

Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

> DA 14-495 Released: April 14, 2014

## FCC ANNOUNCES MAY 6 E-RATE MODERNIZATION WORKSHOP

## WC Docket No. 13-184

In the *E-rate Modernization NPRM*, the Commission initiated a comprehensive review and update of the E-rate program with a focus on three proposed program goals: (1) ensuring that schools and libraries have affordable access to 21<sup>st</sup> Century broadband that supports digital learning; (2) maximizing the cost-effectiveness of E-rate funds; and (3) streamlining the administration of the E-rate program.<sup>1</sup> Based on the Commission's review of the extensive record compiled in response to the *E-rate Modernization NPRM*, the March 6, 2014 *E-rate Modernization Public Notice* sought further comment on focusing the E-rate program on "providing the support necessary to ensure schools and libraries can afford high-speed connectivity to and within schools and libraries."<sup>2</sup>

In order to further develop our understanding of the actions required to provide this critical support to schools and libraries, the Commission will host an E-rate Modernization Workshop on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 in the Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305), 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20554. The E-rate Modernization Workshop will provide an opportunity for the Commission and E-rate stakeholders to discuss the challenge of delivering high-speed connectivity to and within schools and libraries and highlight successful strategies. Additional details concerning the workshop agenda and panelists will be forthcoming.

The workshop will be free and open to the public, and will also be streamed live at <u>http://www.fcc.gov/live</u>. Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. The request should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed and contact information. We ask that requests for accommodations be made as soon as possible in order to allow the agency to satisfy such requests whenever possible. Send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For further information, contact Chas Eberle at 202-418-2248, or via e-mail at Charles.Eberle@fcc.gov.

-FCC-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries, WC Docket No. 13-184, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 28 FCC Rcd 11304 (2013) (E-rate Modernization NPRM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Focused Comment on E-rate Modernization, WC Docket No. 13-184, Public Notice, DA 14-308, para. 3 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. March 6, 2014) (E-rate Modernization Public Notice).