Receiving E-Rate Funding: Discounted Bills

E-Rate rules require all vendors to provide applicants with the choice of receiving discounted bills or paying their bills in full each month and then obtaining reimbursement. Applicants may choose a different discount/reimbursement method for each funding request (FRN), but once the choice has been made and an invoice has been submitted to USAC for payment (either a service provider invoice or an applicant BEAR invoice), that method of invoicing must be continued and cannot be changed for the FRN.

If you choose to receive discounted bills, the service provider issues discounted bills to the applicant, reflecting the E-Rate discount amount as a credit, and bills the applicant for the non-discount amount not paid by E-Rate. The service provider must submit FCC Form 474, Service Provider Invoice (SPI) Form, to USAC to receive payment of the E-Rate discount amount. Using this method, the applicant is not required to submit any reimbursement forms to USAC because E-Rate funding has been provided to the applicant via a discounted bill. It is important to remember that service providers will not begin issuing discounted bills until you have filed FCC Form 486, and USAC has approved it. FCC Form 486 can be filed only after you receive your Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL). Although you have 120 days to file the FCC Form 486, it is in your best interest to file it promptly if you wish to receive E-Rate discounts on your bills.

How to Request Discounted Bills

This decision should be conveyed to your service provider as soon as you make your vendor selections for the upcoming funding year – *even before the Form 471 application is submitted.* It is recommended that this be included in any contract between the applicant and service provider, or in an email or letter sent by the applicant to the service provider.

The applicant's choice to receive discounted bills should be confirmed with your vendor immediately after your Funding Commitment Letter is received electronically via your EPC portal. There is no formal USAC mechanism to inform your service provider which invoicing option you choose; therefore, each vendor may have its own requirement that you must follow for requesting discounted bills. Some companies just require an email message or phone call. Other companies require applicants to complete an online form or paper form specifying which account numbers should be discounted. Please note that some service providers have insisted that you meet their deadlines for requesting the discounted billing method, and if you fail to do so, you must use the BEAR reimbursement method. At the present time, there is no prohibition against the vendor's imposition of a deadline; therefore it is in your best interest to comply with their request.

Below is a short Q & A regarding the discounted billing process.

Q1. How does my service provider know how much to discount my bill?

Once the USAC receives and approves your Form 486 identifying the actual Service Start Date, an electronic approval notification letter is sent to both you and your service provider. This notification informs the service provider that they may invoice USAC for the discount funding portion of the costs of services or equipment. The service provider will use the approved discount percentage on the FRN to quantify the credit amount for the E-Rate eligible costs approved by USAC. The service provider may

have questions for you about how you calculated the E-Rate eligible prediscount costs that were approved in the FCDL.

Q2. What if the discount on my bill is not the same discount percentage for which I was approved on my Funding Commitment Decision Letter?

Your service provider is instructed by the USAC to apply the discount to eligible services used by eligible entities. In many cases eligible services are bundled with ineligible services and/or services are being received jointly by eligible and ineligible entities. Your service provider, therefore, will likely determine a "composite" or "effective" discount for the accounts upon which you were committed discounts. For this reason, the actual discount that you receive on your monthly bill may differ from the approved discount percentage on your Funding Commitment Decision Letter.

For example, let's say that your E-Rate eligible prediscount costs were \$200 per month and your E-Rate approved discount is 50%. This results in a \$100 monthly bill credit. In this example you are also billed for \$100 per month of other services that are *ineligible* for E-Rate. The monthly bill is \$300, and your E-Rate credit is \$100, which appears to be a 33.3% discount rather than the 50% approved discount. The 33.3% discount is the "composite" or "effective" discount based on the actual charges and services you receive from the service provider.

Q3. What if I have filed my Form 486 and still have not received a discounted bill from my service provider?

Contact your service provider to verify that you have provided all necessary information to the service provider and that the service provider intends to apply your percentage discount to your bill.

Q4. What if the discount appeared on previous bills but now has stopped?

• Have you received the entire amount of your funding commitment in the form of discounts on your bills? If the answer is yes, this is why your discounts have stopped.

To verify the amount of your funding commitment, you should refer to your electronic FCDL, and find the dollar amount of your "Funding Commitment Decision" for the Funding Request Number (FRN) associated with this service provider. If you have received more than one Funding Commitment Decision Letter relating to this FRN, refer to the most recent letter.

• Have you submitted a Form 500 to cancel or reduce the FRN or to change the Contract Expiration Date? If the answer is yes, this may be why your discounts have stopped.

If the answer to both questions is NO, contact your service provider to find out why you have stopped receiving discounts on your bills.

BEAR Filing Process

E-Rate rules require all vendors to provide applicants with the choice of receiving discounted bills or paying their bills in full each month and then obtaining reimbursement. Applicants may choose a different discount/reimbursement method for each funding request (FRN), but once the choice has been made and an invoice has been submitted to USAC for payment (either a service provider invoice or an applicant BEAR invoice), that method of invoicing must be continued and cannot be changed for the FRN.

If you choose to pay in full and seek E-Rate discount funding reimbursement from USAC, this is known as the BEAR (Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement) method.

Applicants file the FCC Form 472 (Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) Form) if they have paid the service provider in full for the products or services and want to be reimbursed for the discount amount.

USAC will review the invoice and will pay the applicant if payment is approved. Billed entities will receive payment directly to their bank account. In order to receive direct BEAR payments, the applicant must have first obtained an applicant 498 ID by certifying an FCC Form 498 (Service Provider and Billed Entity Identification Number and General Contact Information Form). USAC will request and review additional documentation before it approves the form and issues the applicant 498 ID.

BEAR Form Filing Requirements

You can file a BEAR Form after all of the following have occurred:

- You have received a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) with a positive funding commitment;
- You have filed and USAC has successfully processed an FCC Form 486;
- Your service provider has certified an FCC Form 473 (Service Provider Annual Certification (SPAC) Form);
- You have paid for the eligible products or services in full;
- The products or services have been delivered (an exception can be made for progress payments specified in a contract); and
- You have filed an FCC Form 498 and obtained an applicant 498 ID.

Invoice Filing Deadline

You must file BEAR Forms no later than 120 days after the last day to receive service or 120 days after the FCC Form 486 Notification Letter date, whichever is later.

Applicants and service providers may request and automatically receive a one-time 120-day extension of the deadline to file an invoice. Invoice deadline extension requests must be submitted on or before the invoice deadline date in order for the request to be considered timely. Note that invoice deadline

extensions are FRN-specific, and either the applicant or the service provider can request an extension for a particular FRN.

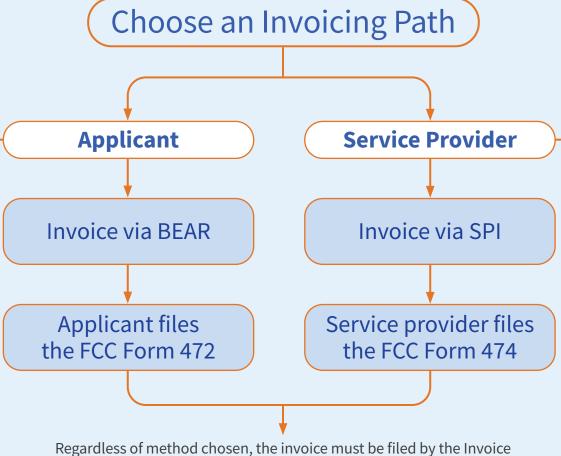
USAC Communications

After processing your BEAR Form, USAC issues a BEAR Notification Letter via U.S. First-Class Mail with information about the processing of your form. USAC also issues a copy of this letter to your service provider(s). If you need additional information about a reduction or denial of payment, you should refer to the invoice decision code(s) included in your letter.

After the end of each calendar quarter, USAC issues a Quarterly Disbursement Report via U.S. First-Class Mail that details all invoicing activity, BEAR Forms and SPI Forms, processed during that quarter for all funding years. This report allows you to track all of the invoicing activity related to your Billed Entity Number (BEN).

Select an Invoicing Method in E-Rate Funding, p. 5

Applicants in the E-Rate program can choose how to receive reimbursement from USAC for the discounted portion of the cost of their approved, eligible services and/or equipment.



obtained a 498 ID/SPIN
Paid the service provider in full for approved eligible equipment and service costs

In the **BEAR (Billed Entity**

method, the applicant

invoices USAC directly.

Before invoicing, the

applicant must have:Filed an FCC Form 498 and

Applicant Reimbursement)

 Filed FCC Form 486 to certify service start and CIPA compliance

The service provider must have:

- Filed an FCC Form 473
- Installed all purchased equipment before the Service Delivery Deadline

Regardless of method chosen, the invoice must be filed by the Invoice Delivery Deadline (the later of 120 days after the last day to receive service or 120 days after the FCC Form 486 Notification Letter date).

Invoice submitters are entitled to a one-time 120-day extension of the deadline upon request.

In the **SPI (Service Provider Invoicing)** method, the service provider invoices USAC.

Before invoicing, the service provider must have:

- Filed an FCC Form 498 and obtained a 498 ID/SPIN
- Certified an FCC Form 473
- Billed the applicant for the non-discounted portion of approved eligible equipment and service costs
- Delivered all equipment/ services

The applicant must have:

 Filed an FCC Form 486 to certify service start and CIPA compliance





This guide explains what must be completed for successful invoicing submission, and where to find the 2025 South Data FRN Status Tool

2016+ (https://opendata.usac.org/E-Rate/E-Rate-FRN-Status-Tool-FY2016-/8xzh-ytkh). Tip: If you can't select an FRN in EPC, the FRN is not eligible for invoicing per one or more of the E-Rate program rules listed below.

Open Data Download Instructions: Download files in the FRN Status Tool 2016+ by selecting Funding Request Number from the draption Receiving E-Rate entering your FRN. Click Export, filtered data, and CSV for Excel, then open the excel file. For more details on the invoicing process, visit https://www.usac.org/e-rate/applicant-process/invoicing/.



Before Completing FCC FORM 472/474					
Requirement	Description	Location			
Your Funding Request Number (FRN) is Committed	An FRN that is committed is one that has received funding.	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > Under the section Funding Request Details, see Status (A committed FRN will have the status of Funded. The approved amount will be under the section FRN Calculation.) OR Open Data FRN Status Tool 2016+ > Open downloaded file (see top of page for download instructions) > View Funding Request Status column			
FRN is for FY2016 or Later	FRNs must have been assigned in the year 2016 or later. The first two digits of your FRN is the year assigned.	Within Your Own Records			
Funding Is Available	Funds that remain from the committed amount, minus any disbursed amount.	Open Data FRN Status Tool 2016+ > Open downloaded file (see top of page for download instructions) > Subtract Total Disbursement column from Funding Commitment Request column			
Prevent Duplicates	Prevent duplicate invoice submissions by establishing a process to track each invoice.	Within Your Own Records			
Invoicing Period is Valid	Within the funding year, invoicing must occur after the services have started or been delivered, but before the invoicing deadline.	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > Under the section Funding Request Details, see Service Delivery Date and Invoice Deadline Date			
FCC Form 486 is Approved for the FRN	A certified FCC Form 486 is required from applicants before invoicing can begin. It's used to notify USAC that services have started for the recipients and to show compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) for the recipients of service for the FRN(s). For more details: https://www.usac.org/e-rate/applicant-process/starting-services/fcc-form-486-filing/ .	EPC > Records tab > FCC Form 486 (If a form has been submitted you will see the form listed under Form Number) > View Status column OR Open Data FRN Status Tool 2016+> Open downloaded file (see top of page for download instructions) > View FCC Form 486 Status column			
FCC Form 498 is Filed (BEAR or SPI)	This form is filed through EPC after certification. If the form isn't filed, invoicing can't be processed.	EPC > Records tab > FCC Forms 498 > Enter the FCC Form 498 ID in the Search bar (Only the FCC Form 498 specific to the BEN will be displayed. If a form has not been submitted no form or status will appear.)			
Paid Service Provider	Applicant must have paid service provider in full before invoicing E-Rate.	Done Through Your Service Provider			
Invoicing Mode is Correct	Once an invoice is submitted, the mode is set and cannot be changed without requesting a mode change, returning all funds, and reinvoicing before the deadline.	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > Under the Section Funding Request Details, see Current Invoice Mode			
While Completing FCC Form 472/474					
Requirement	Description	Location			
Check Service Type Matches FCC Form 471	If you're invoicing for Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections (BMIC), make sure you filed your BMIC correctly on your FCC Form 471—mistakes are often identified during invoicing. For how to fix misclassified equipment, see: https://www.usac.org/e-rate/learn/faqs/basic-maintenance-of-internal-connections-bmic/	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests tab > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > Under the section Funding Request Details, see Service Type (If you filed for BMIC, it will say Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections.)			
Invoiced Equipment/Services Matches FCC Form 471	Remove any equipment/services on your invoice that aren't on your FCC Form 471.	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests tab > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > FRN Line Items tab > Select the FRN Line Item Number > View Product and Service Details section			
Check Your Listed Speeds	Before invoicing USAC, ensure you are utilizing the correct FRN for the correct speed and that the speed on your internet service bill is properly listed and matches the invoiced amount.	EPC > Records tab > Funding Requests tab > Enter FRN into the Search bar > Select FRN > FRN Line Items tab > Select the FRN Line Item Number > View Bandwidth Speed section			
Check Calculations	Double check your manual calculations (e.g., your prorated amounts must be accurate).	Within Your Own Records			
Compare invoice total to contracted rate	The invoiced amount must be the discounted portion of actual charges (the amount billed to you by your service provider), not the amount committed through the E-Rate program.	Within Your Own Records			

Fall 2025 South Applicant Invoice Notifications (FY2016+)

Notification:	Description:	Notification Generated:	Method of Delivery:
Invoice Pending Certification	Notification that an invoice requires certification by a Full Rights user	After a Partial Rights user creates an invoice and sends it to a Full Rights user to certify	Create FCC Form 472 task in My Pending Tasks tab assigned to Full Rights users Email alert to Full Rights user that a new task has been assigned
Information Request Received from USAC for an Invoice Line	Notification that an invoice line has an inquiry form USAC that requires a response	After a USAC reviewer sends new communication regarding an invoice line	Email to Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for the BEN Invoice Line Number listed for Full Rights users in My Pending Inquiries tab
Deadline Extended for Response to Information Request	Notification that additional time has been granted to respond to an inquiry for an invoice line	After a USAC reviewer updates the response due date for an invoice line that was granted an extension	Email to Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for the BEN Invoice Line Number listed for Full Rights users in My Pending Inquiries tab
BEAR Notification Letter*	A letter notifying users that an invoice line or lines submitted using the BEAR mode have been processed	After an invoice line or lines has been processed	News post titled "Invoice Disbursement Notification" visible to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN

^{*}For invoices with a funding year of 2015 and earlier, the BEAR Notification Letter, BEAR Remittance Statement, and Applicant QDR will be continue to be sent via mail.

E-rate Form 472 "BEAR" Reimbursement Filing Guide

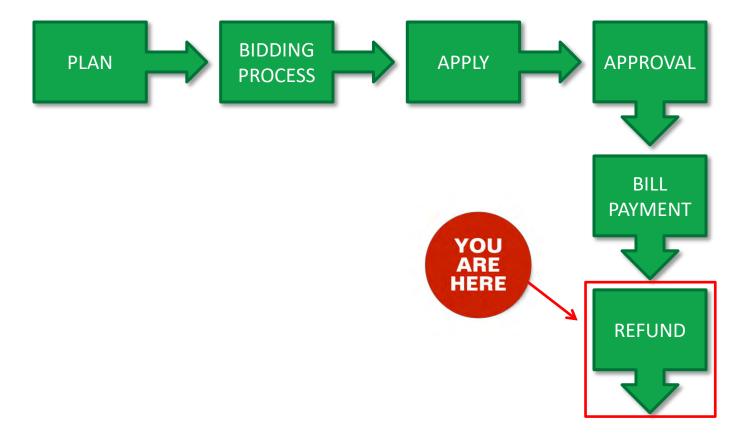


July 2025

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Where does the BEAR / Form 472 fall in the E-Rate process?



Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 4

The Basics

What is the FCC Form 472 (BEAR)?

- An indication of monies paid in full for eligible products and services for which an FCDL has been awarded
- A request for reimbursement of the discount portion of the amount paid by the applicant

When can I file a BEAR?

A BEAR cannot be filed until:

- A Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) with a positive commitment has been received
- A Form 486 has been filed and processed (indicating services have started)
- The service provider has filed an FCC Form 473, Service Provider Annual Certification (SPAC) Form for the associated funding year and SPIN
- The service provider has billed the applicant for the entire cost of services for the period for which reimbursement is being sought (e.g. the monthly invoice for MRC costs or the one-time invoice for NRC costs)
- The services have been delivered
- The applicant has paid for those services in full
- A Form 498 has been filed and processed (providing direct deposit information for reimbursements)

What is the deadline for BEARs?

BEARs must be certified no later than 120 days after the last day services are received (typically this is October 28 following the end of the funding year)

or

120 days after the date of the FCC Form 486 Notification Letter, whichever is later

The exception to the above is if there are post-commitment changes, in which case the deadline is no later than 120 days after the latest of the following:

- Date of an approved post-commitment Revised Funding Commitment Decision Letter
- Date of an approved appeal Revised Funding Commitment Decision Letter on a previously denied or reduced funding request

Where do I file a BEAR?

There is no longer a separate BEAR system with a separate access point from the One Portal platform.

Instead, you will file BEARs by accessing the Billed Entity's profile within the EPC Portal just as you do for other program forms.

Invoicing permissions for applicants are based on user access rights specified in EPC by the Account Administrator.

How many separate forms do I file?

Your choice!

- You may choose to split up or combine your BEAR filings however you choose
- You can include multiple Forms 471s and FRNs on the same BEAR

Potential examples:

- file a separate BEAR form for each FRN for each service period (monthly, quarterly, etc) or the entire funding year
- include all the FRNs from the same Form 471 on one BEAR
- include all FRNs that are eligible for invoicing on the same BEAR form

Managing BEAR Permissions

→ DO THIS FIRST 1←

The Account Administrator should review and assign BEAR permissions before users attempt to create a BEAR.

Once this step has initially been completed, it does not need to be repeated unless new users are added to the entity profile or the AA wishes to modify permissions.



For existing EPC users with BEAR credentials for the legacy system

These users may have automatically been assigned permissions to create and certify BEARs in the new EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard.

Newly created users did not automatically receive both legacy and EPC BEAR permissions.

The Account Administrator should verify that these permissions are as desired before any current users attempt to create BEARs and adjust the permissions if necessary.

For those users who were not automatically assigned BEAR permissions

AND

For those users who should be assigned different permissions (partial vs full)

AND

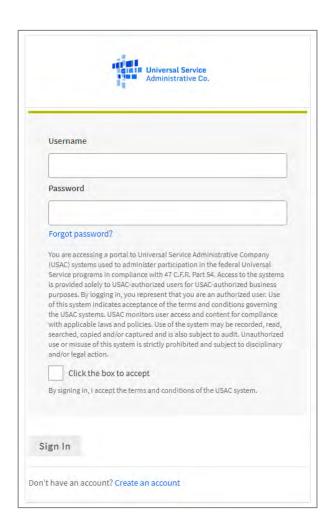
For any new EPC users

Permission to create and/or certify a BEAR must be explicitly selected by the Account Administrator. The Account Administrator must complete this step before a BEAR can be created by users that fall in any of the above circumstances.



