

## MEMORANDUM NO. 2021-116

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

**FROM:** Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

**DATE:** September 20, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Connectivity Fund Information and Application Extension

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# EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND INFORMATION AND APPLICATION EXTENSION

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently announced a second application filing window for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). The ECF program offers schools and libraries funding for devices and broadband connections that can be used off-campus by students, school staff, and library patrons.

The 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 emergency. 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.

Currently, \$5.137 billion in funding requests have been submitted and \$2 billion in program funds remain. The second application window opens on September 28, 2021 and will close on October 13, 2021. Eligible schools and libraries will be able to apply for financial support for eligible equipment and services received or delivered between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

Eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of schools under the FCC's E-Rate program, may apply for funds through the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program. Schools and libraries do not need to be current E-Rate participants.

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

Schools and libraries may also use ECF funds 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.

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).

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*For questions about the Emergency Connectivity Fund, contact Ken Reynolds, Information Management Division Director, at 307-777-8014 or [ken.reynolds@wyo.gov](mailto:ken.reynolds@wyo.gov).*