Education these other states solutions in hope that this will help solve this situation for other Colorado multi-location schools in the future to avoid this predicament. However, at this time that tool simply does not exist and will take time to develop. This funding year has come to an end and the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) is the last hope for 2012 -2013 funding for GOAL Academy and its students. It is a shame that GOAL Academy students, which are located in both rural and urban school locations will be punished because they are in a Multiple Location School receiving an education approved by Colorado Department of Education, but will potentially not receive the full consideration of educational erate funding simply because each individual physical location does not have a school code.

Background

In Colorado, the Department of Education has a lengthy definition of a school and its requirements. All schools that meet the strict definition receive a school code and are posted on the Colorado Department of Educations (CDE) website. Goal Academy is classified as a multi-district blended school with Multiple Location School (satellite facilities)¹. There are no provisions that allow for Multiple School Locations to receive a school code. Because there is no provision that allows for Multiple Location Schools, it potentially eliminates Goal Academy Multiple Locations and all Colorado schools in the same situation from receiving any E-rate funding; even though they meet NCLB requirements and the State of Colorado funds all of the students in the multiple locations. Again, Multiple Location Schools are physical locations where students receive instruction and support for their education. These Multiple Location Schools are a part of the district in the same way as all other schools are in the State of Colorado, but they are under one name and one code, but operate multiple locations.

Request

For the past 60 days, Goal Academy along with its chartering district, Falcon School District, has worked with the Colorado Department of Education to obtain certification that states Multiple Location Schools are in fact schools. Unfortunately, CDE is unable to verify these facilities as meeting the definition to receive a school code. However, this does not deem the facilities ineligible for E-rate support. School Districts have multiple facilities that provide support to students that are an intricate part of the student's ability to learn. These Multiple Location Schools provide services to students. GOAL Academy is requesting to the FCC accept a waiver for the Multiple School Location as stated in the Form 471 or stated at the beginning of this appeal be recognized as school entities that meet all the NCLB requirements and are allowed to participate and receive E-rate funding.

¹ Satellite Facilities: GOAL Academy-Phillips Center#16066220, GOAL Academy-Canon City#1606221, GOAL Academy-LaJunta#16066222, GOAL Academy Pagosa Springs#16066223, GOAL Academy Alamosa#1606606, Goal Academy Colorado Springs#1#16056650, GOAL Academy Colorado #2!16056651, GOAL Academy Fort Collins#1606604, GOAL Academy Grand Junction#16056653, GOAL Academy Greeley#16056655, GOAL Academy Longmont#16056652, GOAL Academy Pueblo#16050981, GOAL Academy Pueblo PHA#1606605, GOAL Academy – Lakewood#16062808, GOAL Academy- Pueblo2NIF#16068064 and GOAL-Aurora#16062810

Additional supporting documents.

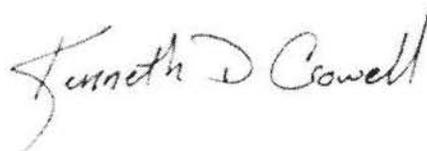
- "Copy of GOAL sites y 17" – show all of the site physical locations.
- "GOAL 471_y17 District Page 2)." - showing The Total number of students that have been funded by the Colorado Department of Education.
- "GOAL 3rd Party Verif. 2012" - Third party Verification from Colorado Department of Education
- "GOAL Accreditation 2013" – Chartering district letter of accreditation for GOAL Academy
- "GOAL cert letter signed 1.17.12" – 2012 Charter School Institute was the Chartering entity, stating that each satellite school is accredited.
- "GOAL cert Letter 5-4-2012" – Another letter from Charter School Institute when it was the chartering district stating that GOAL Academy and its satellite schools are accredited
- "GOAL Confirm school Falcon 49 E-rate 9.12.13 y 16" – 2013 Chartering districts confirms that GOAL Academy and its satellite schools are accredited.

Sincerely,



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References

Exert from: http://www.e-ratecentral.com/us/nys/nysed/Multi-Location_School_Validation.doc

NYSED E-Rate Entity Eligibility for Multi-Location Schools

Introduction

Individual non-public schools in New York operating out of multiple sites have historically experienced difficulties validating the eligibility of each of their facilities for E-rate purposes. More recently, similar validation issues have arisen with respect to public school district and public library annexes, and to satellite BOCES operating facilities. The underlying problem stems from the difference between the way NYSED and USAC track schools, libraries, and facilities. With regard to schools in particular:

- Individual schools in New York are assigned unique LEA (or BEDS) Codes and are listed separately in the NYSED's SEDREF database. If a single school operates out of multiple locations, only its main address is indicated.
- E-rate procedures require USAC to track E-rate services to individual locations, each identified with a unique entity number. USAC must validate the eligibility of each entity as either a "school" or a Non-Instructional Facility ("NIF").

Although USAC has begun issuing guidelines for dealing with multi-location schools, it is still relying on the E-rate coordinators in the individual states to validate the eligibility of instructional or library sites not specifically identified as "schools" or "libraries" in state databases. The following procedures have been developed by NYSED, and reviewed with USAC, as a means of validating multi-location schools and libraries within New York State.

Implementation of a NYSED Multi-Location School Database

Rather than change its existing SEDREF database to accommodate multiple-site schools (or libraries), solely for E-rate purposes, NYSED has developed a separate Multi-Location School Database which may be utilized by USAC to validate the eligibility of individual school and library sites...

Exert from: http://www.e-ratecentral.com/us/nys/news/news2012/weekly_news_2012_1015_ny.asp

Schools and Libraries News Brief Dated October 12 – Program Eligibility

The [SLD News Brief for October 12, 2012](#), discusses the basic requirements for E-rate program eligibility for schools, libraries, and service providers.

Within New York, the following special points should be noted:

1. The first point of reference for PIA reviewers seeking to confirm the eligibility of New York schools is the NYSED online "SEDREF" database. Wherever possible, applicants should try to make sure that the entity names used for E-rate purposes match the SEDREF school names.
2. Many schools in New York, particularly private schools, have multiple physical locations, but are listed only as single schools for SEDREF purposes. In these cases, to validate the additional sites for E-rate purposes, we have developed — with USAC's concurrence — a special multi-location school ("MLS") certification process and associated online MLS database.
3. Within New York (but not in all states) Head Start students (3 years and older) and facilities are eligible. A listing of eligible Head Start organizations and/or schools is available online in the SLD's Eligibility Table for Non-Traditional Education.