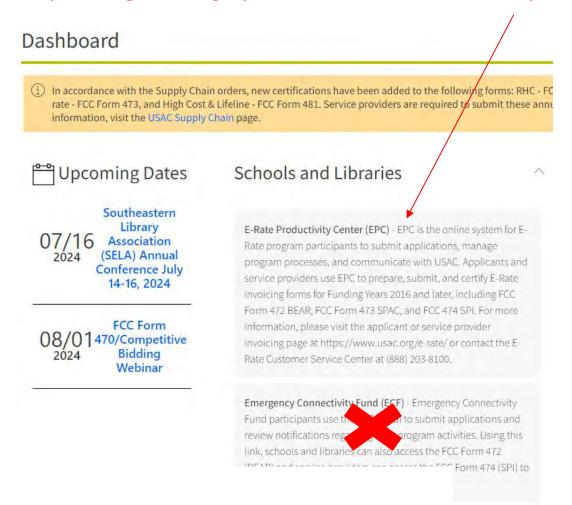
The Account Administrator completes the following steps:

- 1 First, navigate to https://forms.universalservice.org/portal
- 2 Log into One Portal with your username (your full email address) and One Portal password





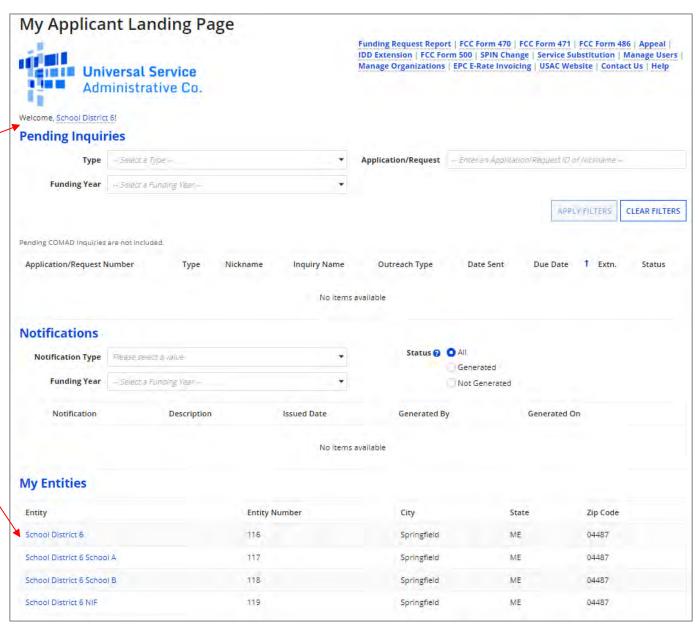
- 3 Complete the steps as prompted to obtain and enter a one-time verification code
- 4 Once you have successfully logged into One Portal and are viewing its dashboard, access EPC by clicking on the gray block for "E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)"





5 On the EPC
Landing Page, click on the link for the organization (either in the "Welcome" line or scroll to the "My Entities" section")

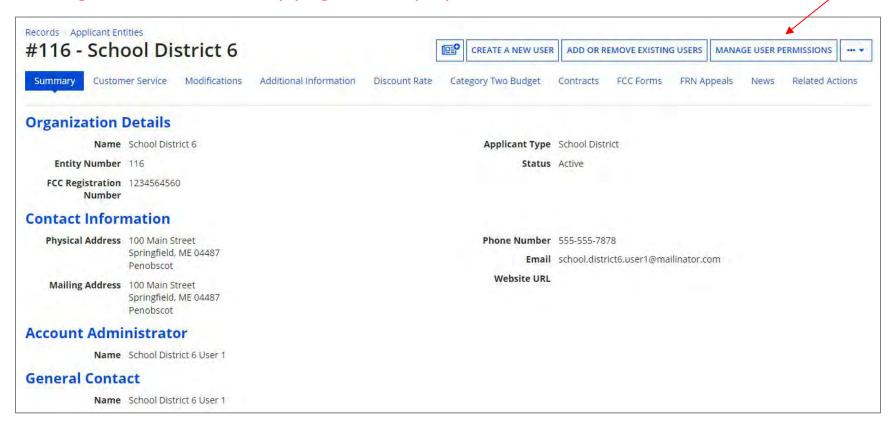
In most cases this will be the school district unless the organization is listed in EPC as an independent school



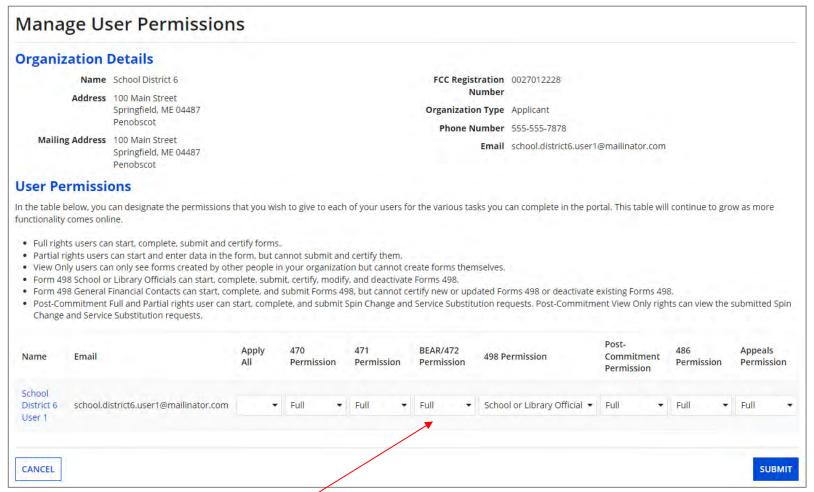


6 Click on the "MANAGE USER PERMISSIONS" button

The organization's summary page will display



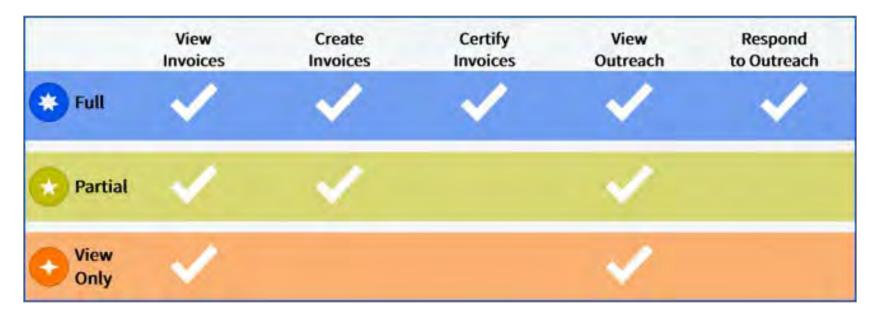




- 7 Select the BEAR/472 permissions you want to specify for each user
 - Full rights users can create, edit, and certify invoices and can respond to outreach
 - Partial rights users can create and edit invoices, but cannot certify them
 Partial rights users can view outreach but cannot respond to it
 - View Only users can see invoices and outreach, but cannot create or edit or respond



User Permissions for Invoices (BEARs):





NOTE: Since only full rights users can respond to outreach, it is STRONGLY recommended that you set the permissions as full rights for whoever will function as the main BEAR contact— they will not be able to respond to inquiries if they are only granted partial rights



Manage User Permissions **Organization Details** Name School District 6 FCC Registration 0027012228 Number Address 100 Main Street Springfield, ME 04487 Organization Type Applicant Penobscot Phone Number 555-555-7878 Mailing Address 100 Main Street Email school.district6.user1@mailinator.com Springfield, ME 04487 Penobscot **User Permissions** In the table below, you can designate the permissions that you wish to give to each of your users for the various tasks you can complete in the portal. This table will continue to grow as more functionality comes online. · Full rights users can start, complete, submit and certify forms. Partial rights users can start and enter data in the form, but cannot submit and certify them. · View Only users can only see forms created by other people in your organization but cannot create forms themselves. Form 498 School or Library Officials can start, complete, submit, certify, modify, and deactivate Forms 498. Form 498 General Financial Contacts can start, complete, and submit Forms 498, but cannot certify new or updated Forms 498 or deactivate existing Forms 498. Post-Commitment Full and Partial rights user can start, complete, and submit Spin Change and Service Substitution requests. Post-Commitment View Only rights can view the submitted Spin Change and Service Substitution requests. Post-Apply 470 471 BEAR/472 Appeals 498 Permission Name Email Commitment Permission Permission Permission Permission Permission Permission School School or Library Official . District 6 school.district6.user1@mailinator.com Full ▼ Full Full Full ▼ Full User 1 SUBMIT CANCEL

8 Click on the "SUBMIT" button to apply the specified permissions



Once you have set the permissions for the users in your organization's profile, you will not need to repeat this process unless new users are added to the entity profile or you wish to modify existing permissions.

Filing a BEAR Form

Once permissions have been granted, any user assigned creation and/or certification rights can create a BEAR.



Before you begin:

1 COLLECT Information

- Ensure you have the accurate FCC Form 471 and locate your:
 - ✓ FRN
 - Discount Rate
 - ✓ Approved Services/Equipment
 - ✓ Approved Cost and Quantities
- Locate the approved Recipients of Service (ROS) for the FRN

2 CALCULATE Invoice Amount

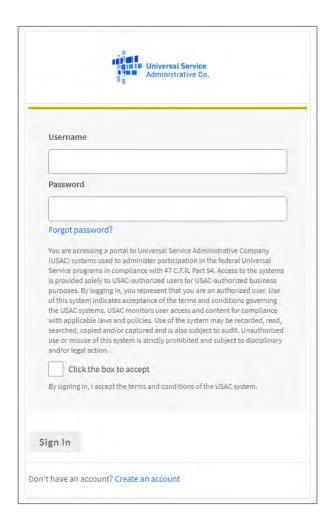
- Invoiced amount must be actual charges
- Calculate total undiscounted amount for each line
- ✓ Remove ineligible items

3 DOCUMENT and Track Invoices

- Establish a process to track/ identify each invoice
- Retain your supporting documentation for 10 years

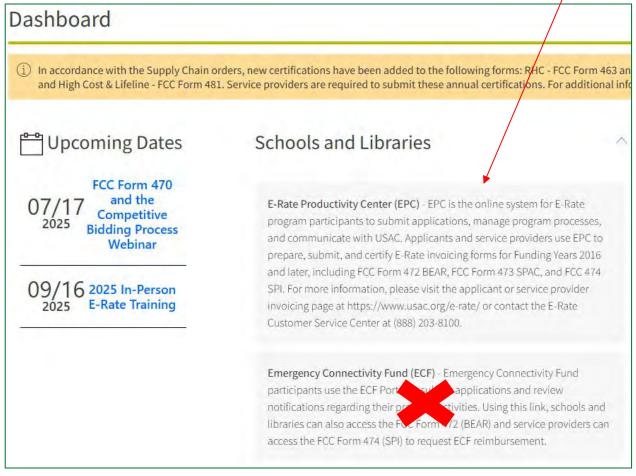


- 1 First, navigate to https://forms.universalservice.org/portal
- 2 Log into One Portal with your username (your full email address) and One Portal password



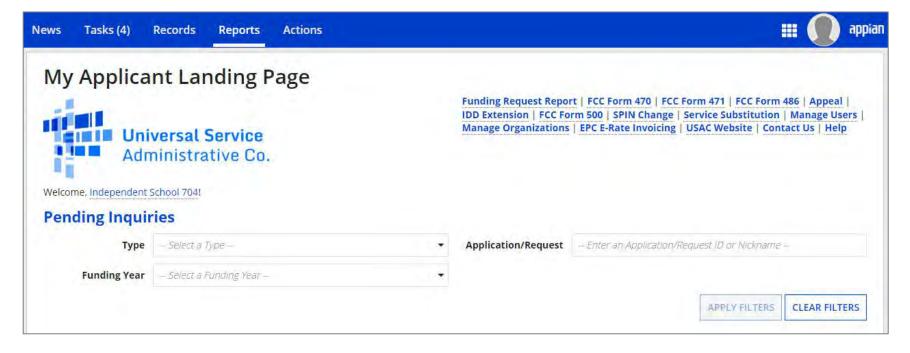


- 3 Complete the steps as prompted to obtain and enter a one-time verification code
- 4 Once you have successfully logged into One Portal and are viewing its dashboard, access EPC by clicking on the gray block for "E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)"

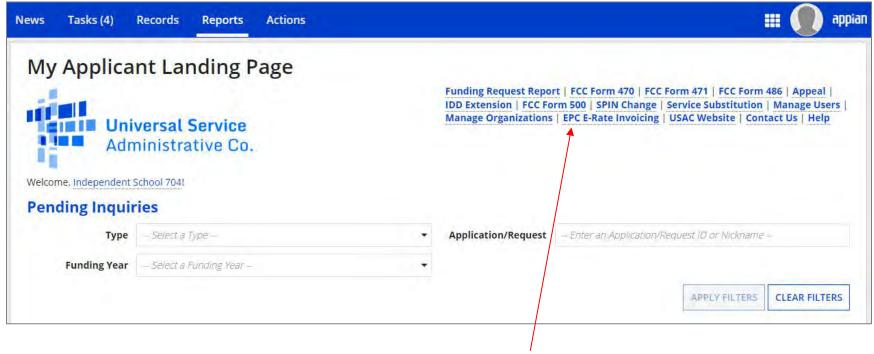




Your EPC Landing Page will display





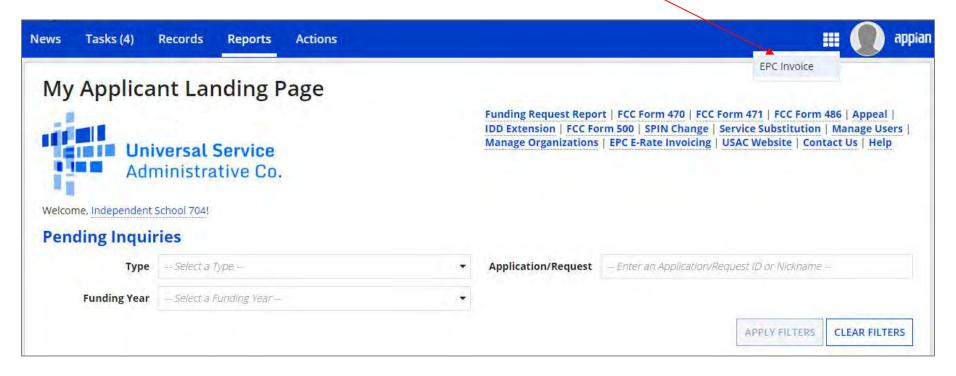


5 Select the "EPC E-Rate Invoicing" link to enter the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard (it will open in its own tab or browser window)

NOTE: You will only have access to the quick link if you have been given invoicing permissions



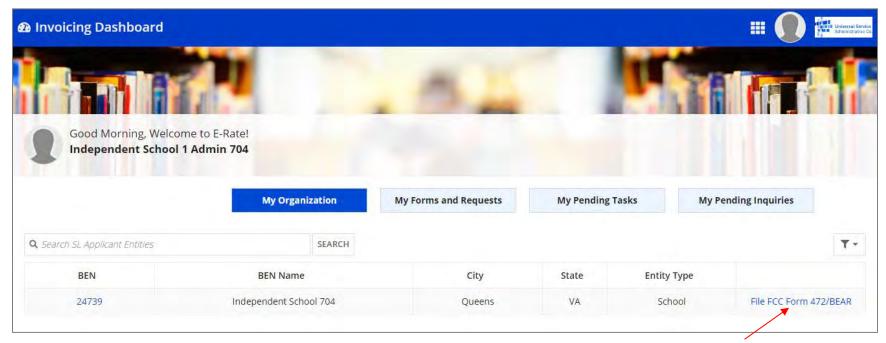
NOTE: You can also access the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard by clicking on the grid of squares (or "waffle") located next to your profile picture in the righthand corner of the blue navigation bar, and then selecting "EPC Invoice" from the sub menu





The EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard opens to the "My Organization" tab and provides a table listing the BENs with which you are associated

NOTE: The "My Pending Inquiries" button will not display until the organization's first BEAR inquiry is issued, so in your first few ventures to the dashboard you likely will not see this fourth button



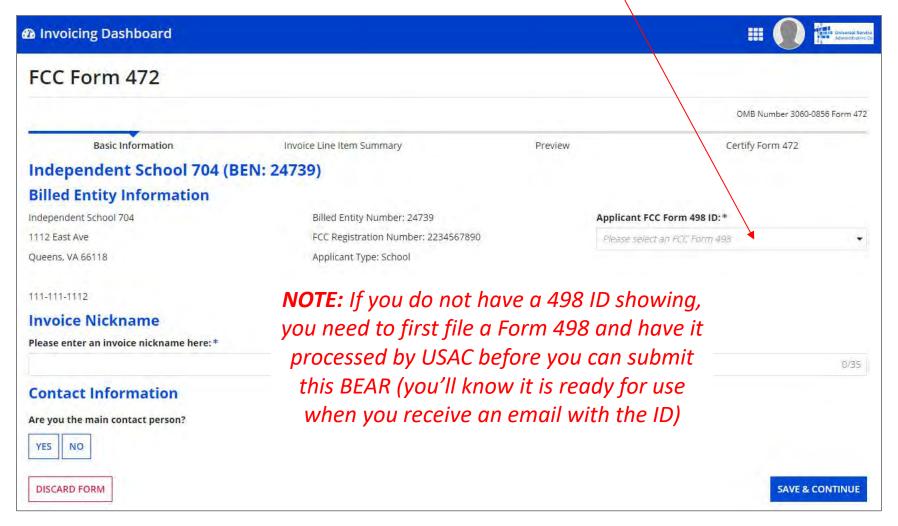
6 Click on the "File FCC Form 472 / BEAR" link in the table to begin a new BEAR

BEAR Section One: Basic Information

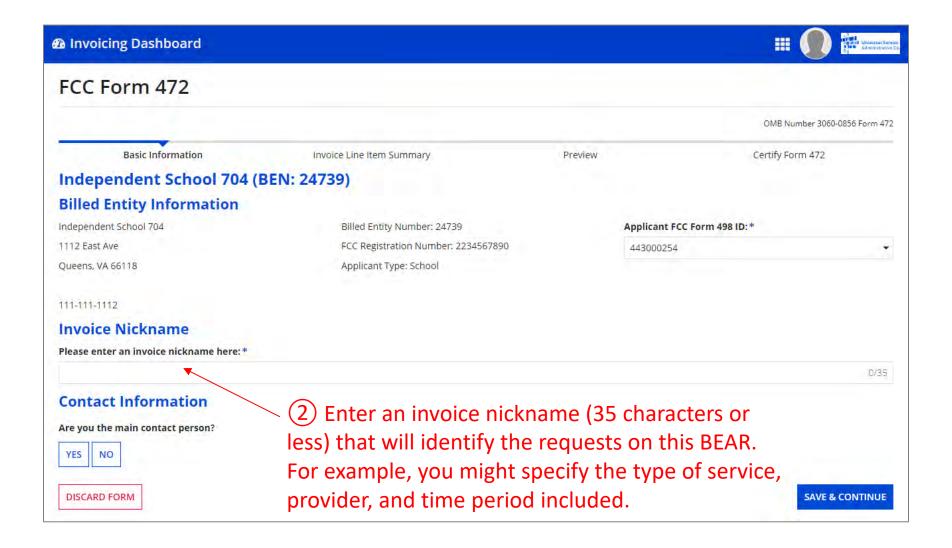
First, you will enter some general information.

Basic Information

① Select your 498 ID from the "Applicant FCC Form 498 ID" dropdown menu. If you have more than one 498 ID, be sure to select the correct one for the BEAR that you are creating.

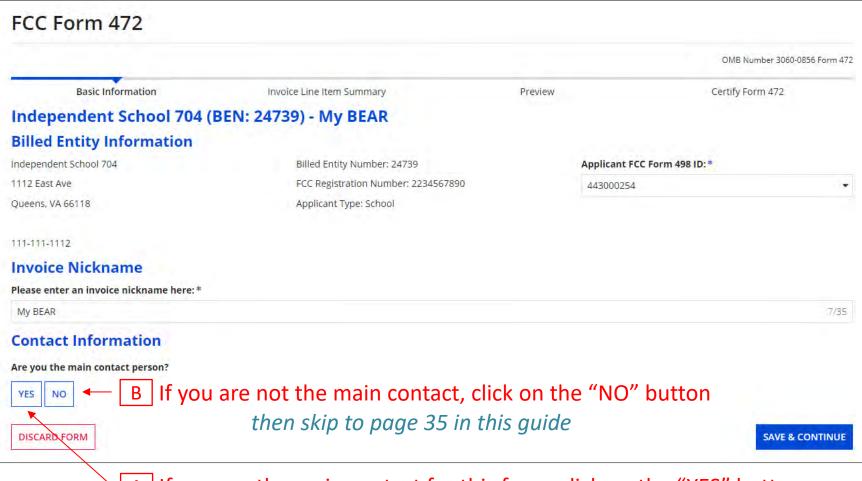


Basiceinaformation





3 Select a contact person for this BEAR



A If you are the main contact for this form, click on the "YES" button then go to the next page in this guide

Basicinformation

If you are the main contact (you chose "YES")

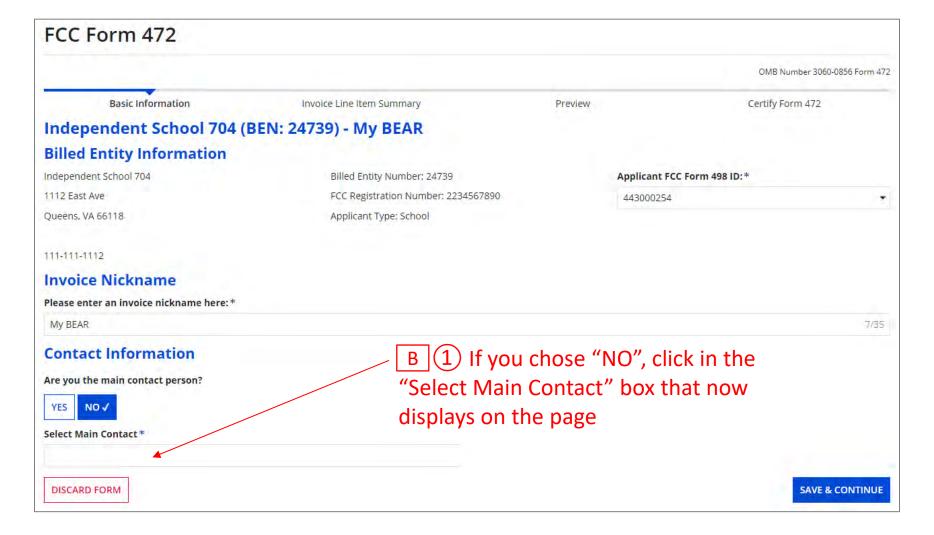
A 1 If you chose "YES", your contact info will automatically display

			OME	3 Number 3060-0856 Form 472
Basic Information	Invoice Line Item Summary	Preview	Certify	/ Form 472
Independent School 704 ((BEN: 24739) - My BEAR			
Billed Entity Information				
Independent School 704	Billed Entity Number: 24739		Applicant FCC Form 498 ID: *	
1112 East Ave	FCC Registration Number: 22345678	390	443000254	
Queens, VA 66118	Applicant Type; School			
111-111-1112				
Invoice Nickname				
				7/35
Invoice Nickname Please enter an invoice nickname here: *			(A) Click	
Invoice Nickname Please enter an invoice nickname here: * My BEAR Contact Information	Ind	ependent School 1 Admin	A 2 Click	on the
Invoice Nickname Please enter an invoice nickname here: * My BEAR Contact Information Are you the main contact person?		ependent School 1 Admin _sch_704_aa@testmail.usa	"SAVE & CON	on the
Invoice Nickname Please enter an invoice nickname here: * My BEAR Contact Information	ind		"SAVE & CON	on the

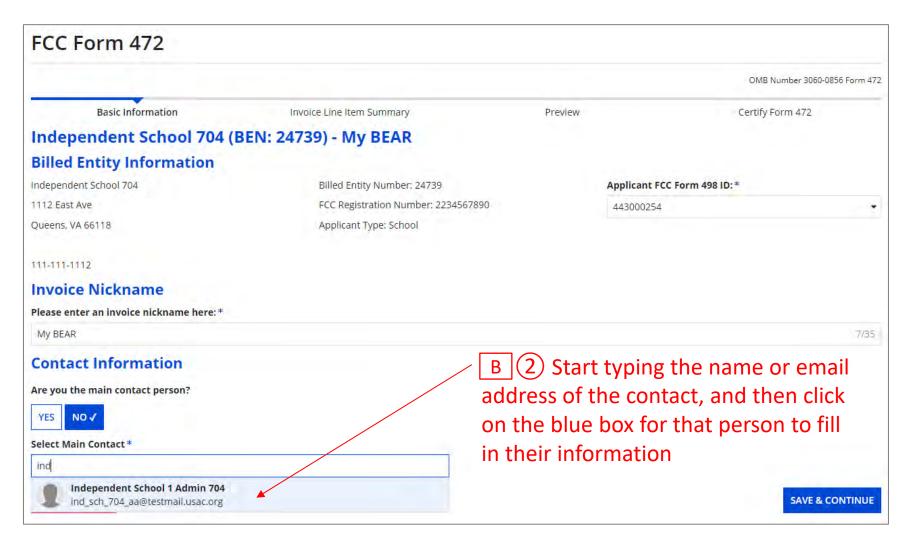
skip to page 38 in this guide

Basiceingformation

If you are not the main contact (you chose "NO")

