

Number of Respondents: 60,000.
Estimated Time Per Response: 4.5 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirements, third party disclosure requirement and recordkeeping requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 440,000 hours.
Total Annual Cost: N/A.

Needs and Uses: The Commission adopted rules providing support for all telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections for all eligible schools and libraries. To participate in the program, schools and libraries must submit a description of the services desired to the Administrator via FCC Form 470. The FCC Form 471 is submitted by schools and libraries that have ordered telecommunications services, Internet access and internal connections. The date is used to determine eligibility. The Commission revised the FCC Form 471 and instructions to make it possible to read with electronic readers, to update references to current deadlines and relevant statutes, and to clarify explanations to make the form generally easier to understand. The information collection requirements remain unchanged.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-1205 Filed 1-17-03; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 97-21; FCC 02-315]

Application for Review by Henrico County School District, Richmond, Virginia; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission denies the application for review seeking review of an Order issued by the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) on delegated authority and affirm the decision of the Bureau. In the Order, the Bureau upheld the decision of the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company, which denied Henrico County School District's Funding Year 1999 application for discounts under the schools and libraries universal service mechanism.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Narda Jones, Attorney, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7400, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Order in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21 released on November 20, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 Twelfth Street, SW., Washington, DC, 20554.

1. Before the Commission is an application for review filed by Henrico County Public Schools (Henrico), Richmond, Virginia, seeking review of an Order issued by the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) on delegated authority. In the Order, the Bureau upheld the decision of the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company, which denied Henrico's Funding Year 1999 application for discounts under the schools and libraries universal service mechanism. For the reasons set forth below, we deny the application for review and affirm the decision of the Bureau.

2. Under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism, eligible schools, libraries, and consortia that include eligible schools and libraries, may apply for discounts for eligible telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections. In order to receive discounts on eligible services, the Commission's rules require that the applicant submit to the Administrator a completed FCC form 470, in which the applicant sets forth its technological needs and the services for which it seeks discounts. Once the applicant has complied with the Commission's competitive bidding requirements and entered into an agreement for eligible services, it must file an FCC form 471 application to notify the Administrator of the services that have been ordered, the carrier with whom the applicant has entered into an agreement, and an estimate of funds needed to cover the discounts to be given for eligible services. Approval of the application is contingent upon the filing of FCC form 471, and funding commitment decisions are based on information provided by the school or library in this form.

3. On March 29, 2000, Henrico filed an FCC form 471 for Funding Year 1999 including 10 funding requests, each seeking discounted internal connections. It did not file an FCC form 470 in Funding Year 1999. Henrico's FCC form 471 referenced FCC form 470

App. No. 952970000283996, a Funding Year 2000 form 470 that was posted to SLD's website on December 20, 1999 (Year 2000 form 470). Henrico also relied on this Year 2000 form 470 in support of its Funding Year 2000 applications for discounts, which were filed on January 19, 2000. On July 17, 2000, SLD rejected Henrico's Funding Year 1999 application for discounts because Henrico had not specified a Funding Year 1999 FCC form 470 in connection with its Funding Year 1999 funding requests. Henrico then sought review of this SLD decision.

4. Before the Bureau, Henrico argued that reliance on a Funding Year 2000 FCC form 470 in support of a Funding Year 1999 service request was permissible because "[n]owhere in your correspondence, procedures or instructions does it stipulate that the [Funding Year 1999] application must be based on a [Funding Year 1999] 470 form." The Bureau found, however, that, with one exception inapplicable to Henrico, an FCC form 470 seeking services in one year could not be used to satisfy the requirement of competitive bidding for service requests in another Funding Year.

5. In its application for review before the Commission, Henrico argues that it should be permitted to rely on the Funding Year 2000 form 470 because, at the time it electronically posted its FCC form 470 for Funding Year 1999, SLD had switched to an on-line application system for Funding Year 2000 that only permitted the posting of Funding Year 2000 FCC form 470s. Henrico asserts that it was therefore "impossible to post a Year [1999] form 470 to the SLD website," and argues that its Funding Year 1999 application should therefore not be denied for its failure to do so.

6. Section 1.115(c) of the Commission's Rules provides that "[n]o application for review will be granted if it relies on questions of fact or law upon which the designated authority has been afforded no opportunity to pass." We find that Henrico did not raise its present argument in the request for review to the Bureau. In that pleading, Henrico merely asserted that, under program procedures, it was not required to use a Funding Year 1999 FCC form 470 to post a Funding Year 1999 service request. Now it argues that using a Funding Year 1999 FCC form 470 was impossible at the specific time during which it sought to post a request. The former argument asserts a general right to use a Funding Year 2000 form to post Funding Year 1999 requests, while the latter argument suggests such use should be deemed permissible under the limited circumstances present at the

end of Funding Year 1999. Similarly, the factual bases for the current argument, including the limited circumstances just mentioned, and the assertion that these circumstances made posting a Funding Year 1999 request "impossible," were also not presented below. Accordingly, because Henrico did not raise these factual and legal questions in its request for review before the Bureau, consideration of these arguments by the Commission is precluded by § 1.115(c).

