

disseminates public telecommunications services to the public.

Public telecommunications facilities means apparatus necessary for production, interconnection, captioning, broadcast, or other distribution of programming, including but not limited to studio equipment, cameras, microphones, audio and video storage or processors and switchers, terminal equipment, towers, antennas, transmitters, remote control equipment, transmission line, translators, microwave equipment, mobile equipment, satellite communications equipment, instructional television fixed service equipment, subsidiary communications authorization transmitting and receiving equipment, cable television equipment, optical fiber communications equipment, and other means of transmitting, emitting, storing, and receiving images and sounds or information, except that such term does not include the buildings to house such apparatus (other than small equipment shelters that are part of satellite earth stations, translators, microwave interconnection facilities, and similar facilities).

Public telecommunications services means noncommercial educational and cultural radio and television programs, and related noncommercial instructional or informational material that may be transmitted by means of electronic communications.

Sectarian means that which has the purpose or function of advancing or propagating a religious belief.

State includes each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

System of public telecommunications entities means any combination of public telecommunications entities acting cooperatively to produce, acquire or distribute programs, or to undertake related activities.

Useful life means the normal operating life of equipment.

Subpart B—Application Requirements

§ 2301.3 Applicant eligibility.

(a) To apply for and receive a PTFP Construction or Planning Grant, an applicant must be:

- (1) A public or noncommercial educational broadcast station;
- (2) A noncommercial telecommunications entity;
- (3) A system of public telecommunications entities;
- (4) A nonprofit foundation, corporation, institution, or association organized primarily for educational or cultural purposes (see also 60 FR 66491 (Dec. 22, 1995)); or
- (5) A state, local, or Indian tribal government (or agency thereof), or a political or special purpose subdivision of a state.

(b) An applicant whose proposal requires an authorization from the FCC must be eligible to receive such authorization.

(c) If an applicant does not meet the above eligibility requirements, the application may be rejected and returned without further consideration.

(d) An applicant may request a preliminary determination of eligibility any time prior to the closing date.

§ 2301.4 Types of projects and broadcast priorities.

An applicant may file an application with the Agency for a planning or construction grant. To achieve the objectives set forth at 47 U.S.C. 393(b), the Agency has developed the following categories. Each application shall be identified as a broadcast or nonbroadcast project and must fall within at least one of the following categories:

- (a) Special applications. NTIA possesses the discretionary authority to recommend awarding grants to eligible nonbroadcast applicants whose proposals are unique or innovative and which address demonstrated and substantial community needs (*e.g.*, service to the blind or deaf and nonbroadcast projects offering educational or instructional services).