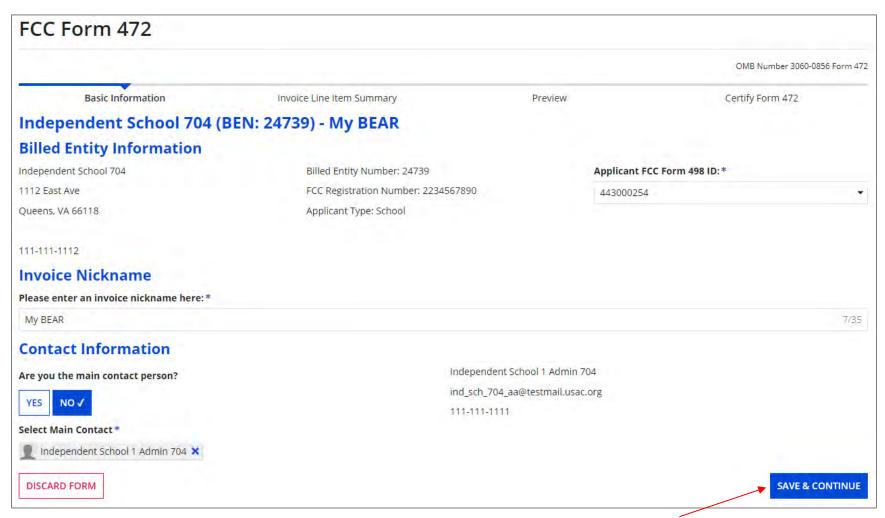


Basiceingformation



NOTE: Only those individuals who have been associated with your organization in EPC can be the contact person for the form

Basicenteformation



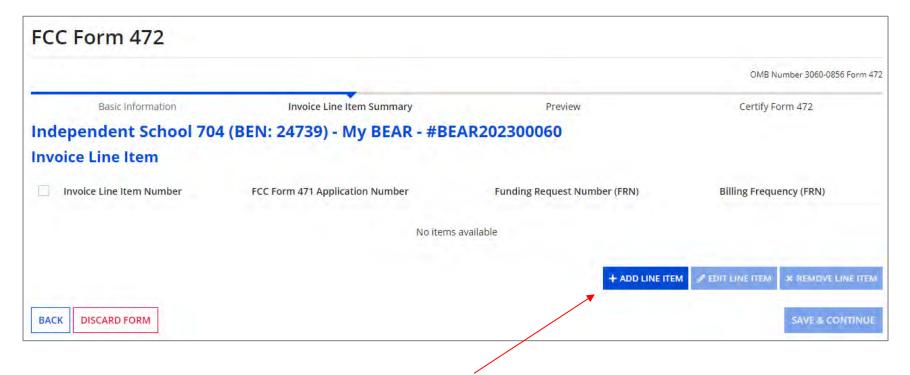
B 3 Click on the "SAVE & CONTINUE" button

go to the next page in this guide

BEAR Section Two: Invoice Line Item Summary

Next, you will add lines for the reimbursements you are seeking.



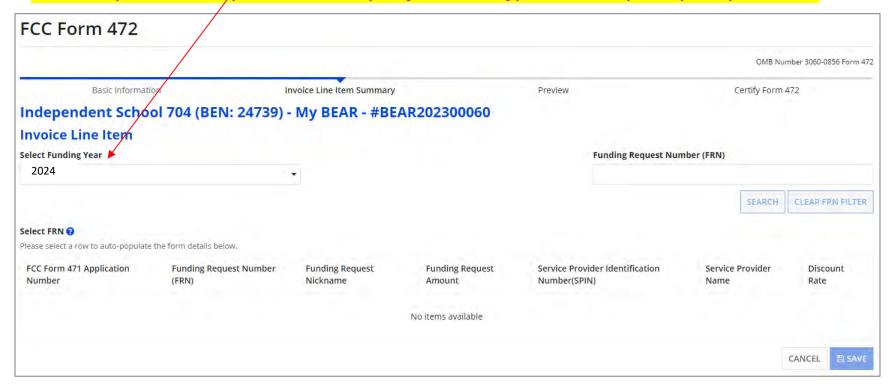


1 Click on the "ADD LINE ITEM" button to add your first line to this BEAR



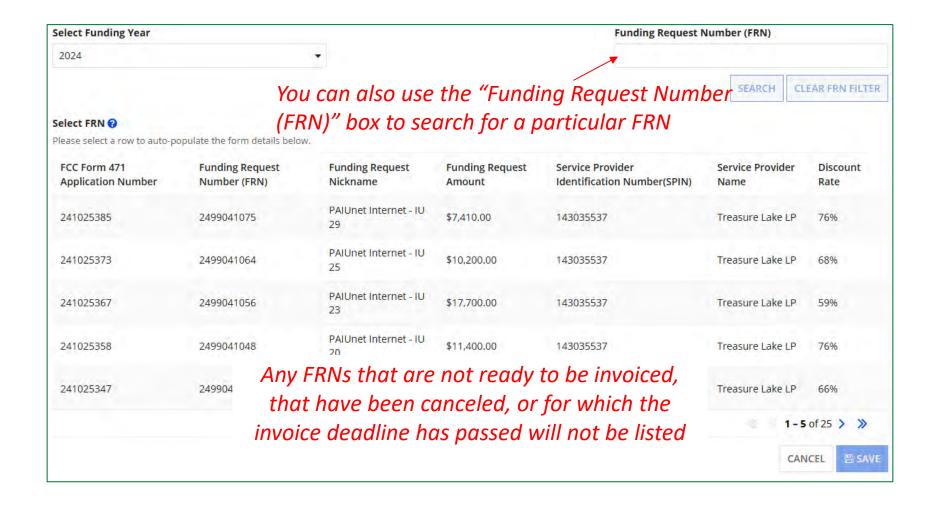
2 Select a Funding Year from the drop down menu if necessary

NOTE: a year will be pre-selected by default - verify this is truly the year you want





A table with FRNs from that funding year that are available for invoicing will display





3 To include an FRN on the BEAR, click on its FRN row

Select FRN @

Please select a row to auto-populate the form details below.

FCC Form 471 Application Number	Funding Request Number (FRN)	Funding Request Nickname	Funding Request Amount	Service Provider Identification Number(SPIN)	Service Provider Name	Discount Rate
241025385	2499041075	PAIUnet Internet - IU 29	\$7,410.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	76%
241025373	2499041064	PAIUnet Internet - IU 25	\$10,200.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	68%
241025367	2499041056	PAIUnet Internet - IU 23	\$17,700.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	59%
241025358	2499041048	PAIUnet Internet - IU 20	\$11,400.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	76%
241025347	2499041042	PAIUnet Internet - IU 14	\$7.920.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	66%
					1-5	of 25 > >



Once you select an FRN row, it will be highlighted blue and an "Add New Invoice Line" section with additional information fields to complete will appear below the table --- you may need to scroll down to see these additional fields

Select FRN ?

Please select a row to auto-populate the form details below.

FCC Form 471 Application Number	Funding Request Number (FRN)	Funding Request Nickname	Funding Request Amount	Service Provider Identification Number(SPIN)	Service Provider Name	Discount Rate
241025385	2499041075	PAIUnet Internet - IU 29	\$7,410.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	76%
241025373	2499041064	PAIUnet Internet - IU 25	\$10,200.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	68%
241025367	2499041056	PAIUnet Internet - IU 23	\$17,700.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	59%
241025358	2499041048	PAIUnet Internet - IU 20	\$11,400.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	76%
241025347	2499041042	PAIUnet Internet - IU 14	\$7,920.00	143035537	Treasure Lake LP	66%
« < 1-5 of 25 > »						

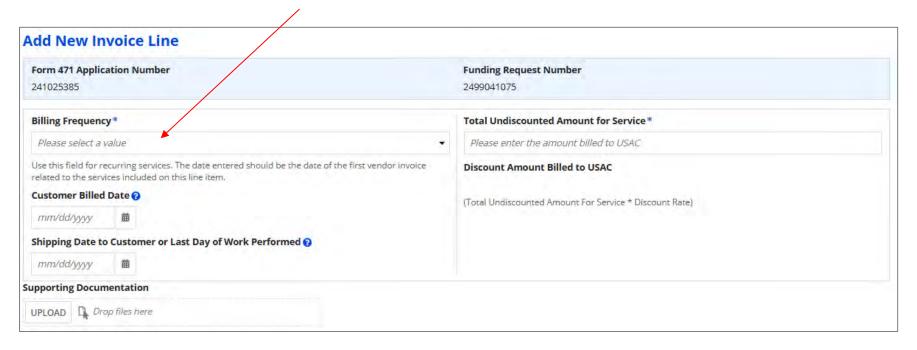
Add New Invoice Line

Drop files here

Form 471 Application Number 241025385	Funding Request Number 2499041075	
Billing Frequency*	Total Undiscounted Amount for Service*	
Please select a value ▼	Please enter the amount billed to USAC	
Use this field for recurring services. The date entered should be the date of the first vendor invoice related to the services included on this line item.	Discount Amount Billed to USAC	
Customer Billed Date ? mm/dd/yyyy	(Total Undiscounted Amount For Service * Discount Rate)	
Shipping Date to Customer or Last Day of Work Performed ② mm/dd/yyyy		
Supporting Documentation		



4 In the "Add New Invoice Line" section, select a billing frequency from the drop-down menu



Available Options:

Annually, Monthly, On Delivery, One-Time, Other, Quarterly, Semi-Annually, Weekly, Every Two Weeks, Every Two Months



(5) Complete one of the date fields

DO NOT COMPLETE BOTH FIELDS! - you will get an error when you try to save the line

You must enter either a "Customer Billed Date" or a "Shipping Date to Customer or Last Day of Work Performed" date.

Add New Invoice Line Form 471 Application Number **Funding Request Number** 241025385 2499041075 **Billing Frequency*** Total Undiscounted Amount for Service* Monthly Please enter the amount billed to USAC Use this field for recurring services, The date entered should be the date of the first vendor invoice Discount Amount Billed to USAC Customer Billed Date ? (Total Undiscounted Amount For Service * Discount Rate) mm/dd/yyyy No BEAR can be certified earlier than July 1 Shipping Date to Customer or Last Day of Work Performed ? regardless of the date entered in these fields 曲 mm/dd/yyyy

SEE THE NEXT SLIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THESE FIELDS >>>

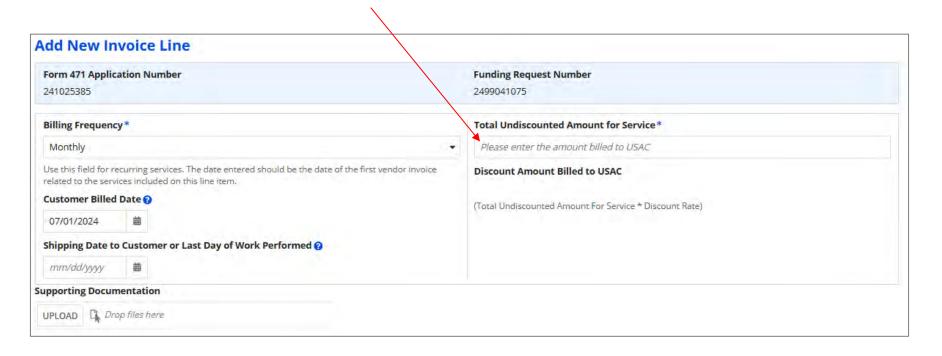


	Recurring FRNs	Non-Recurring FRNs
Field to Use:	"Customer Billed Date"	"Shipping Date to Customer or Last Day of Work Performed"
Type of services:	Recurring services and multiple installments for non-recurring services	Non-recurring services billed one-time only
Earliest Allowed Date:	July 1	 Category 1 July 1 for most C1 FRNs January 1 for advanced installation of non-recurring services Category 2 April 1 for advanced installation of non-recurring services
Latest Allowed Date:	Service Delivery Deadline (usually June 30)	Service Delivery Deadline (usually September 30)

Being allowed to enter a date earlier than July 1 in the "Shipping Date" field is a new BEAR functionality. Review your service provider invoices and program rules carefully to ensure you are entering a valid date.

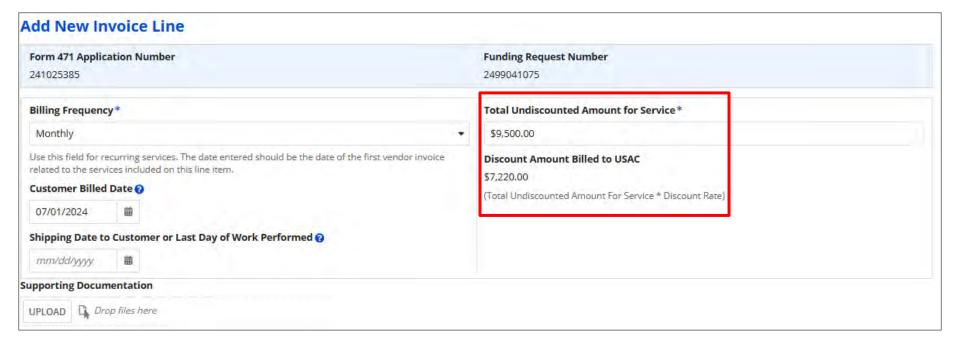


6 Enter the total <u>ACTUAL ELIGIBLE UNDISCOUNTED</u> amount you paid for the service provider bill (be sure that you **subtract all ineligible charges**)





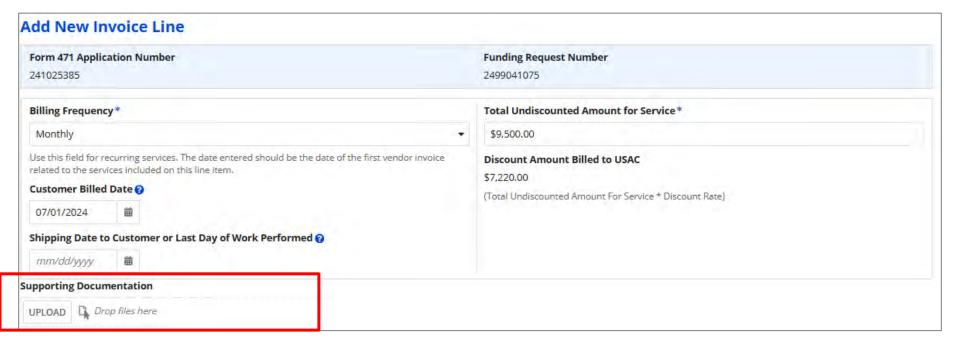
After the undiscounted amount has been entered, the system will automatically calculate the discounted reimbursement amount to which you are entitled



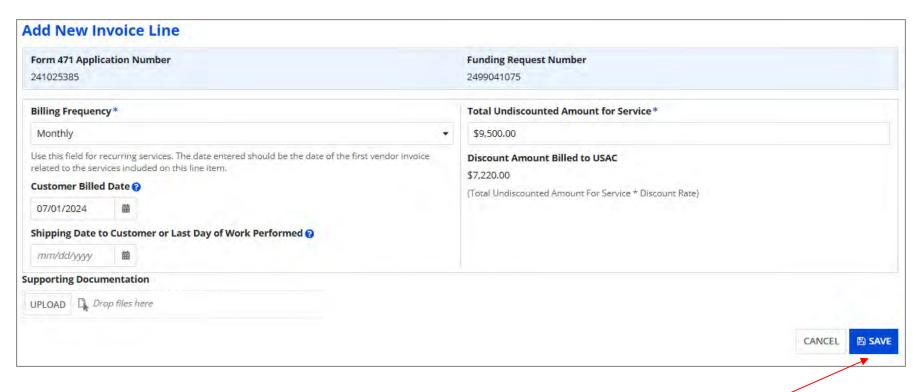


7 OPTIONAL: If you would like to upload supporting documentation with your BEAR, you may drag any appropriate files onto the "UPLOAD" button

This is not a required action, but you may want to do so if you know you are likely to receive outreach requesting supporting information for the type of service included in this line, for example basic maintenance of internal connections (BMIC)







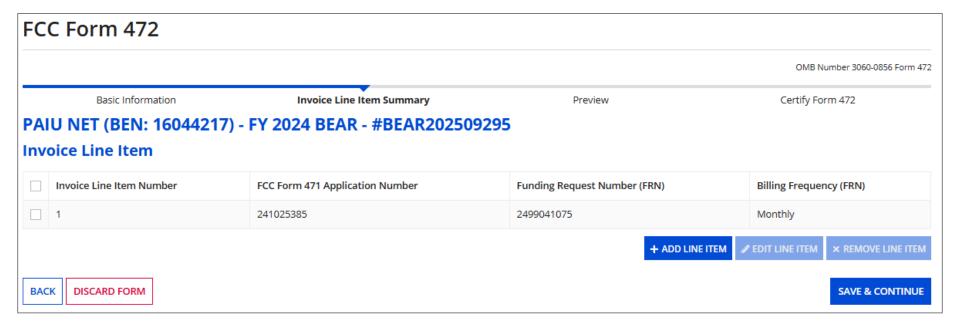
8 Click on the "SAVE" button



Each Line Item that has been created for this BEAR will display in a table

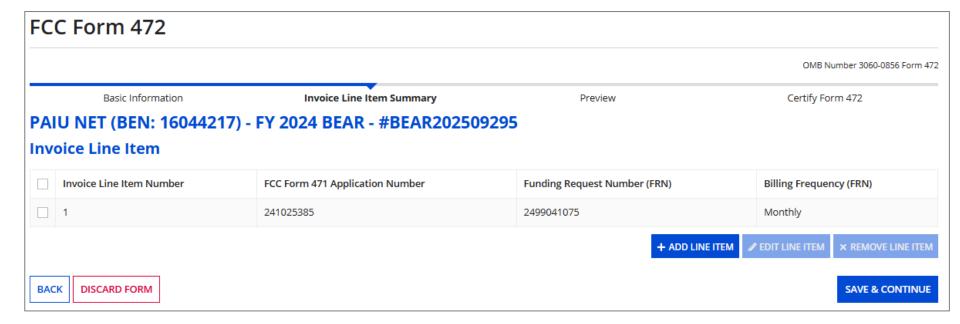
To create another Line Item for additional requests for this BEAR, click on the "ADD LINE ITEM" button and complete the fields as prompted

Example: If filing a BEAR for all bills paid in quarter 1, you would first complete a line item for July, then add and complete a line item for August, and finally add and complete a line item for September





To edit an existing Line Item, click the check box for it and click on the "EDIT LINE ITEM" button To delete an existing Line Item, click the check box for it and click on the "REMOVE LINE ITEM" button





FCC Form 472					
				OMB Number 3060-0856 Form 472	
	Basic Information	Invoice Line Item Summary	Preview	Certify Form 472	
	U NET (BEN: 16044217) - oice Line Item	FY 2024 BEAR - #BEAR202509295	5		
	Invoice Line Item Number	FCC Form 471 Application Number	Funding Request Number (FRN)	Billing Frequency (FRN)	
	1	241025385	2499041075	Monthly	
+ ADD LINE ITEM					
BAC	DISCARD FORM			SAVE & CONTINUE	

Olick on the "SAVE & CONTINUE" button
 when your Line Items for this BEAR are complete

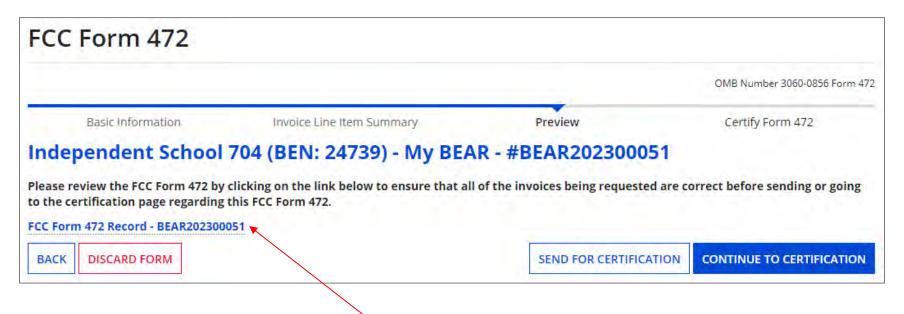
go to the next page in this guide

Previewing the BEAR

Before certifying the form, you will have the opportunity to review it in its entirety.