7. Further, even if we were to consider the merits of this argument, we would still deny the application for review. First, the record demonstrates that Henrico's Funding Year 2000 FCC form 470 was clearly intended to support its Funding Year 2000 applications for funding. Henrico submitted two Funding Year 2000 FCC forms 471 applications seeking Funding Year 2000 discounts. Each application referenced FCC form 470 App. No. 952970000283996 as the supporting form 470. On September 29, 2000, SLD approved Henrico's Funding Year 2000 App. No. 188486. SLD denied Henrico's Funding Year 2000 App. No. 165166 because this application sought support for internal connections and the funding cap could not accommodate applicants, such as Henrico, that were entitled to less than an 81 percent discount in Funding Year 2000.

8. Further, it would appear that Henrico's requested relief would work at cross purposes to its already secured funding for Funding Year 2000. Were we to construe the FCC form 470 App. No. 952970000283996 as a Funding Year 1999 FCC form 470, thus supporting funding of Henrico's Funding Year 1999 FCC form 471, it would also establish that Henrico's successful Funding Year 2000 application violated our competitive bidding regulations. This application sought new services in Funding Year 2000, which needed to be posted for bidding by a Funding Year 2000 FCC form 470 to comply with our competitive bidding rules.

9. Moreover, it is true that, after October 25, 1999, because SLD switched its on-line application system from one designed to process Funding Year 1999 applications to one designed for Funding Year 2000, applicants seeking to file FCC form 470 posting requests for services in Funding Year 1999 were forced to use the on-line system for Funding Year 2000 to do so. However, at the same time that USAC gave applicants official notice of the availability of additional funds on March 1, 2000, it also instructed applicants how to apply for Funding

Year 1999 funds with the Funding Year 2000 form 470s. Specifically USAC directed applicants to indicate on their Year 2000 forms 470 that they were seeking services for Funding Year 1999. Forms 470 so designated were included in a list posted on the website separate from the Funding Year 2000 FCC forms 470, and SLD took special steps to ensure that providers were made aware that there were FCC form 470s seeking Funding Year 1999 services that were not included among the FCC form 470s posted in the on-line Funding Year 1999 location.

10. Thus, contrary to Henrico's assertion, it was not "impossible" to post a request for services in Funding Year 1999. Henrico, having already posted a Funding Year 2000 FCC form 470 on December 19, 1999, that did not specify its intention to seek Funding Year 1999 funds, had ample opportunity, after March 1, 2000, to resubmit its Year 2000 form 470 with a notation that the form was seeking Funding Year 1999 funds as USAC instructed. In fact, numerous applicants successfully posted their Funding Year 1999 requests for services using the Funding Year 2000 on-line application system. Therefore, while the absence of a Funding Year 1999 on-line system certainly justified applicants using the Funding Year 2000 system to post their Funding Year 1999 requests for bidding, it does not excuse applicants who made no attempt to post Funding Year 1999 requests at all. Here, Henrico made no such attempt to post Funding Year 1999 services. Henrico seeks to rely on an FCC form 470 that it concedes actually requested services in Funding Year 2000 and on which Henrico in fact relied on to support its subsequent successful Funding Year 2000 FCC form 471 application. Consequently, we conclude that the circumstances to which Henrico refers would not support relief in this case.

11. It is ordered, pursuant to section 5(c)(5) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and § 1.115 of the Commission's rules, that the application for review filed by Henrico County Public Schools, Richmond, Virginia, on March 5, 2002 is denied.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-1175 Filed 1-17-03; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 97-21; FCC 02-306]

Application for Review by Lunenburg County Public Schools, Victoria, Virginia; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission grants the application for review seeking review of an Order issued by the Accounting Policy Division of the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) on delegated authority. In the Order, the Bureau upheld the decision of the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company, which denied Lunenburg County Public Schools' Funding Year 1999 application for discounts under the schools and libraries universal service mechanism. This document also remands to SLD to fund the request as set forth.

DATES: Effective November 20, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Narda Jones, Attorney, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7400, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Order in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21 released on November 20, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 Twelfth Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

1. Before the Commission is an Application for Review filed by Lunenburg County Schools (Lunenburg), Victoria, Virginia, seeking review of an Order issued by the Accounting Policy Division of the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) on delegated authority. In the Order, the Bureau upheld the decision of the Schools and Libraries Division (Division) of the Universal Service Administrative Company, which denied one of Lunenburg's Funding Year 1999 application for discounts under the schools and libraries universal service mechanism. For the reasons set forth below, we grant the application for review and remand to SLD to fund the request as set forth in this Order.

2. Under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism,