

MEMORANDUM NO. 2021-088

TO: School District Superintendents
Business Managers
Curriculum Coordinators
Virtual Education Coordinators
Computer/Technology Coordinators

FROM: Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: July 26, 2021

SUBJECT: Emergency Connectivity Fund Information and Application Window

EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND INFORMATION AND APPLICATION WINDOW

The Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) is a \$7.17 billion program funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to support schools and libraries during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ECF Program will reimburse schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and internet services provided to students, teachers, and library patrons for remote learning.

Schools, libraries, and consortia of schools that are eligible for support under the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program, are eligible to receive funds through the ECF program. Schools and libraries do not need to be current E-Rate participants.

Laptops, tablets, modems, routers, Wi-Fi hotspots, and other connectivity options may be purchased with ECF funds for use by students, school staff, and library patrons who would otherwise lack sufficient connectivity to engage in remote learning.

Schools and libraries can also receive funding for commercially available broadband internet service that provides a fixed or mobile broadband connection for off-campus use by students, school staff, or library patrons who would otherwise lack access to connectivity sufficient to engage in remote learning.

The ECF application filing window opened on June 29, 2021 and closes on August 13, 2021. During the application filing window, eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of eligible schools and libraries, can submit requests for funding to purchase eligible equipment and services between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

The Universal Service Administrative Company is the administrator of the ECF Program and will review applications. Interested schools and libraries can find more information and apply at [emergencyconnectivityfund.org](https://www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org).

For more information, contact Ken Reynolds, Information Management Division Director, at 307-777-8014 or ken.reynolds@wyo.gov.