Previewing the BEAR

You should review your form carefully before proceeding to certification



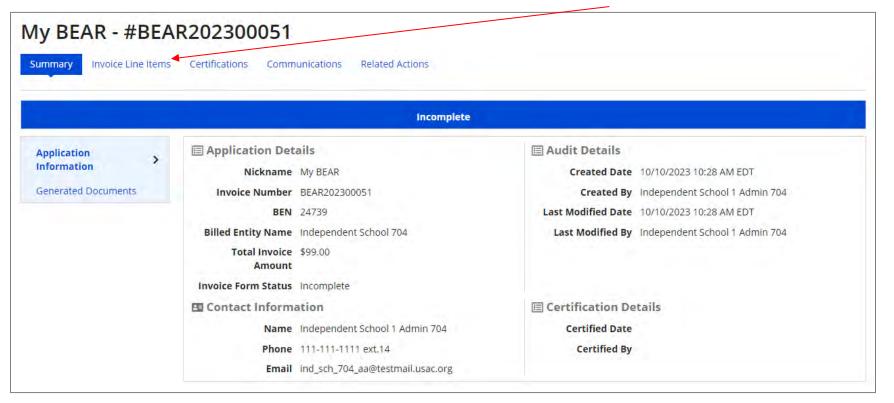
Click on the link for the BEAR record to preview a copy of the form

NOTE: The form will be displayed in either a new window or new tab depending on your browser settings



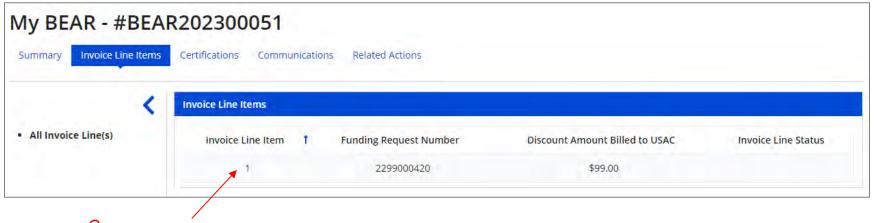
The form preview opens to a summary page

Click on the "Invoice Line Items" tab





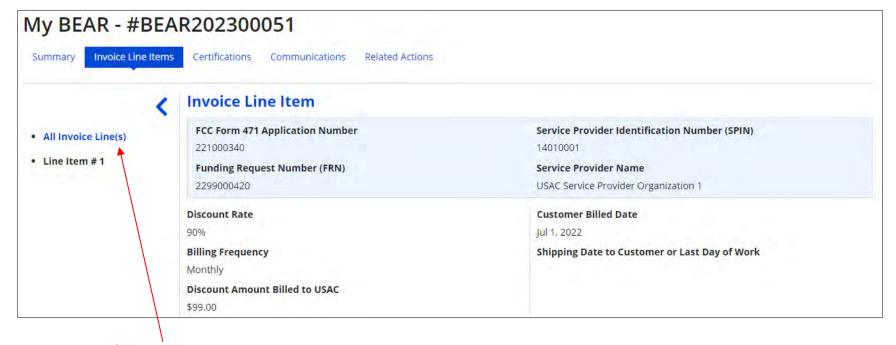
The "Invoice Line Items" tab displays a table with each invoice line



Click on a specific invoice line to show details about that line item

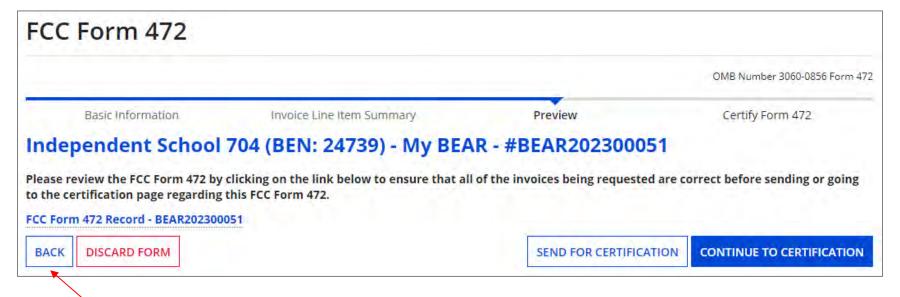
Slide 57





Click on the "All Invoice Line(s)" link in the sidebar menu to return to the full list of line items

Previewing the BEAR



If you discover any modifications to be made, return to the FCC Form 472 window and click on the "BACK" button to go through the form screens and make any necessary changes

Certifying the BEAR

Finally, a user in your organization will certify and submit the BEAR form.

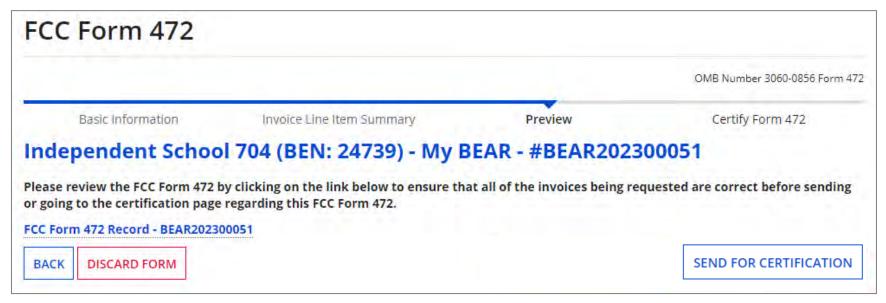
Certificating at the BEAR

Certification of the form takes place in different manners depending on the rights assigned to users for your organization and who in your organization is responsible for certifying the form.

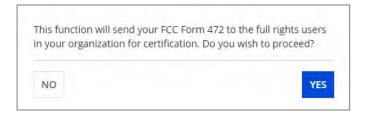
- A If you are a partial rights user \rightarrow go to the next page in this guide
- B If you are a full rights user but not the person who will certify the form \rightarrow skip to page 63
- C If you are a full rights user who is responsible for certifying the form \rightarrow skip to page 64
- D If you are a full rights user certifying a form sent to you by another user \rightarrow skip to page 68



A If you are a partial rights user:



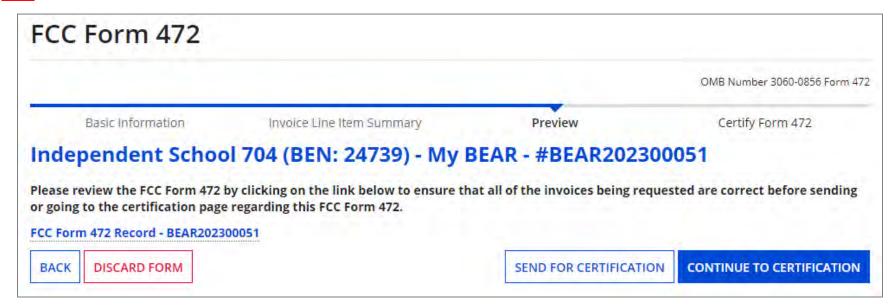
- A 1 Click on the "SEND FOR CERTIFICATION" button
- A 2 You will see a notice that your form will be sent to the full rights users in your organization
- A 3 Click on the "YES" button to proceed



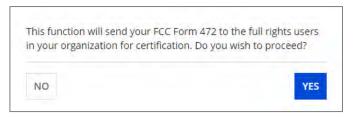
skip to page 74 in this guide

[Full Rights 16/10 tethe Certifier]

B If you are a full rights user but not the person who will certify the form:



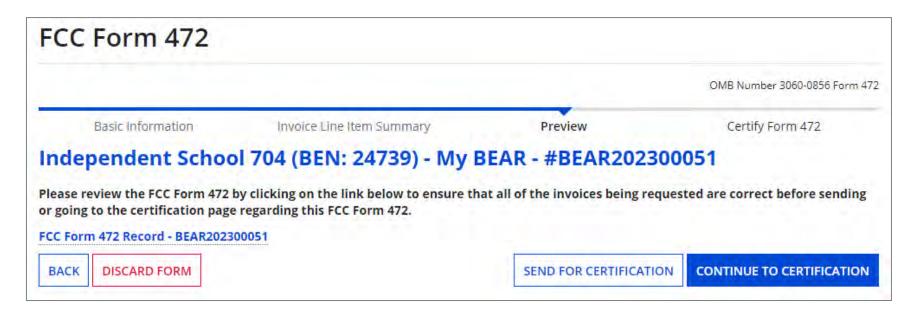
- B (1) Click on the "SEND FOR CERTIFICATION" button
- B 2 You will see a notice that your form will be sent to the full rights users in your organization
- B 3 Click "YES" to send the form



skip to page 74 in this guide



C If you are a full rights user who is responsible for certifying the form:



C 1 Click on the "CONTINUE TO CERTIFICATION" button to proceed



- C 2 Read the certification text carefully
- C 3 Check the check box for each certification statement
- C 4 Click the "CERTIFY & SUBMIT" button

FCC	Form 472			
				OMB Number 3060-0856 Form 472
	Basic Information	Invoice Line Item Summary	Preview	Certify Form 472
Indep	oendent School 704	(BEN: 24739) - My BEAR - #BEAF	R202300051	
∆ Bille	ed Entity Certification	s & Signature		
Please	check all boxes to certify.			
		regoing is true and correct and that I am authorized to s ented on this Form, and I certify to the best of my know	3	
		Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form represent charge nal purposes, on or after the service start date reported		delivered to and used by eligible schools, libraries,
	scount amounts listed in this Billed I Is, libraries, and consortia of those e	Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form were already billentities.	ed by the Service Provider and paid for b	y the Billed Entity Applicant on behalf of eligible
	scount amounts listed in this Billed I nitment Decision Letter (FCDL).	Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form are for eligible se	rvices and/or equipment approved by th	ne Fund Administrator pursuant to a Funding
		iant to this application and will retain for at least 10 yea y of the applicable funding year or the service delivery d		
ackno comm	wledge that failure to be in compliar	this Billed Entity Applicant is in compliance with the rule nce and remain in compliance with those rules and orde to comply with the rules and orders governing the school es.	rs may result in the denial of discount fu	ınding and/or cancellation of funding
ВАСК				CERTITY & SUBMIT

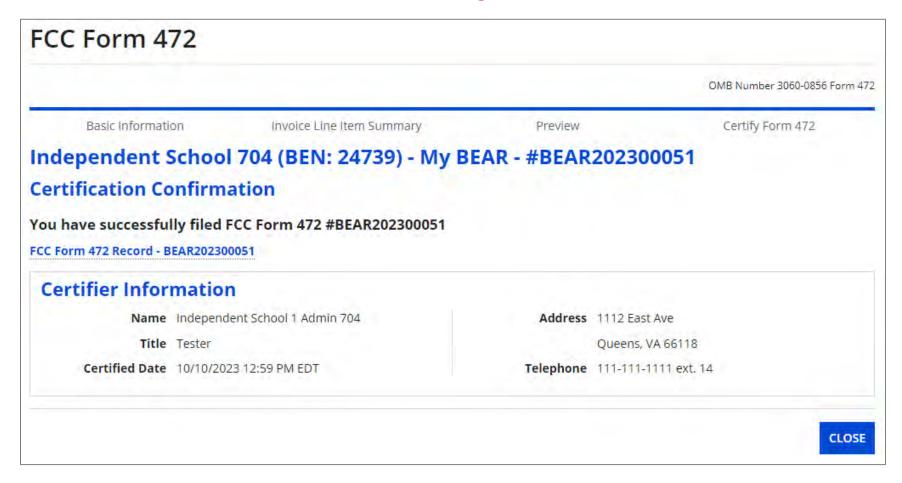


C 5 Click the "CERTIFY" button to certify the form --this is the equivalent to providing your electronic signature



[Fulk-Rightsu/Gertifier]

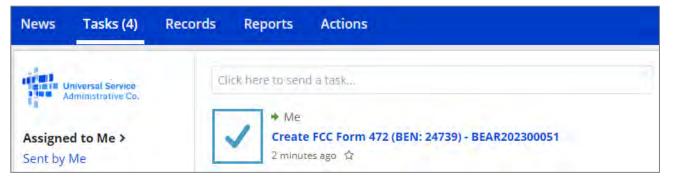
C 6 Click on the "CLOSE" button on the certifier information screen to return to the Invoicing Dashboard



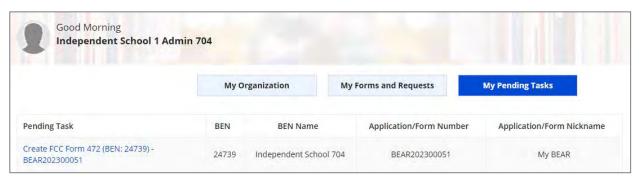
skip to page 74 in this guide

[Full Rights / Certifying a Form-Sent-By-Another]

- D If you are a **full rights user who is certifying a form sent to you** by another user:
 - D 1 Once a user has sent you a BEAR to certify, you will receive the following:
 - 1. a task in your EPC task list



2. a task in the "My Pending Tasks" tab in the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard



an email notification

[Full Rights / Certifying a Form-Sent-By-Another]

D 2 Go to one of the Task areas, then click on the "Create" task for the BEAR that is ready for certification



CAUTION:

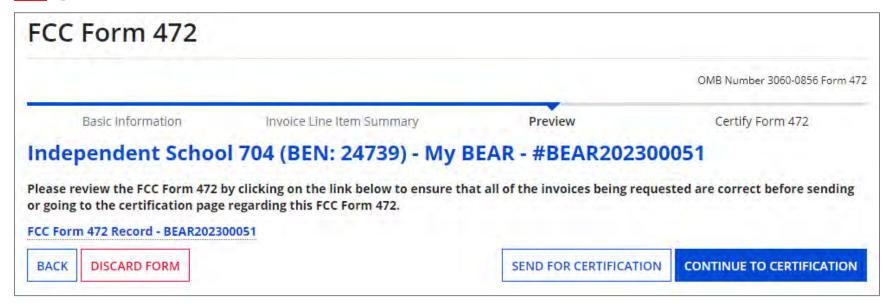
The task link will read: Create FCC Form 472 (BEN: XXX) – BEAR NUMBER

The link will not have any reference to certifying

Users should be extremely careful they are selecting the correct BEAR as any other in process BEARs will have the same task wording, not just those that are ready for certification

[Full Rights / Certifying a Form Sent By Another]

D 3 Click on the form link to preview the form



The form will be displayed in a new window or tab depending on your browser settings.

See the "Previewing the BEAR" section of this guide for further information.

D 4 Click on the "CONTINUE TO CERTIFICATION" button to proceed

Fall 2025 South Dakota E-Rate Manual

[Full Rights / Certifying a Form Sent By Another]

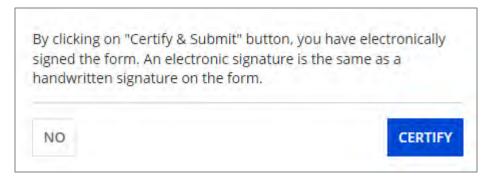
- D 5 Read the certification text carefully
- D 6 Check the check box for each certification statement
- D 7 Click the "CERTIFY & SUBMIT" button

FCC Form 472			
			OMB Number 3060-0856 Form 472
Basic Information	Invoice Line Item Summary	Preview	Certify Form 472
Independent School 704	(BEN: 24739) - My BEAR - #BEAF	R202300051	
▲ Billed Entity Certification	s & Signature		
Please check all boxes to certify.			
	regoing is true and correct and that I am authorized to s sented on this Form, and I certify to the best of my know		
	Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form represent charge nal purposes, on or after the service start date reported		delivered to and used by eligible schools, libraries,
The discount amounts listed in this Billed schools, libraries, and consortia of those	Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form were already bille entities.	ed by the Service Provider and paid for b	y the Billed Entity Applicant on behalf of eligible
The discount amounts listed in this Billed Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL).	Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form are for eligible se	rvices and/or equipment approved by th	ne Fund Administrator pursuant to a Funding
	uant to this application and will retain for at least 10 yea y of the applicable funding year or the service delivery d		
acknowledge that failure to be in complia	this Billed Entity Applicant is in compliance with the rule nce and remain in compliance with those rules and orde to comply with the rules and orders governing the school ies.	rs may result in the denial of discount fu	unding and/or cancellation of funding
BACK			CERTITY & SUBMIT

Form 472 (BEAR)

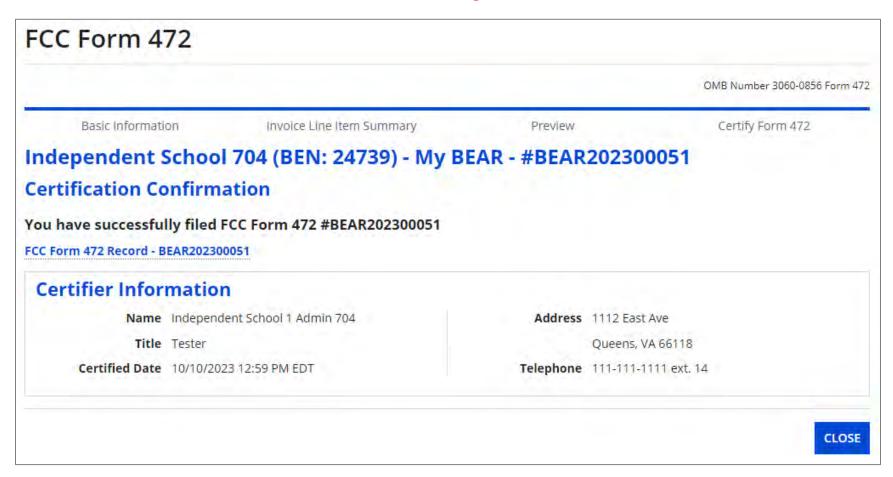


D 8 Click the "CERTIFY" button to certify the form --this is the equivalent to providing your electronic signature



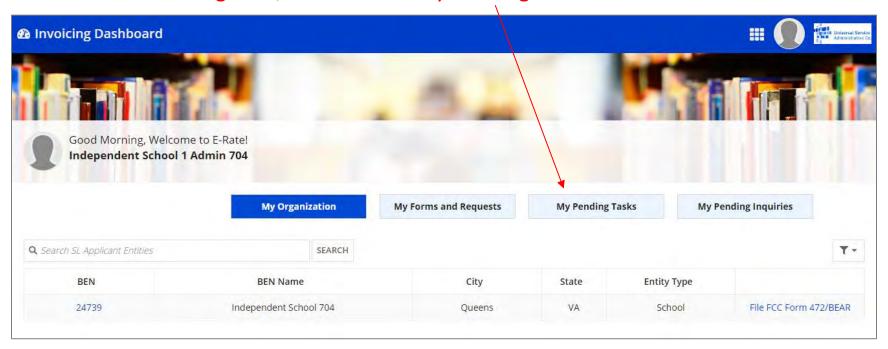
[Fulk-Rightsu/Gertifier]

D 9 Click on the "CLOSE" button on the certifier information screen to return to the Invoicing Dashboard



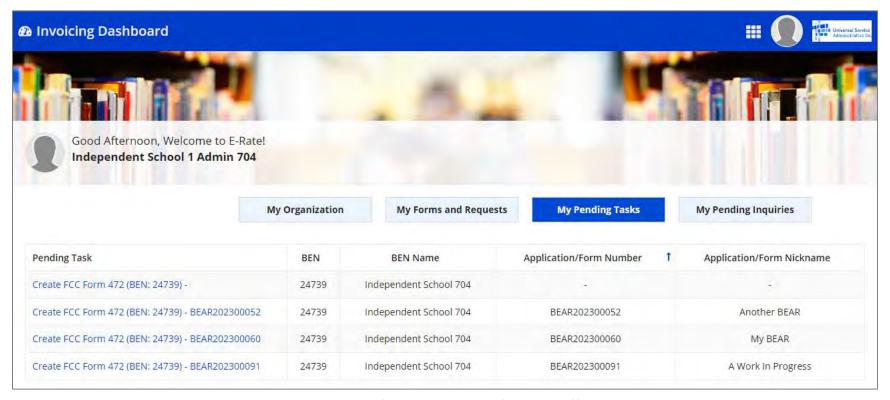
go to the next page in this guide

To return to an incomplete BEAR and continue working on it, click on the "My Pending Tasks" button

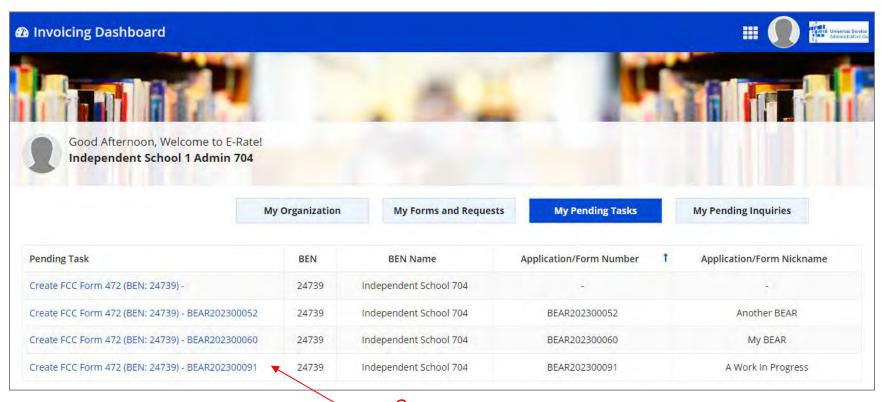


If you are not on a page that displays the navigation buttons, first return to the Invoicing Dashboard summary page by clicking on the "Invoicing Dashboard" link in the blue bar, then click on the button

The "My Pending Tasks" tab displays a list of tasks including a "Create FCC Form 472" task for each incomplete (not yet certified) form

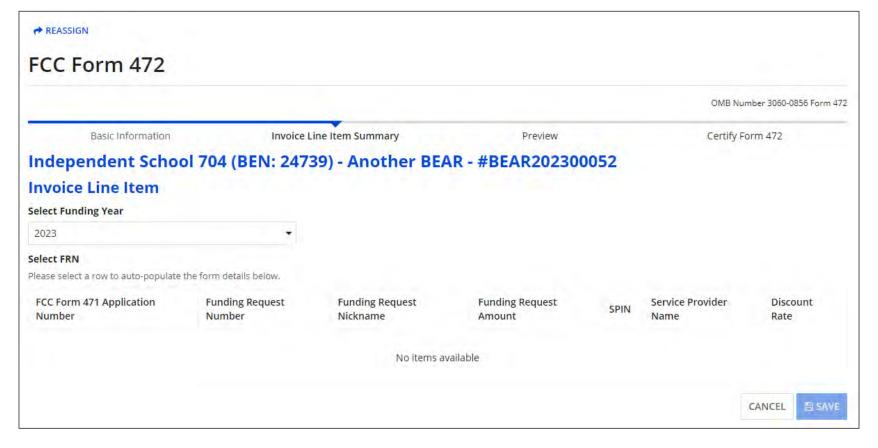


NOTE: application numbers will not generate until the "Basic Information" section has been completed



Click on a "Create FCC Form 472" link in the "Pending Task" column to open the form

The in-progress form displays wherever you left off. Note however that if you happen to have stopped in the middle of adding a line item but did not save it, you may see a screen similar to the one below and you will need to click on the "CANCEL" button to return to a screen where you can continue to modify your form.



Types of communications:

Notification:	Description:	Generated:	Method of Delivery:
Invoice Pending Certification	Notification that an invoice requires certification by a Full Rights user	A Partial Rights user creates an invoice and sends it to a Full Rights user to certify	Create FCC Form 472 task in My Pending Tasks tab assigned to Full Rights users Email alert to Full Rights user that a new task has been assigned
Information Request Received from USAC for an Invoice Line	Notification that an invoice line has an inquiry form USAC that requires a response	A USAC reviewer sends new communication regarding an invoice line	Email to Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for the BEN Invoice Line Number listed for Full Rights users in My Pending Inquiries tab
Deadline Extended for Response to Information Request	Notification that additional time has been granted to respond to an inquiry for an invoice line	A USAC reviewer updates the response due date for an invoice line that was granted an extension	Email to Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for the BEN Invoice Line Number listed for Full Rights users in My Pending Inquiries tab
BEAR Notification Letter*	A letter notifying users that an invoice line or lines submitted using the BEAR mode have been processed	After each payment file batch is run, typically at the end of every Monday and Thursday	Email to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN News post visible to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN
BEAR Remittance Statement	A letter notifying users of the amount approved for payment for a processed invoice line or lines	After each payment file batch is run, typically at the end of every Monday and Thursday	Email from USAC's Finance Department to General Financial Contact listed on FCC Form 498
Applicant QDR*	A quarterly summary of disbursement activity for a particular BEN number for invoice lines submitted using both the BEAR and SPI mode	At the end of every quarter (Jan, Apr, Jul, and Aug) if the BEN has invoicing activity that quarter	Email to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN News post visible to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN





A Full Rights user needs to certify an invoice

Notifications will be sent to full rights users by email if there is an uncertified BEAR that needs to be certified.

Notifications will also appear in the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard on the "My Pending Tasks" tab.



An invoice line has an inquiry from USAC that requires a response

Notifications will be sent both by email and in the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard on the "My Pending Inquiries" tab if there are review inquiries to be answered.

Both full and partial rights users will receive the inquiry, but only full rights users can respond.

View only users will be able to see these notifications on the "Communications" tab of the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard but will not receive a specific notification themselves.

The specific information and documentation required during review of BEARs will not change. You will log into EPC and go to the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard to submit replies to any outreach and provide any necessary documentation.

Applicants still have seven days to respond to invoicing inquiries.

You may request an extension of time, if needed. A notice will be sent if additional time has been granted to respond to an inquiry.



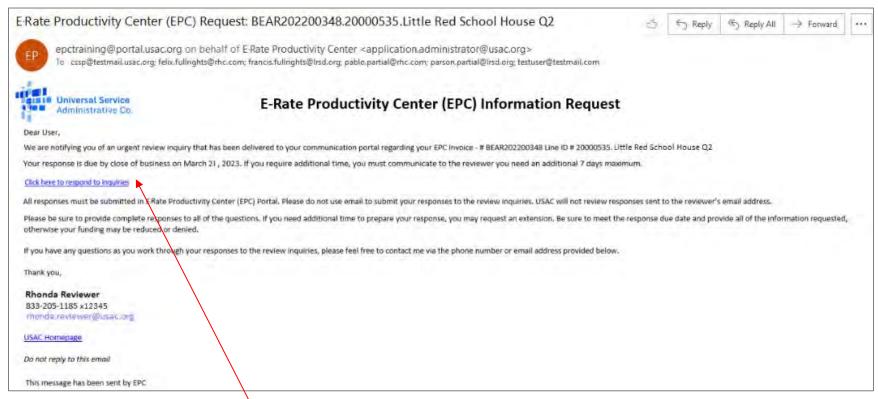
Invoice Status

Notifications about invoice submission statuses (for example that an invoice has been processed) will be delivered to users who have been assigned full and partial rights for BEARs:

- Via email
- In the EPC News Feed
- Via a Task in the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard

View only users will be able to see these notifications as a News Post in EPC but will not receive a specific notification themselves.

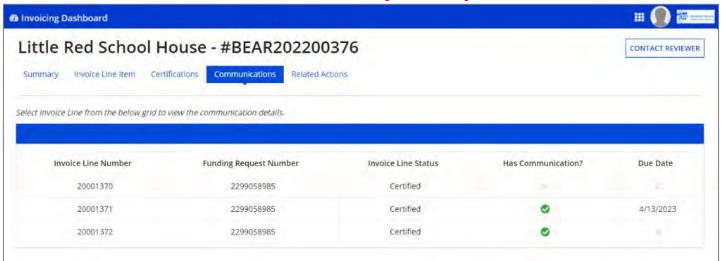
If there is an inquiry on a particular invoice line item, an email will be sent to full and partial rights users:



 \bigcirc To view the communication and respond, click on the link in the email

NOTE: if you are not already logged in, you will be prompted to do so after clicking the link

You will be taken to the "Communications" tab for that form



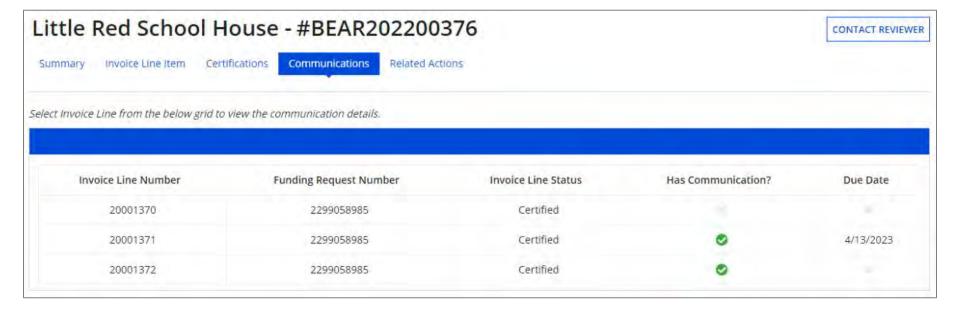
NOTE: You can also locate this tab by opening the EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard, clicking the "My Forms and Requests" button, choosing a form, and clicking on "Communications"

The following indicators may appear on this page:

"Has Communication?" column		"Due Date" column
If a green checkmark image is displaying: a communication has been sent	>>>	 If a date is listed: a response is still pending If it is empty: a response was submitted
If a grayed-out "X" is displaying: there is no communication	>>>	If a grayed-out "X" is displaying: there is no communication

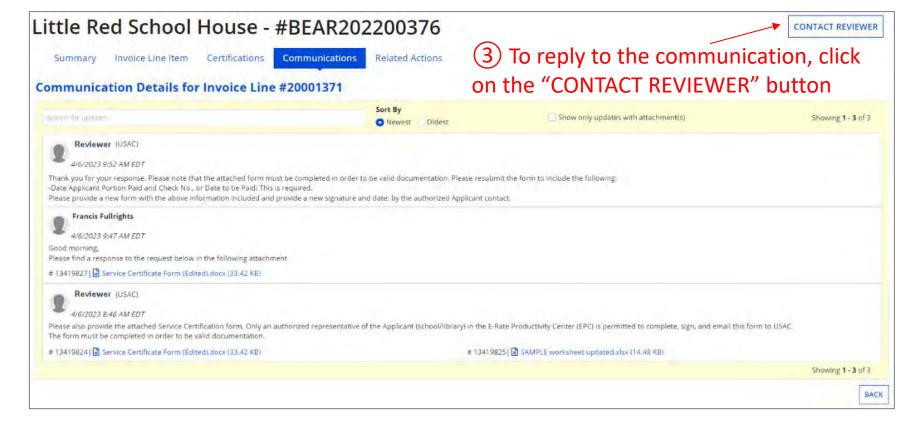


2 Click on an Invoice Line row to view the communications for that line



You will be taken to the "Communications Details" page.

It reveals all the communications related to the invoice line from newest to oldest by default. You can click the "Oldest" radio button to sort by oldest communication first. You can also click the "Show only updates with attachment(s)" checkbox to view only correspondence with attachments. Outreach requests can be long so be sure to scroll down to the bottom if you don't see what you are looking for.



You will be taken to the "Contact Reviewer" page



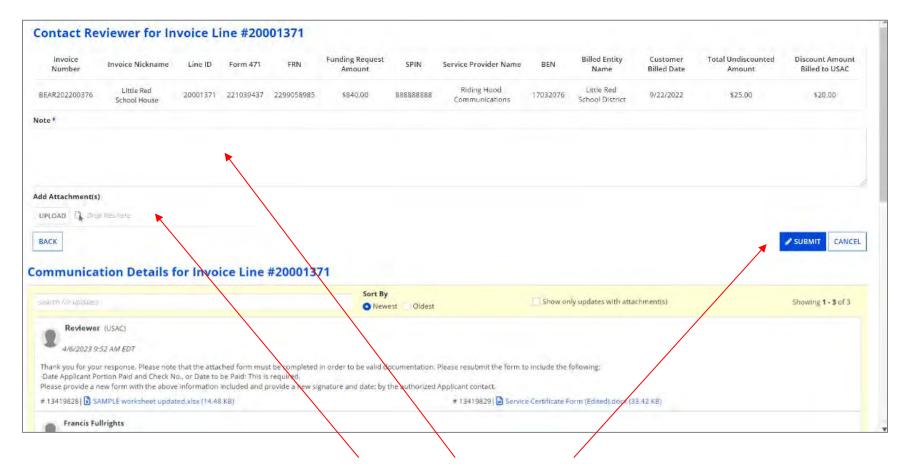
As with the "Communications" page, the following indicators may appear:

"Has Communication?" column		"Due Date" column
If a green checkmark image is displaying: a communication has been sent	>>>	 If a date is listed: a response is still pending If it is empty: a response was submitted
If a grayed-out "X" is displaying: there is no communication	>>>	If a grayed-out "X" is displaying: there is no communication



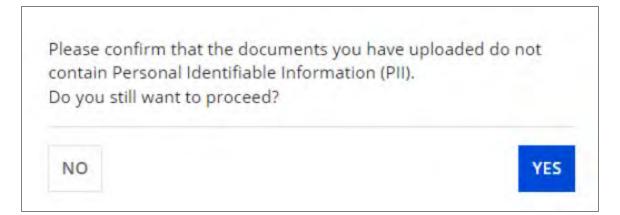
4 Click on an Invoice Line row --- only lines with a due date listed can be selected on this screen





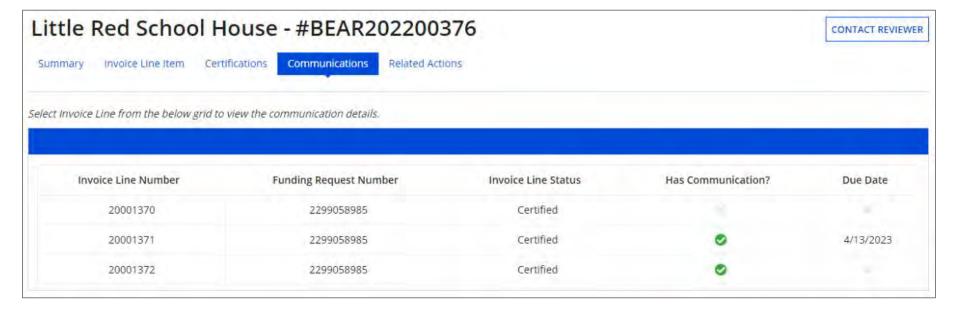
(5) Read the message(s) at the bottom of the page, download and review any attachments (these may include the specific information your reviewer needs!), type your response in the "Note" box, upload any required documentation to the "Add Attachments" section, and click on the "SUBMIT" button to send your response

6 Click on the "YES" button in the pop-up window



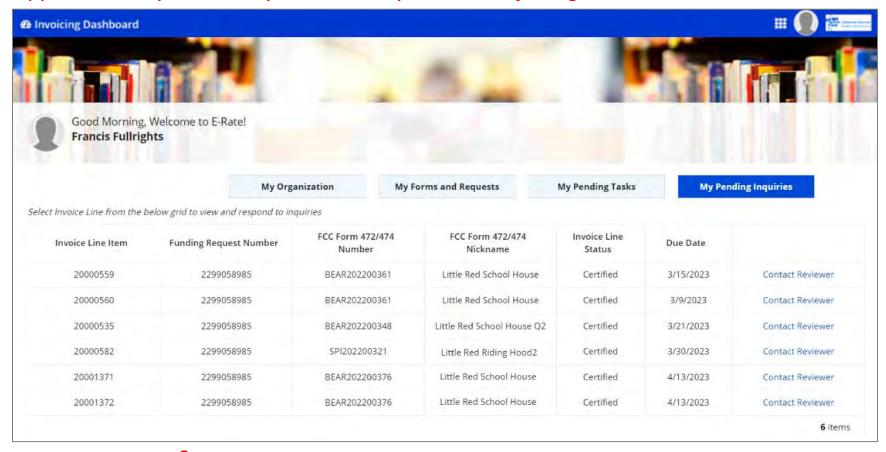


You will be taken back to the "Communications" tab



Outreach can also be found on the "My Pending Inquiries" tab

NOTE: this tab only displays lines with a pending response from the applicant entity and is only accessible by users with full rights



Click on a "Contact Reviewer" link to go the "Contact Reviewer" page, view communications, and respond

Outreach Reminders:

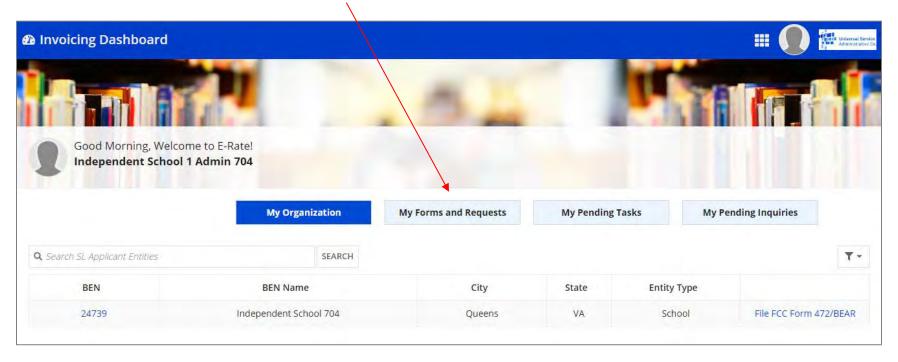
- Ensure invoicing permissions in EPC are up to date
- Only Full Rights users can respond, and have 7 days to respond
- ✓ Full Rights users can request a one-time 7-day extension
- If USAC does not receive a reply by the deadline, the invoice line will be denied

- Respond to each inquiry in the method it was received
- Read the communication carefully and download any attachments
- Response to outreach should be complete, accurate, and timely
- Applicants and service providers can receive or be copied on communication

Understanding Invoice Statuses



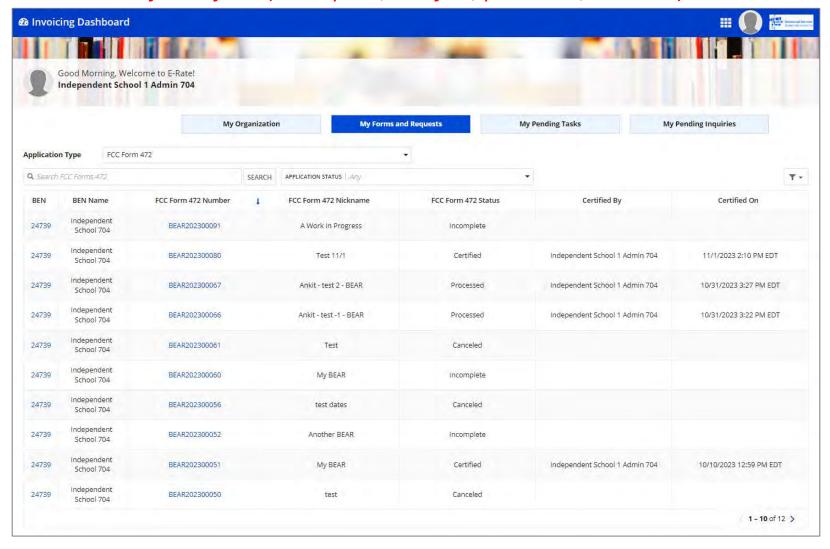
Click on the "My Forms and Requests" button to display a list of forms



If you are not on a page that displays the navigation buttons, first return to the Invoicing Dashboard summary page by clicking on the "Invoicing Dashboard" link in the blue bar, then click on the button



The "My Forms and Requests" tab displays a list of all previously created BEARs as well as the status of each form (incomplete, certified, processed, canceled)

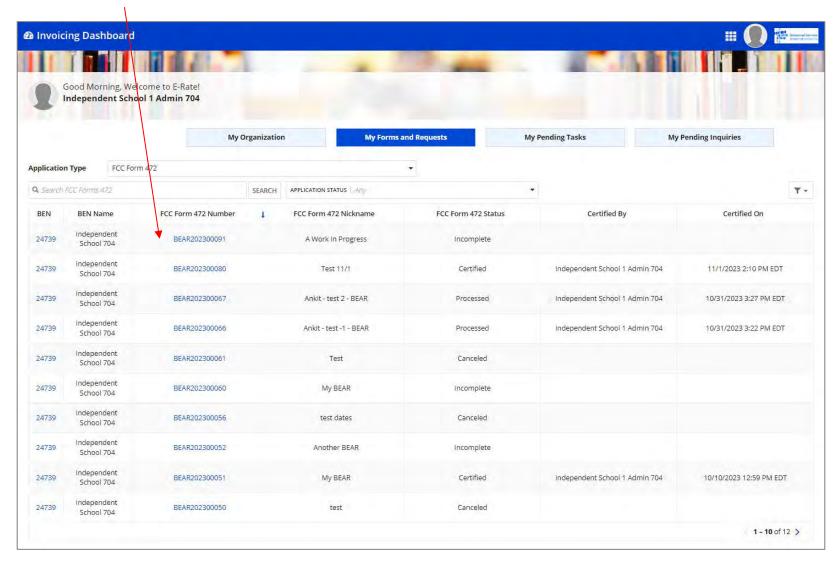




Invoice	Status Overview Universal Service Administrative Co.
Incomplete	An Invoice has been created but not certified
Certified	The invoice has been submitted and certified and one or more invoice lines have yet to be processed by USAC
A -	All lines of the invoice have been processed and paid
§ Processed	(paid in full, modified, or denied)
	The '
Canceled	The invoice has been discarded before submission OR has been canceled after it was submitted and certified



Click on any form link in the "FCC Form 472 Number" column to display that form's summary information





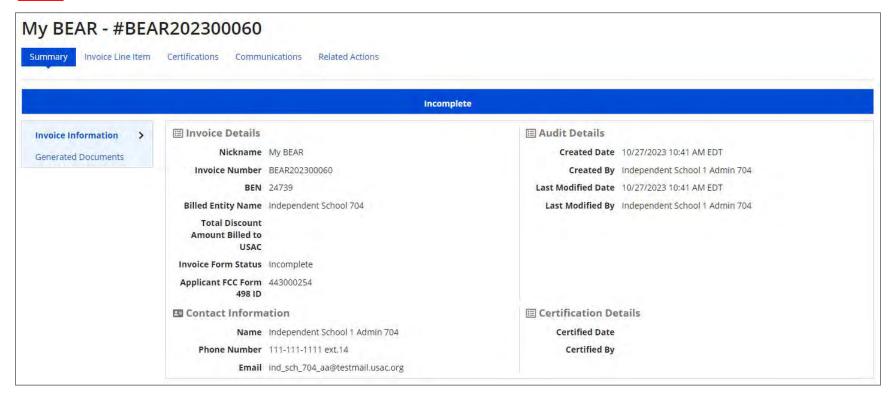
Each BEAR will go through several statuses before being fully finalized

- A Incomplete \rightarrow go to the next page in this guide
- B Certified with no lines processed \rightarrow skip to page 103
- C Certified with some lines processed \rightarrow skip to page 105
- D Certified with all lines processed → skip to page 110



Incomplete

A.1 If you selected an incomplete BEAR, the blue status bar will display "Incomplete"





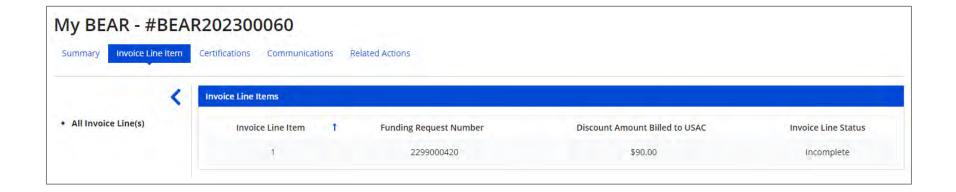
Incomplete

A.2 Click on the "Invoice Line Item" tab to show a list of line items added to the BEAR Each line item will display a status of "Incomplete"

Invoice Line Item Tab for Incomplete Version

Lines Listed = All lines entered so far

Invoice Line Status field = "Incomplete"

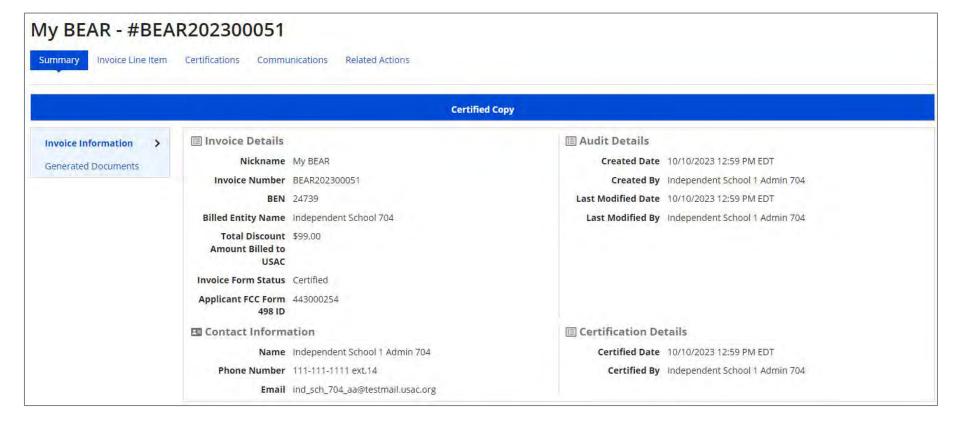




Certified But No Lines Are Processed

B.1 After a BEAR has been submitted, a Certified Copy becomes available

You can tell that no lines have been disbursed yet because there is only one copy displaying on the summary page



[Certified / No Lines Processed]

Certified But No Lines Are Processed

B.2 | Click on the "Invoice Line Item" tab to show a list of line items on the invoice

This tab will list all BEAR line items, each with a "Certified" status

Invoice Line Item Tab for Certified Copy

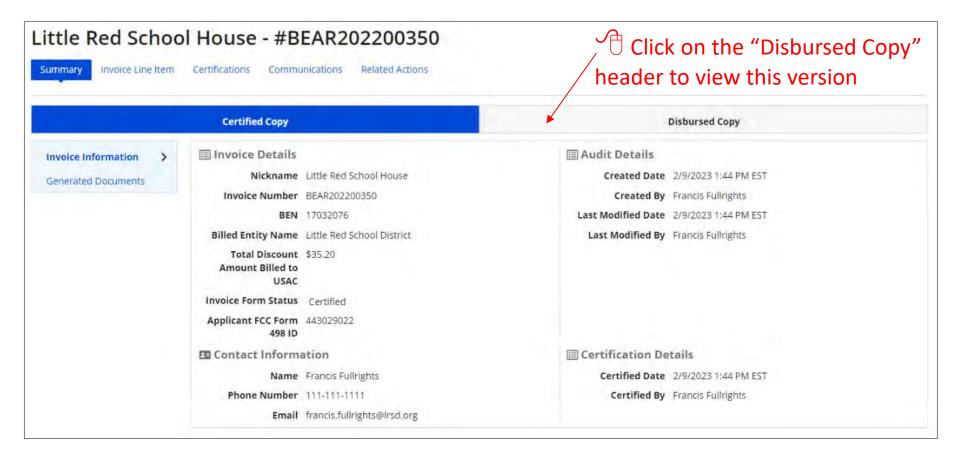
Lines Listed = All lines

Invoice Line Status field = "Certified"



Partially Processed

C.1 After a BEAR has been submitted and one or more lines have been processed, a second copy of the form will appear – the Disbursed Copy



Partially Processed

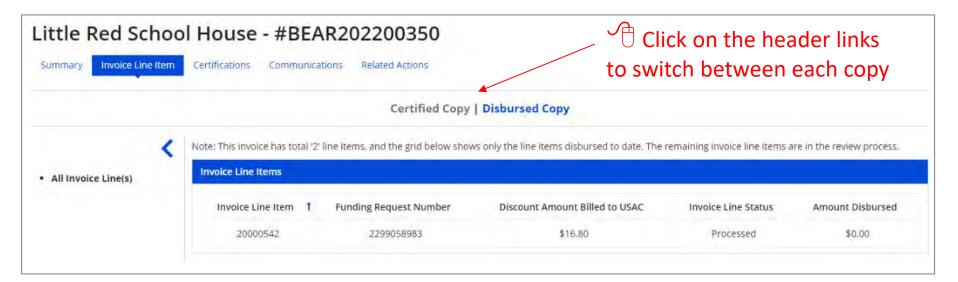
- C.2 When the BEAR is partially processed, the "Summary" tab for the Disbursed Copy:
 - Represents the processed and paid invoice record to date
 - Reflects any modifications made to the disbursed amount so far
 - Displays an Invoice Form Status of "Certified" (the entire BEAR is not fully processed)
 - Continues updating the "Total Amount Disbursed To Date" field as lines are processed



Partially Processed

C.3 Click on the "Invoice Line Item" tab to view the Certified Copy and Disbursed Copy of the line items in the BEAR

	Invoice Line Item Tab for Disbursed Copy
Lines Listed = All lines	Lines Listed = Only lines processed so far
Invoice Line Status field = "Certified"	Invoice Line Status field = "Processed"

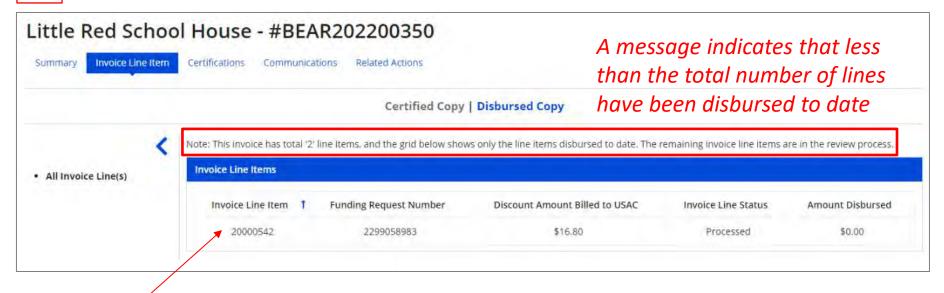


Always compare the amount requested to the amount disbursed

Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 107

Partially Processed

C.4

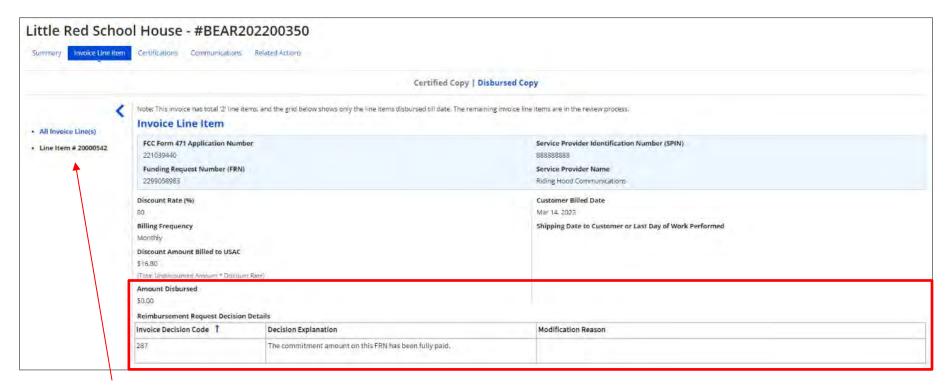


Click on a specific invoice line to show details about that line item

[Certified Partially Processed]

Partially Processed

C.5



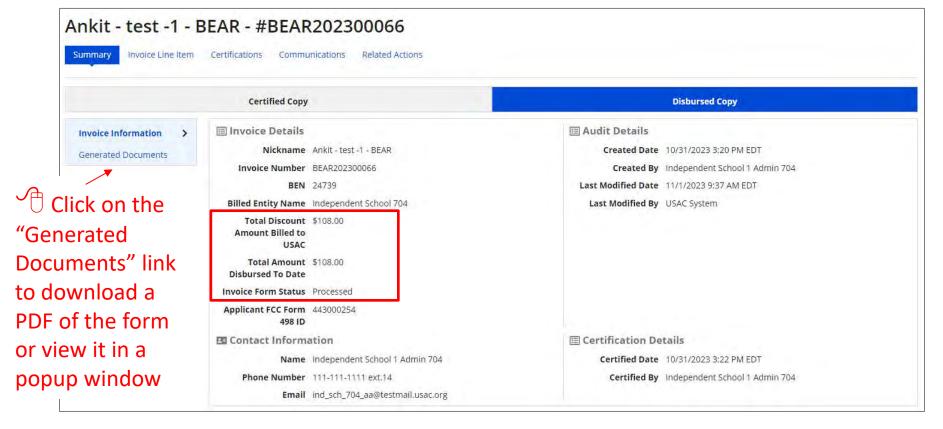
Click on the "All Invoice Line(s)" link in the sidebar menu to return to the full list of line items

If the line was denied or partially funded, information about the decision will display at the bottom of the page

[Certified Processed]

Fully Processed

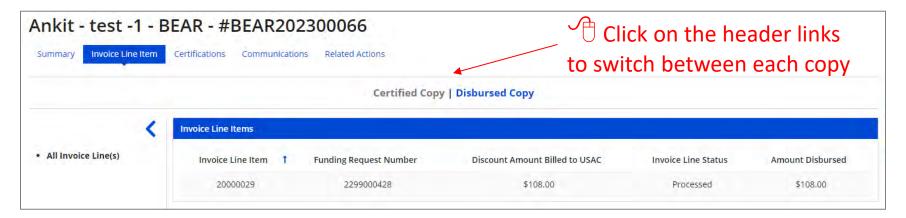
- D.1 When the BEAR is fully processed, the "Summary" Tab for the Disbursed Copy:
 - Represents the processed and paid invoice record
 - Reflects any modifications made to the disbursed amount
 - Displays an Invoice Form Status of "Processed"
 - Displays the final Total Amount Disbursed



Fully Processed

D.2 Click on the "Invoice Line Item" tab to view the Certified Copy and Disbursed Copy of the line items in the BEAR

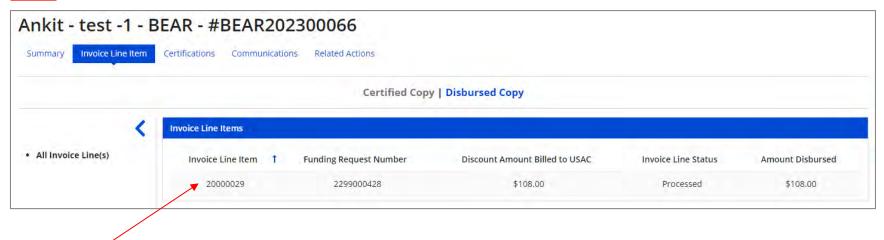
Invoice Line Item Tab for Certified Copy	Invoice Line Item Tab for Disbursed Copy
Lines Listed = All lines	Lines Listed = All lines
Invoice Line Status field = "Certified"	Invoice Line Status field = "Processed"



Always compare the amount requested to the amount disbursed

Fully Processed

D.3

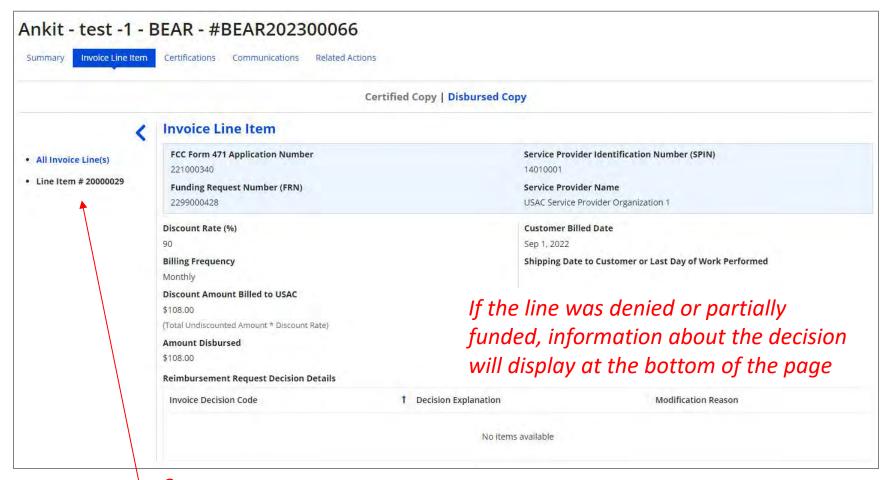


Click on a specific invoice line to show details about that line item



Fully Processed

D.4



Click on the "All Invoice Line(s)" link in the sidebar menu to return to the full list of line items



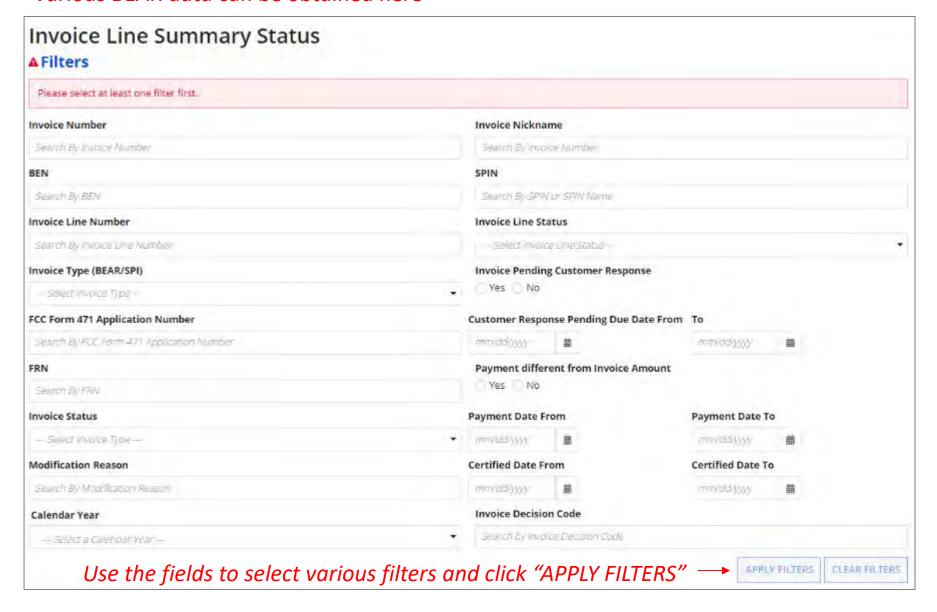
The "Invoice Line Summary Status" Report will help you locate lots of helpful information regarding the BEARs filed by your organization, including their current status

How to get there:

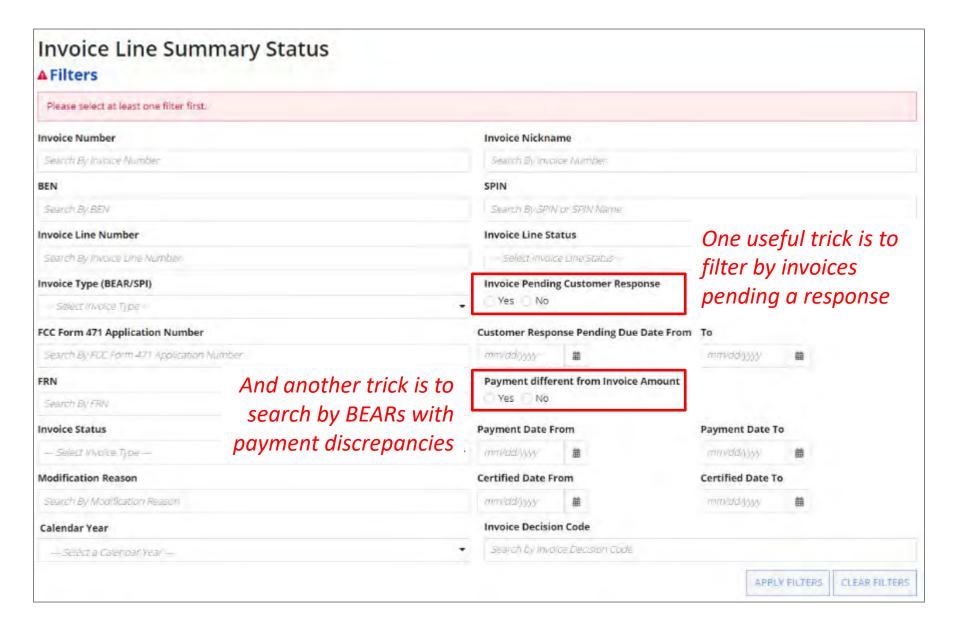
- 1) Go to your EPC Landing Page
- 2) Click on the "Reports" link in the blue navigation bar
- 3) Select the "Invoice Line Summary Status" link



Various BEAR data can be obtained here









Once the filters are applied, a scrollable report will display a scrollable list of the filtered results or you can use the "DOWNLOAD" button to view the data in Excel

nvoice Number	Invoice Nickname	BEN	SPIN	State	Invoice Line	Invoice Line	Certified	FCC Form 471	Funding Request
invoice Number	THYOICE MICKIAITIE	BEN	SFIIV	State	Number	Status	Date	Application Number	Number (FRN)
BEAR202300080	Test 11/1	24739	14010001	VA	20000068	Certified	11/1/2023	221000337	2299000338
BEAR202300067	Ankit - test 2 - BEAR	24739	14010001	VA	20000030	Processed	10/31/2023	221000340	2299000425
BEAR202300067	Ankit - test 2 - BEAR	24739	14010001	VA	20000031	Processed	10/31/2023	221000337	2299000334
BEAR202300066	Ankit - test -1 - BEAR	24739	14010001	VA	20000029	Processed	10/31/2023	221000340	2299000428
BEAR202300052	Another BEAR	24739	14010001	VA				221000340	2299000428
BEAR202300051	My BEAR	24739	14010001	VA	1	Certified	10/10/2023	221000340	2299000420
BEAR202300014	EPC TRAINING UAT SCENARIO #3	24739	14010001	VA	1	Certified	6/2/2023	221000340	2299000420
									7 items
		k on a BEAR							DOWNLOAD

Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 117



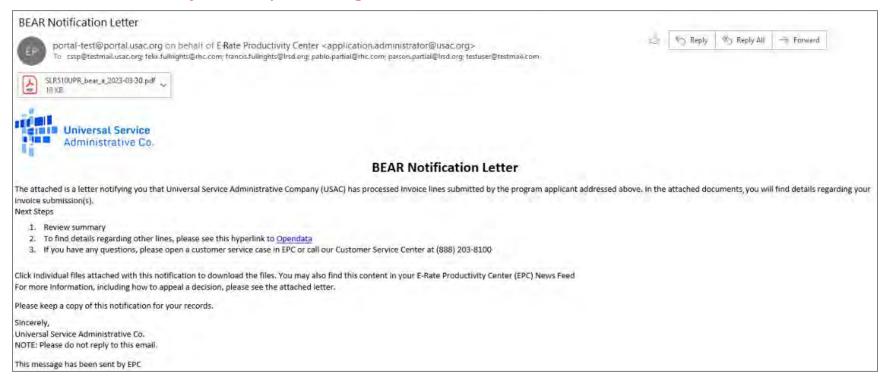
To find the date a BEAR paid, scroll through the columns until you find the "Payment Date" column

Discount Rate (%)	Billing Frequency	Discount Amount Billed to USAC	Amount Disbursed	Payment Date	Calendar Year	Invoice Status	Invoice Pending Customer Response	Customer Pending Response Due Date	Payment different from Invoiced Amount	Invoice Decision Code	Invoicin Type
35	One-Time	\$8.50			2023	Certified	No		Yes		FCC Forr 472/BEA
90	Monthly	\$90.00	\$90.00	11/1/2023	2023	Processed	No		No		FCC Form 472/BEA
35	Other	\$12.75	\$12.75	11/1/2023	2023	Processed	No		No		FCC Form 472/BEA
90	Monthly	\$108.00	\$108.00	11/1/2023	2023	Processed	No		No		FCC Form 472/BEA
)	Monthly	\$90.00			2023	Incomplete			No		FCC Form 472/BEA
)	Monthly	\$99.00		4	2023	Certified	No		Yes		FCC Form 472/BEA
0	Annually	\$270.00			2023	Certified	No		Yes		FCC Form 472/BEA
											7 items

Payment of the BEAR

Payment vio fate the 12 BEAR

Once an invoice line item has been processed, the BEAR Notification Letter will be emailed to full and partial rights







Privileged and Contains Confidential Information

Schools and Libraries Division

FCC Form 472 (BEAR) Notification Letter

November 01, 2023

Independent School 704 1112 East Ave Queens, VA 66118

Contact Email Address: ind_sch_704_aa@testmail.usac.org

Re: Invoice Number: BEAR202300066

Applicant Form Identifier: Ankit - test -1 - BEAR

Billed Entity Number: 24739

Invoice reimbursement payment in this letter: \$108.00 Invoice reimbursement adjustments in this letter: \$0.00

Summary of reimsursement payments on this invoice to date: \$108.00 Summary of Invoice Reimbursement Pending Payments: \$0.00

The email will include an attachment with details about the BEAR

INVOICE BEAR202300066 LINE SUMMARY TABLE

Line#	FY	FRN	Dollars	Status	Decision Code(s)
20000029	2022	2299000428	\$108.00	Processed	_

Invoice Number: BEAR202300066 Invoice Line Number: 20000029

Form 471 Application Number: 221000340 Funding Request Number: 2299000428

Service Provider Name: USAC Service Provider Organization 1

SPIN: 14010001

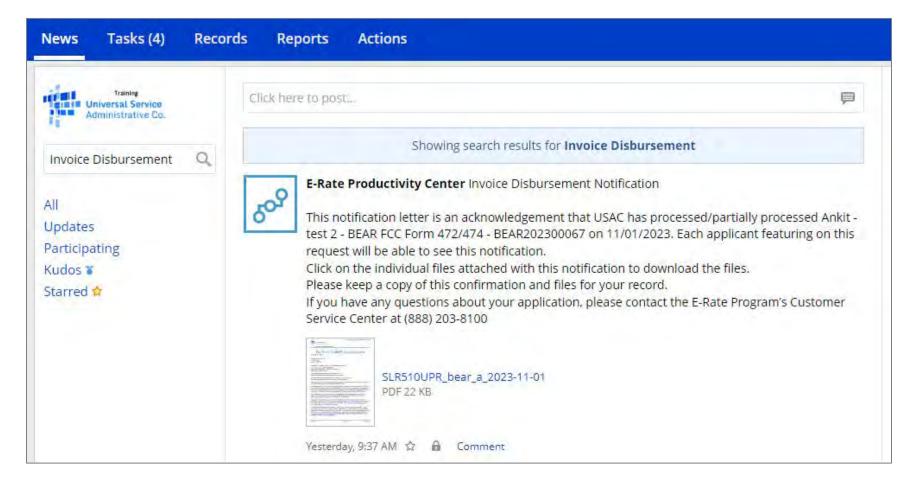
Funding Year 2022: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2023

Contract Number: N/A

Funding Commitment Decision: \$1324.80 Reimbursement Request: \$108.00 Reimbursement Amount: \$108.00

Payment virof the 12BEAR

The BEAR Notification Letter and its attachment can also be found in the EPC News feed



Payment virofate the 13BEAR

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES BEAR PROGRAM REMITTANCE STATEMENT
As Of September 22, 2023

In addition, the system will email a remittance statement to the person identified as the "Remittance Contact" on your organization's FCC Form 498

Multiple BEAR forms may be disbursed as part of the same transaction and therefore appear on the same remittance statement Attn: Caroline Hammond NETWORKMAINE

RE: FCC Form 498 ID 443000154

This notice provides an explanation of your entity's Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) payment for the following invoices.

Approved

9/21/2023 143001200 Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. 2399023194 2023CC DF-07

\$4,963.81

Applicant Name: NETWORKMAINE; SLD Invoice Number: 3567534; BEAR Letter Date: 09/21/2023; Line Item Detail Number: 11046580; Amount Requested: 4963.81;

Total Approved Disbursement

\$4,963.81

Total Actual Disbursement:

\$4,963.81

If you have any questions, please contact USAC Customer Operations at (888) 641-8722 or CustomerSupport@usac.org. You may also visit us at www.usac.org.

Payment viro fate the 13 BEAR

This notification provides the amount that will be paid in the next batch that is processed

It is always a good practice to verify that the amount approved (reimbursed) for each BEAR line item is the same amount that was requested

If line items are missing, it is likely that it is under review

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES BEAR PROGRAM REMITTANCE STATEMENT
As Of September 22, 2023

Attn: Caroline Hammond NETWORKMAINE

RE: FCC Form 498 ID 443000154

This notice provides an explanation of your entity's Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) payment for the following invoices.

Approved

\$4,963.81

9/21/2023 143001200 Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. 2399023194 2023CC DF-07

567534;BEAR Letter amount

Applicant Name: NETWORKMAINE; SLD Invoice Number: 3567534; BEAR Letter Date: 09/21/2023; Line Item Detail Number: 11046580; Amount Requested: 4963.81;

requested amount

Total Approved Disbursement

\$4.963.81

Total Actual Disbursement:

<u>\$4,963.81</u>

If you have any questions, please contact USAC Customer Operations at (888) 641-8722 or CustomerSupport@usac.org. You may also visit us at www.usac.org.

Payment viro fate thise 13 BEAR

Payment of the BEAR will then be delivered electronically to the bank account indicated on your organization's FCC Form 498

Requesting an Invoice Deadline Extension

If you know that you will not be able to file the BEAR Form by the invoice deadline, you can submit an invoice deadline extension request by that deadline to receive a one-time, 120 day extension.

When are BEARs due?

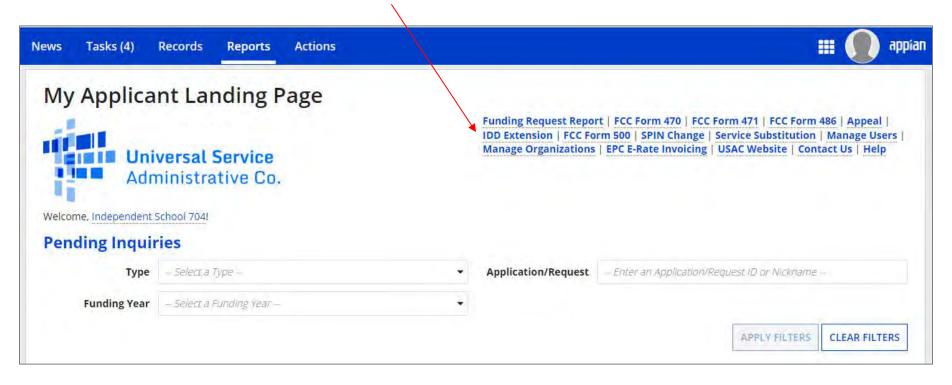
BEARs must be certified no later than 120 days after the last day services are received or 120 days after the date of the FCC Form 486 Notification Letter, whichever is later.

What if I need an extension?

USAC will automatically grant upon request a single, one-time, 120 day extension to an applicant's BEAR invoice deadline. However, the extension must be requested on or before the original BEAR filing deadline of October 28.

Each FRN for which you need an extension must be specifically requested - a request granted for one FRN on a Form 471 will not extend to other FRNs on that Form 471

1 On the EPC Landing Page, click on the "IDD Extension" link



Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 129

2 Enter each FRN in text format, separated by a comma (the system will ignore spaces)

NOTE: Multiple FRNs from different forms and/or different funding years may be listed on the same request

Request an Extension: Invoice Deadline Date	
Funding Request Number(s) for Extension List one or more funding request numbers (FRN) below to check its eligibility for an extension to the Invoice Deadline Date.	
600/600 characters remaining	
Note: Each FRN must be separated by a comma.	
CANCEL	CHECK ELIGIBILITY

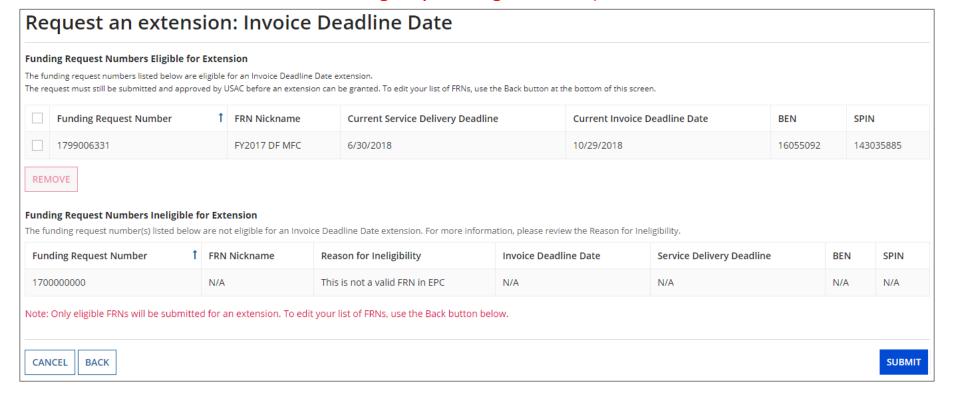
(3) Then click on the "CHECK ELIGIBILITY" button

Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 130

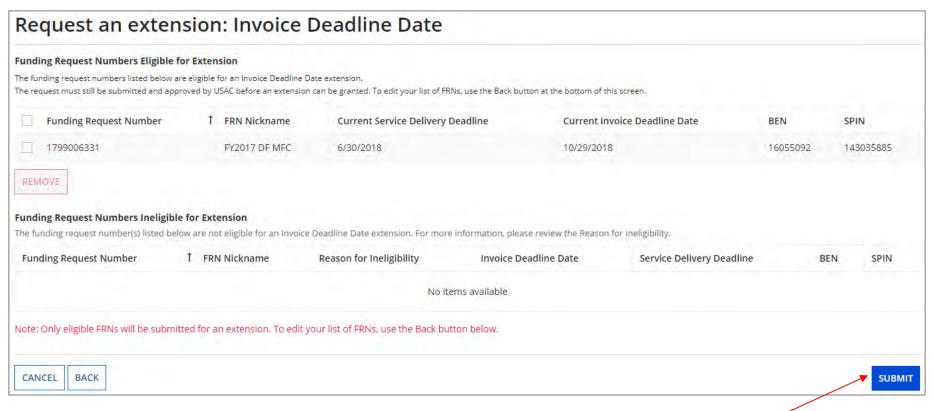
A grid of the FRNs you have entered will appear, split into two tables.

The first table includes the FRNs that are eligible for an extension. If there are any FRNs on this table you want to remove, check the box to the left of the FRN and then click on the "Remove" button.

The second table will include the FRNs for which you cannot submit an extension request together with the reason for each (for example, the FRN does not exist in EPC or the FRN does not belong to your organization).



4 Look through the list to verify the FRNs



(5) Click on the "SUBMIT" button

Form 472 (BEAR) Slide 132

The system will return the eligible FRNs in two tables.

The first table includes FRNs with approved extensions. The extended invoice deadline date will appear after the original invoice deadline date.

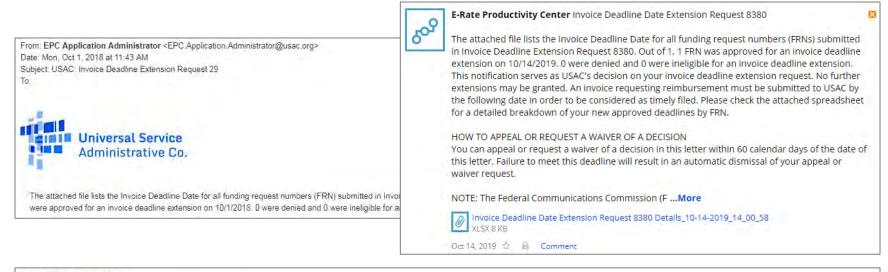
The second table includes FRNs that have not been approved for extensions, together with the reason for the denial (for example, an extension has already been granted for that FRN or if there are no undisbursed funds left on that FRN.

Note that the table of FRNs originally marked as ineligible is repeated below the first two tables for reference.

Request an external For your records, a News Post and co						D extension request #29.				
Approved for an IDD extension The funding request number(s) listed	below	have been appr	oved for an ex	tension to the Invoice Deadl	line Date	2.				
Funding Request Number 1	ding Request Number 1 FRN Nickname Origin			nvoice Deadline Date	Ext	tended Invoice Deadline Date	Service Delivery Deadline	BEN		SPIN
1799006331	FY20	017 DF MFC	10/29/201	8	2/2	26/2019	6/30/2018	1605	5092	143035885
Denied for an IDD extension The funding request number(s) listed	below	have been deni	ed for an exter	nsion to the Invoice Deadline	e Date. P	Please review the reason below for mo	re information.			
Funding Request Number	est Number 1 FRN Nicknam			e Reason for Denial		Invoice Deadline Date	Service Delivery Deadline		BEN	SPIN
Ineligible for an IDD extension The funding request number(s) listed	below	are not eligible	for an Invoice I	Delivery Deadline extension.	.Please r	review the reason below for more info	rmation.			
Funding Request Number	Ť	FRN Nicknar	ne	Reason for Ineligibility		Invoice Deadline Date	Service Delivery Deadline		BEN	SPIN
				١	No item:	s available				
										CLOSE

The requestor will receive an email containing the extension request information, and a **News** post will be created for both the BEN(s) and the SPIN(s) associated with the FRNs on the list.

Additionally, within the **Notifications** section of the Landing Page for each BEN and SPIN a notification of the decision for each FRN will be listed.





Wrapping Up

What do I save for my files?

- **★** Save all records for at least 10 years from the last date of service ★
- A copy of all bills
- Proof of payment of all bills
- A copy of completed BEAR forms
- BEAR Notification Letters
- BEAR Remittance Statements
- Proof of receipt and deposit of all reimbursements

Navigation Cheat Sheets

How do I submit ...?

Action	EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard Tab	EPC Path
View/Change Access		EPC Landing Page > locate BEN > Click on MANAGE USER PERMISSIONS
Submit a BEAR	My Organization tab > locate BEN > Click File FCC Form 472/BEAR	
Certify a Pending BEAR	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > Click CERTIFY or My Pending Tasks tab > locate task name > Click the task > Click CERTIFY	
Submit deadline extension request	My Organization tab > locate BEN > Click dropdown > Click Invoice Deadline Date Extension Request	EPC Landing Page > Click IDD Extension
Respond to Outreach	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab	

How do I review ...?

Action	EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard Tab
See actions needed for invoice	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab
	OR
	My Pending Tasks tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab
View status of a Line	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab
See what has not been certified	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab

How do I check payments ...?

Action	EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard Tab
View Amount Disbursed	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab
View Reason for Reduction / Denial	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click FCC Form 472 number > INVOICE LINE ITEM tab
Appeal an Invoice	My Organization tab > locate BEN > Click dropdown > Click Create a Customer Service Case

How do I finish ...?

Action	EPC E-Rate Invoicing Dashboard Tab	EPC Path
View Remittance Statements		EPC Landing Page > News tab > view remittance statement
View remaining balance of funds available for C2	My Forms and Requests tab > locate BEN > Click Category Two budget > see Category Two Budget Information > remaining budget	

Fall 2025 Sout App Flicant Invoice Notifications (FY2016+)

Notification:	Description:	Notification Generated:	Method of Delivery:
BEAR Remittance Statement*	A letter notifying users of the amount approved for payment for a processed invoice line or lines	After an invoice line or lines have been processed, within two days	Email to General Financial Contact listed on FCC Form 498 News post visible to General Financial Contact on FCC Form 498
Applicant QDR*	A quarterly summary of disbursement activity for a particular BEN number for invoice lines submitted using both the BEAR and SPI mode	At the end of every quarter (Jan, Apr, Jul, and Aug) if the BEN has invoicing activity that quarter	Email to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN News post visible to all users with invoice permissions for the BEN
Invoice Mode Change Request Decision Letter	A letter notifying users if their invoicing mode change request has been approved or denied	After an applicant submitted a request to have their invoicing mode changed	News post visible to the user that submitted the mode change request. Email alert to the user that made the mode change request
Invoice Deadline Reminder Letter	A letter notifying users that there have been no reimbursement requests for a specific FRN	Three weeks prior to the deadline	Email to AA, Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for FCC Forms 472/474 News post visible to the AA, Partial and Full Rights users with invoice permissions for FCC Forms 472/474

USAC Review of BEARs and SPIs

Review and Verification of BEAR Form 472 and SPI Form 474

After submitting the FCC Form 472 BEAR online, the form will then be reviewed by USAC. Most BEAR forms are very quickly processed, with no outreach or follow-up from USAC. After the BEAR processing is complete, the applicant will receive an email from CustomerSupport@usac.org with an E-Rate Program Remittance Statement. The email is sent to the person who is the Form 498 contact person. The statement will notify the applicant of the amount of authorized disbursement for each BEAR.

Some BEAR forms are subject to manual pre-disbursement review before the payment decision is made. These invoice reviews are initiated via an email sent from a USAC reviewer to the BEAR contact person. The email may request some or all the following information:

- Vendor bills to substantiate the charges on the BEAR
- Proof of applicant's payment of the charges, such as a cancelled check or ACH transfer information
- A completed worksheet that itemizes the eligible charges and ineligible charges from the vendor's bill and explains the derivation of the BEAR amount and a worksheet certification

The due date for submitting the requested information is usually seven calendar days from the date of the original request. This deadline is strictly enforced, and some reviewers may be unwilling to grant an extension. If you need more time, it is strongly recommended that you contact the reviewer as soon as possible and confirm whether the extension will be approved. Otherwise, the reviewer may process the BEAR as "\$0 paid" and you will need to start over and resubmit a new BEAR.

The reviewer will then examine the submitted documentation to verify that the charges are compliant with the approved FRN from your Form 471 application:

- Was the same equipment/service as listed on the Form 471 delivered and billed to the applicant?
- Did the same recipients of service as listed on the Form 471 received the service/equipment?
- Was the equipment/service properly bid on the establishing Form 470 and match the service category on the Form 471?

The specific components and items that were billed by the vendor must match the information from your approved Form 471 application. If the information does not match, the BEAR will be denied. The applicant will then need to determine whether the information can be "corrected" by submitting a post-commitment request such as:

- Service substitution to update the equipment/service that was approved for funding to match the equipment/service that was delivered and installed.
- Update the Form 471 recipients of service to reflect the correct recipient of service. Note that if the BEAR is for Category 2 funding, this may have an impact on the Category 2 budget of each school/library.

- Category of service mismatch If the FRN on the Form 471 was incorrectly classified but was approved on the FCDL, this mismatch may be found during the BEAR invoice review. The applicant will need to submit an appeal of the BEAR denial to request that the service category be corrected on the Form 471. The applicant will need to be able to demonstrate that the establishing Form 470 requested bids in the correct service category.
 - o For example, assume the applicant posted a Form 470 for internal connections and maintenance. On the Form 471, the applicant inadvertently requested maintenance service in an internal connections FRN. The FRN was approved on the FCDL but the BEAR was denied payment for the maintenance charges, and the reason given was a category mismatch. The applicant should submit an appeal of the BEAR denial to request that this category of service on the Form 471 be corrected to maintenance. Once the appeal is approved the applicant may resubmit the BEAR for the maintenance charge.
 - On the other hand, in the above example, assume that the applicant did not post for maintenance on the Form 470. An appeal to USAC will likely be denied, and the applicant must then submit an appeal to the FCC to request relief.

Pre-Disbursement Review of Service Provider Invoice Form 474

When a service provider provides discounted bills to an applicant, the service provider must submit a Form 474, Service Provider Invoice, to USAC to obtain payment of the E-Rate discount portion of the charges.

Applicant Request to Verify Service Provider Invoices

Applicants can request USAC to have the opportunity to verify each service provider Form 474 that is submitted. This is called an "invoice check" and may be requested as follows: If an applicant wants to ensure that USAC will only pay service provider invoices that are first certified by the applicant, the applicant may submit an "invoice check" to the USAC as follows:

To request an invoice check, applicants should submit a customer service case inside EPC.

- Select Form 474 as the topic.
- Select "other" as the subtopic.
- Upload a document to request the invoice check and include the following:
 - Billed Entity Number (BEN)
 - o BEN name
 - Funding year (FY)
 - o FCC Form 471 number
 - Funding Request Number(s) (FRN)
 - Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN)

The applicant will receive an automated response with the case number which should be saved for future reference.

Each time a Form 474 that references an FRN subject to an invoice check is submitted for payment, USAC will ask the service provider to obtain a certification from the applicant that the invoiced services

were delivered and installed. Payment will not be processed on an FRN subject to an invoice check until the applicant makes this certification.

PIA Request for Applicant Completion of Service Certification

In other circumstances when the service provider submits an invoice to USAC for E-Rate discount payment, the applicant may be requested to complete a service certification to verify to USAC that the services and/or equipment were delivered to the applicant. This certification provides an additional level of program integrity to ensure that payments are disbursed to service providers after the service or products are delivered.

There is typically a seven (7) response period that the applicant must meet to complete and submit the Service Certification to the PIA invoice reviewer. The applicant should obtain the PIA reviewer's email so that the completed service certification can be submitted directly to the reviewer (and not sent to the service provider). Note: Beginning in November 2023 an email will be sent to the BEAR contact person to advise the inquiry has been issued in EPC. All questions and information requests will be handled inside EPC.

It is advisable for the applicant to request the service provider to forward to the applicant a copy of the invoice on which the FCC Form 474 SPI is based. The applicant also may need to research the check number and date of the check that was issued to pay for the applicant's non-discount share of the invoice cost. The service provider may be requested to assist the applicant in providing this information; however, the applicant and not the service provider is responsible for completing and signing the service certification. If the applicant has any questions about how to complete the service certification, the applicant should contact the PIA reviewer directly and not ask these questions of the service provider.

Because the service certification is not sent directly to the applicant but instead is sent to the service provider, there could be a delay in the service provider's transmittal of the request to the applicant. If this occurs and the applicant is unable to comply with the seven (7) deadline, the applicant should contact the PIA reviewer directly and request an extension of time.

The applicant should retain a copy of the service certification for their records.

Sample Email Requesting BEAR Documentation

USAC Invoice	SP App Invoice	Line ID	Customer Ship	471	FRN	SPIN	Service Provider	Applicant Name
No	No		Date				Name	

I am reviewing your request for reimbursement of the invoice line/s noted above.

BILLS:

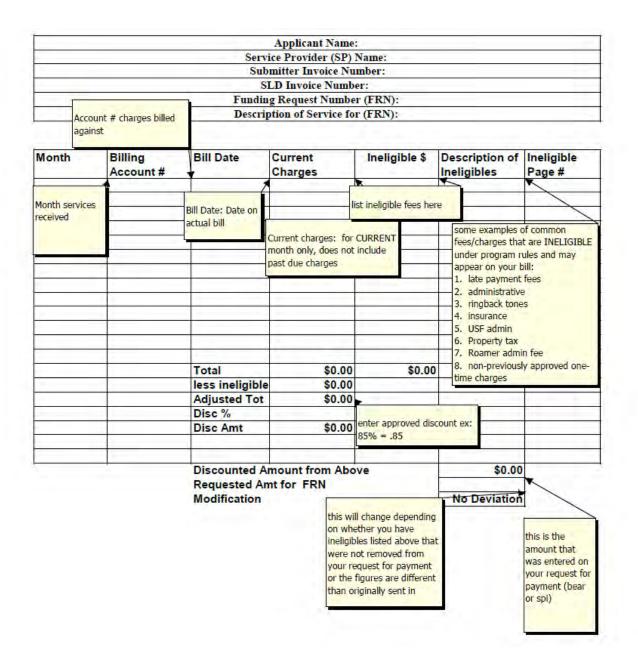
Please submit:

- I. A copy of the summary page/s for the bill/s received from Service Provider, to show:
 - a. Bill Date/Ship Date
 - b. Service Provider Name
 - c. Bill-To Entity
 - d. Current Charges
 - e. Description of Products/Services Delivered
 - i. Please provide written description of products / services when not indicated on bill. For example, Network Equipment is an insufficient description of product delivered)
 - f. Hours work performed (for Basic Maintenance of Internal Connection)
- II. If the service provider/ listed on the bill is different from the service provider of record for the above FRN, please specify:
 - a. Has a change of service provider occurred (Yes/No)?
 - b. If No, please confirm the third party listed on the bill is an authorized third-party biller.
 - i. If the third party listed on the bill is an authorized third-party biller, please also provide the following:
 - A signed and dated contract or documentation of the written and dated offer from the third-party biller to the service provider listed on the above FRN
 - 2. The service provider's written and dated acceptance of the offer authorizing the third-party biller to bill the applicants for the services provided on its behalf.
 - 3. A signed and dated contract or documentation of the written and dated offer from the third-party biller to the billed entity listed on the FCC Form 471 for this FRN as well
 - 4. The billed entity's written and dated acceptance of the offer authorizing the third-party biller to bill the applicants for the services provided on behalf of the actual service provider.
- III. If the invoice is for deposits or up-front charges for services, please include a copy of the full contract that supports those charges.

RESPONSE REQUIREMENT:

Please provide this information to me as soon as possible within the next 7 calendar days, by End of Day (Day, Date). Failure to do so may result in a reduction or rejection of the invoice, without further request. In this event, please ensure you have all necessary documents collected before resubmitting your request. If you have any questions, please contact me within this 7-day period. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of the Universal Service Program.

Sample BEAR Calculation Worksheet



Sample Worksheet Certification

I certify that the information on the worksheet that I am providing is based on the actual bills for eligible services that the FCC Form 471 applicant has received from the vendor whose SPIN is associated with the approved E-Rate discounts. I also certify that the sample bill(s) provided is representative of the other items on the worksheet.

USAC Invoices #			
Signature			
Print Name			
Company / Organization			
Title			
Date			

Sample Service Certification for USAC Invoices

USAC Invoice Number		
Invoice Line Number		
Service Provider Name		
Service Provider SPIN		
Service Provider Invoice #		
Undiscounted Invoice Amount		
Discounted Invoice Amount		
Applicant Name		
Representative / Contact Name		
Representative / Contact Title		
Representative / Contact Phone		
Billed Entity Number (BEN)		
471 Number		
FRN		
Date Goods/Services Delivered		
Date Goods/Services were or will be Installed		
Date Applicant Portion Paid and Check No. or Date will be Paid		
This is to certify that I am authorized to represent the above-named Applicant. This is also to certify the services described on the attached vendor invoice were delivered and/or installed as indicated by the date(s) above.		The charges represented by the above represented invoice are deposits or up-front charges for services, which have not been delivered, and have been agreed to based on the contract between the above referenced Applicant and Service Provider
Copy of <u>detailed</u> vendor invoice must be attached. Contract with Service Provider above is for Delivery only Yes No Delivery and Installation Yes No		Copy of <u>supporting contract</u> must be attached if indicated below Supporting Contract Required YES NO
Signed:		Signed:
Date:		Date:

Revised 8/27/12

Schools and Library Division (USAC)

FCC Form 498 Banking Information Overview

Applicants who choose the FCC Form 472 (Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) Form) payment method must have an FCC Form 498 ID number (applicant 498 ID) on file with USAC to receive reimbursement payments. To receive or revise an applicant 498 ID, applicants must file the FCC Form 498 in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC).

Purpose of FCC Form 498

The FCC Form 498 collects contact, billing, and remittance information.

The applicant 498 ID is a unique number issued to each applicant by USAC to ensure that approved funds are directed to the correct applicant bank account. Once the information provided on this form has been approved, USAC issues the applicant an Applicant 498 ID.

The FCC Form 498 requires:

- Basic information about the applicant—which will mostly auto-populate based on the applicant's EPC account—such as billed entity name and address;
- A Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Taxpayer Identification Number (Tax ID);
- A Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) available through SAM.gov;
- Remittance contact information;
- Financial contact information for the financial institution, such as an account and routing number; andAny other billed entities (BENs) that should be associated with the same banking account information.

NOTE: An entity that was able to file invoices before Funding Year (FY) 2016, but cannot file invoices in EPC, can have its entity number listed as an associated entity on the billed entity's FCC Form 498. For example, a school district acts as a billed entity in EPC, but before FY 2016 it used its administrative building's entity number to file BEAR Forms. The school district can list the entity number of its administrative building as an associated billed entity number on its FCC Form 498

How Applicants File FCC Form 498

An applicant's FCC Form 498 must be filed in EPC and processed by USAC before USAC can begin making direct payments to the applicant. Applicants will use their applicant 498 ID when requesting direct BEAR payments. BEAR payments will be made to the bank account associated with the applicant 498 ID.

Before you can complete and file the FCC Form 498, you must know what roles and permissions you will assign and must have all of the information outlined below.

Assign Roles and Permissions

First, the entity's Account Administrator must assign roles and permissions to the individuals that will be responsible for completing and certifying the form. These roles include:

School or Library Official:

 Someone who occupies a position of authority for the applicant (typically a superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, assistant principal, library director, assistant library director, county administrator, district administrator, or state education department or state library lead);

- Is not a consultant; and
- Is authorized to certify that the information provided in the FCC Form 498 is true, accurate, and complete.

General Financial Contact:

- Someone who is authorized to retrieve the FCC Form 498 information and obtain access to EPC;
 and
- Is able to complete but not certify updates to the FCC Form 498.

Verify Your Federal EIN

In general, schools and libraries already have a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) or taxpayer identification number (Tax ID). If the billed entity is not the school or library – for example, if a town, county, Tribal or federal government files program forms on behalf of a library that does not control its own finances – the EIN of the appropriate agency should be provided.

Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

On April 6, 2022, the FCC released a Public Notice (DA-22-371) announcing that the General Services Administration's SAM.gov would transition from the use of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number to the SAM.gov assigned Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and that the FCC was working with USAC to make a full transition to SAM.gov for all universal service fund recipients. In the September 15, 2022 E-Rate News Brief, USAC announced that all service providers receiving funding through the universal service programs would be required to obtain and use a UEI when making changes to their existing or submitting a new FCC Form 498.

USAC now requires all E-Rate applicants that will be using the BEAR method of invoicing and receiving funding through the E-Rate program to obtain and use a UEI when making changes to their existing or submitting a new FCC Form 498. E-Rate applicants that do not currently have a 498 ID and/or will only use service provider invoicing (SPI) for reimbursement, are not required to register in SAM.gov to obtain a UEI and will not need to file for or update their 498 ID.

The FCC Form 498, available through EPC, will only accept the UEI if the following criteria are met:

- SAM.gov registration for your entity is active;
- Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the UEI matches the EIN for the FCC Registration Number; and
- EIN for the UEI matches the EIN on the FCC Form 498.

Next Steps

If you are already registered in SAM.gov, you have a UEI. To find your UEI, log into SAM.gov and select the Entity Management widget in your Workspace or log in and search Entity Information. Please ensure that your SAM.gov registration is active and the EIN for your UEI, the FCC Registration Number, and the FCC Form 498 numbers match. Once you have completed these steps, add your UEI to your FCC Form 498 ID. Entities' registrations in SAM.gov require annual renewal or the accounts are deactivated. Please ensure that your organization annually renews its SAM.gov registration prior to the expiration date

listed in your entity's record in SAM.gov in order to continue receiving direct payments through the E-Rate program.

If you are not registered in SAM.gov, you need to register and allow up to six weeks for the registration to be completed for SAM.gov. Once you register with SAM.gov, you are automatically assigned a UEI and can add your UEI to your FCC Form 498. Even if you don't need to modify your 498 ID immediately, you should go ahead and complete your SAM.gov registration as early as possible, so that you have your UEI when it is required to be used.

If you need help obtaining a UEI or have additional questions, please contact USAC's Customer Service Center, selecting the Contributors/Service Providers option, at (888) 641-8722, or visit SAM.gov for additional information on how to obtain a UEI or register your entity.

Locate or Obtain an FCC RN

An FCC Registration Number (FCC RN) is required by all entities that do business with the FCC. If you have filed an FCC Form 471 in the last several years, you already have an FCC RN, as you were required to provide it on the form.

If you do not have an FCC RN, you can apply for one on the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES) website.

The FCC website refers to these numbers as "FRNs." This is not the same as the Funding Request Number (FRN) that USAC assigns to each funding request on an FCC Form 471.

Choose Your Banking Account

To identify the bank account into which USAC will deposit direct payments, you are asked to provide three pieces of information:

- The bank name;
- The account number the number assigned by your bank to identify your account; and
- The routing number a nine-digit number that identifies the specific bank.

The bank account information provided on the form cannot be for a bank account owned by a consultant.

Upload Banking Documentation Information

You must separately upload banking documentation with your FCC Form 498 so that USAC can verify your account information. The document upload fields appear on the form's Remittance Information page, which allows users to upload their banking documentation at the same time they are submitting the FCC Form 498.

You will need to upload a clear image of a voided check, or a statement from your financial institution that includes the bank name and account number.

After Filing FCC Form 498

After you submit banking documentation online, USAC verifies your account information and within two (2) business days, alerts the person who submitted the documentation via email whether the applicant 498 ID form is approved or rejected.

If you have not heard from USAC after two (2) business days, you may contact us. Alternatively, you may check your form's status in EPC, using the following steps:

- Navigate to EPC
- Click Records
- Click FCC Forms 498
- Enter your FCC Form 498 ID and click Search.

The FCC Form 498 link appears, along with its status.

E-rate Form 498 (Banking Data) Filing & Updating Guide



January 2024

Purpose of the Form 498

- Beginning July 1, 2016, all E-rate BEAR reimbursements are sent electronically via ACH (Automated Clearing House) directly to the school or library's bank account
 - For any BEAR filed as of 7/1/2016 regardless of the FRN funding year
- The Form 498 identifies the bank and account information where the BEAR reimbursements should be electronically deposited
- The Form 498 must be certified AND approved by USAC before any BEARs can be submitted
- Before you file the BEAR, you must have an approved Form 498 but you do not need to complete the Form 498 annually
 - If you have an approved 498 on file with USAC, the online BEAR system already has your banking data on file

How Do I Know if I Have a 498 Approved?

- Unsure if you already have an approved Form 498?
 - Log into EPC
 - Select 'Records' from top toolbar
 - Select 'Form 498s'
 - Click on 498 if one is showing to see the Status
 - If no 498 is showing, then there isn't one on file/approved with USAC

Who Can Submit the Form 498?

- EPC User Permission Settings dictate who can create/submit the Form 498
 - "School or Library Officials" can start, complete, submit, certify, modify, and deactivate Forms 498
 - Important: Consultants <u>cannot</u> be designated as "School or Library Officials"
 - "General Financial Contacts" can start, complete, and submit Forms 498, <u>but cannot certify</u> new or updated Forms 498 or deactivate existing Forms 498
 - Consultants <u>CAN</u> be designated as "General Financial Contacts" and may draft the Form, but it must be sent to a School or Library Official for submission/certification

Information You'll Need...

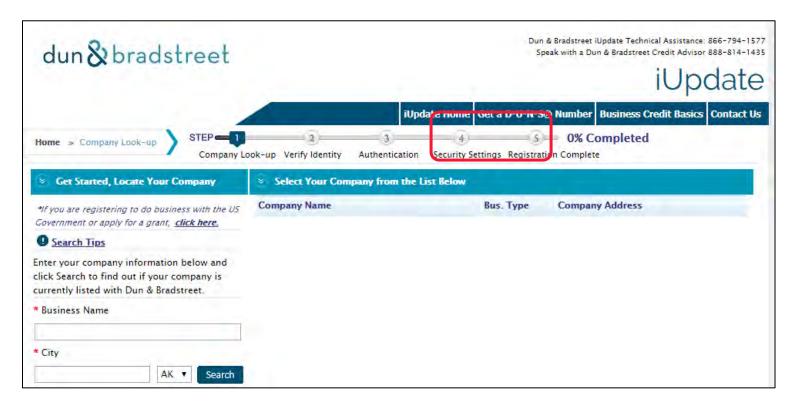
- Name of General Financial Contact
- Name of Remittance Contact
- Name of Bank
- School or Library's Federal EIN Number
- DUN and Bradstreet Number (DUNS)
 - Look-up tool available
 - See slide 7 for help finding your DUNS number
- UFI Number
 - See slide 6 for more info about UEI numbers
- Financial Institution Account Number for ACH
- ACH Financial Institution Transit Number
- Copy of Voided Check or Bank Statement
 - Uploaded during 498 completion to verify banking data

Note About UEI Numbers

- The UEI is a new field on the Form 498
- Form 498s will only be approved by USAC if:
 - The SAM.gov registration for your entity is active;
 - The Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the UEI matches the EIN for the FCC Registration Number in the <u>CORES</u> system; <u>and</u>
 - The EIN for the UEI matches the EIN on the Form 498.
- Without the UEI, an active SAM.gov account, and matching EIN in the FCC's CORES system, no BEARs will be processed when the requirement eventually becomes effective
- Note: It often takes several months to obtain a UEI number from the federal government, so please begin this process early
- https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration

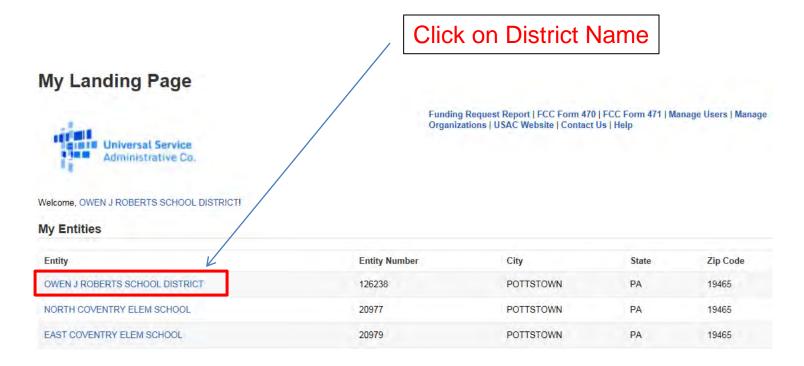
Don't Know Your DUNS Number?

- The easiest way to look it up is at:
 https://iupdate.dnb.com/iUpdate/companylookup.htm
 - Can also apply for a DUNS Number from this site



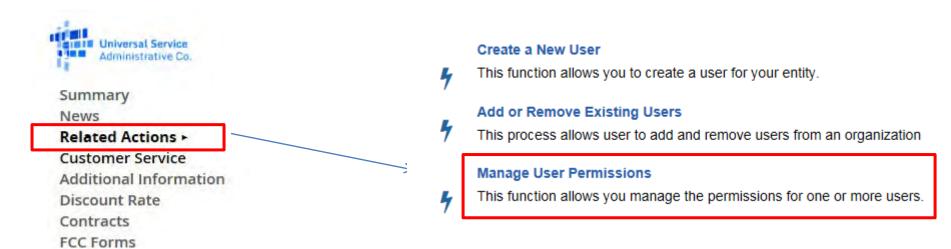
Verify Who Has Permission to Create Form

From your EPC Landing Page:



Who Has Permission to Create the Form

Select 'Related Actions' from left toolbar, then
 'Manage User Permissions' from Lightning Bolt list

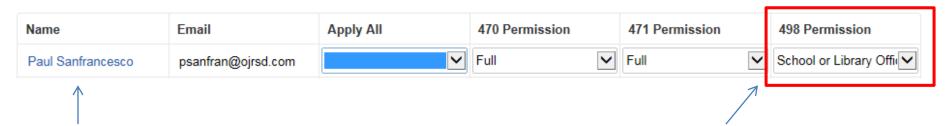


Identifying 498 Permissions

User Permissions

In the table below, you can designate the permissions that you wish to give to each of your users for the various tasks you can complete in the portal. This table will continue to grow as more functionality comes online.

- · Full rights users can start, complete, submit and certify forms.
- Partial rights users can start and enter data in the form, but cannot submit and certify them.
- View Only users can only see forms created by other people in your organization but cannot create forms themselves.
- Form 498 School or Library Officials can start, complete, submit, certify, modify, and deactivate Forms 498.
- Form 498 General Financial Contacts can start, complete, and submit Forms 498, but cannot certify new or updated Forms 498 or deactivate existing Forms 498.



All users in your EPC portal will be shown here, along with their permissions for each form.

- To draft <u>and</u> submit form, permission must be "School or Library Official."
- To draft form only, permission will be set to "General Financial Contact."

How to Update 498 Banking Data

- If you need to update your 498 Banking Data, log into EPC > Records > Form 498s > Click on the 498 > Related Actions > Modify Form 498
 - If you log into the Online BEAR System, and a Form 498 ID doesn't appear in the form, it means you don't have an approved 498 on file with USAC
- Be sure to upload a copy of the new banking information so they can validate it and approve the changes in their system
- Do NOT create a new Form 498 if your bank account information changes
 - Doing so will give you two 498 IDs which will make your BEAR filings much more challenging
 - Simply update the existing Form 498 in EPC

Let's Complete a Form 498

Finding the Form 498 in EPC

 Select Related Actions from left toolbar, then Create Form 498 from Lightning Bolt list (it's near the bottom of the list)



Discount Rate

Contracts

FCC Forms

Manage Contracts
 Create, edit, and remove contracts for your organization

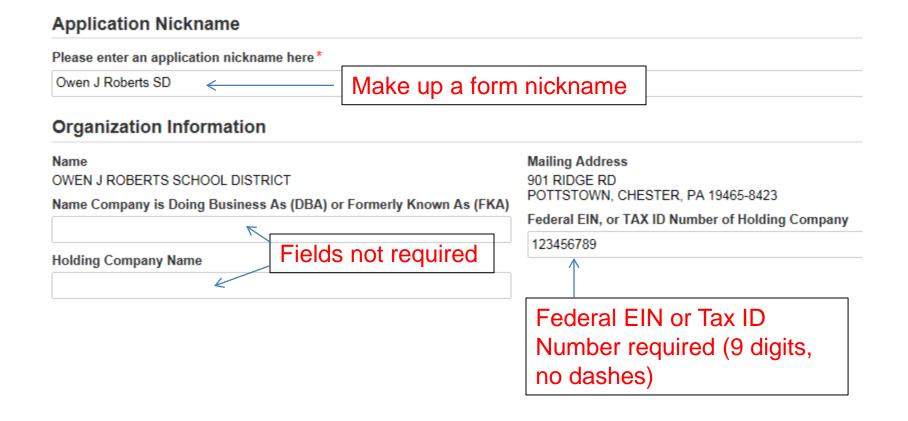
 Create FCC Form 498

This function allows you to create an FCC Form 498 for your entity.

- Manage Connectivity Questions

 Form for Entities to answer required Connectivity Questions.
- Upload Entity Profile Data
 This function allows you to bulk upload your child schools details.

General Information



Select Appropriate Business Type



- Choose up to 3 options from dropdown menu
- Dropdown menu choices are derived from DATA Act the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014
 - DATA Act requires federal government to transform spending information into open data
 - Government-wide data standards must be used for reporting on all expenditures
 - DATA Act requires each E-rate applicant to designate their "business type"
 - Use your best judgment. There is no right or wrong answer.
 - See next slide for suggestions

Business Types – Choose up to 3

Some Suggestions:

- Public School Districts Independent School District
- IUs, ESAs, Library Systems & most consortia - U.S. Regional Organization
- Private Schools, Charter Schools, and Independent Libraries – Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than an Institution of Higher Education), or "Other"

There are no right or wrong answers and your funding is not at risk based on the way you answer the question.

- Public/Indian Housing Authority
 Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than an Institution of Higher Education)
- Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than an Institution of Higher Education)
- Private Institution of Higher Education
- ✓ Individual
- For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business)
- Small Business
- Hispanic-serving Institution
- Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
- Tribally Controlled College or University (TCCU)
- Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions
- Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entity
- ✓ Other

Please select a value

General Financial Contact

- Name entered must match a "user" in EPC
- Can be any user, even a consultant

I	Enter General Financial Contact *	

Federal ID and DUNS Numbers

Further Details

All of these key pieces of data are required.

Federal Employer Identification Number *

123456789

Dun and Bradstreet Number (DUNS)*

013664552

"Data Univer U-N-S) is a p Dun & Brads identifier, refer business ent

"Data Universal Numbering System" number (DUNS or D-U-N-S) is a proprietary system developed and regulated by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) that assigns a unique numeric identifier, referred to as a "DUNS number" to a single business entity.

FCC Registration Number

0003263845 <

Note: The FCC Registration Number should pre-populate (note: this is not the same as the Form 471 FRN number).

Unique Entity Identification Number (UEI) *

Remittance Contact

 If the Remittance Contact is the same as the General Financial Contact on the previous page, check the "Yes" box and data will be prepopulated below.

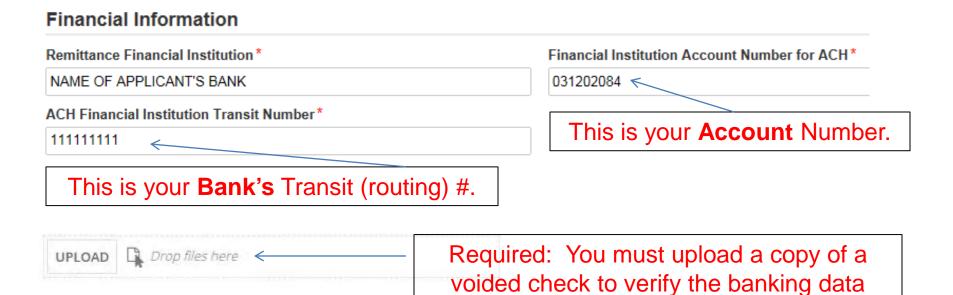
Remittance Contact Is the Remittance Contact the same as the General Financial Contact? ✓ Yes < **Contact Information** First Name Phone Number Julie 717-730-7133 Last Name Phone Number Extension Tritt Schell **Email Address** Middle Initial itschell@comcast.net Title Consultant

Remittance Contact

- The Remittance Contact will receive e-mail notifications when funds have been transferred into the applicant's bank account
- If the Remittance Contact is NOT the same as the General Financial Contact on the previous page, don't check "yes" box and enter the data below. *Note: The Remittance Contact does NOT have to be a user in EPC.*

Remittance Contact			
Is the Remittance Contact the same as the Ger Yes	neral Financial Contact?		
Contact Information			
First Name *	Phone Number*		
Last Name *	Phone Number Extension		
Middle Initial	Email Address*		
Title *			

Financial Information



Be 100% certain that the Bank Transit Number and Your Account Number are accurate and placed in the correct fields.

The order of these fields is reversed from how these items are commonly displayed.

More Than 1 BEN Connected to the Same Bank Account?

- If your school or library has more than one Billed Entity connected to this bank account, you can list that additional BEN number here.
- Most applicants will leave this <u>blank</u>.

Add to List

 If you have a district and consortium Billed Entity Number, list the additional entity number here.

Block 14: Billed Entity Number/FCC Form 498 Association If you are an entity that has chosen to receive your E-rate Program payments directly (BEAR invoicing), please enter the Billed Entity this FCC Form 498. Billed Entity Number Billed Entity Name OWEN J ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT Add Additional BEN Number

Certifying

- If a School or Library Official completed the form, they can click on Continue to Certification
- If a General Financial Contact completed the form, they must click on in order to send the Form 498 to a "School or Library Official" in EPC for their approval.



USAC Verification Process

- After the 498 is certified, USAC will review the banking data with the voided check to verify they match
- If you are having problems with the Form 498, call USAC at (888) 203-8100 for assistance
- After USAC has approved the 498, they will send an "Approved Form 498" email to the General Financial Contact
- After receiving this email, you may file your Form 472 BEAR and the reimbursements will be deposited directly into your bank account



E-RATE PRODUCTIVITY CENTER (EPC) APPLICANT USER GUIDE

Filing the FCC Form 498

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E-RATE PRODUCTIVITY CENTER (EPC) APPLICANT USER GUIDE

Filing the FCC Form 498

Purpose of FCC Form 498

The FCC Form 498 is used to collect contact, remittance, and payment information for service providers and applicants that receive support from the federal universal service programs. For greater flexibility, this form allows service providers to use the same information for all of the programs, different contact and remittance information for each of the four programs, or multiple contact and remittance information. You must report any changes to this information on a revised FCC Form 498 to prevent any delays in notification and the timeliness of disbursements.

To provide eligible services under this program, service providers must file an FCC form 498 to receive a Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN, also known as a 498 ID) from USAC and certify that they will comply with program rules. In addition, all Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program applicants (billed entities) receiving payments via the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) process need to file the FCC Form 498 in the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC) to receive payment.

Assistance in Completing the FCC Form 498

You may direct any questions about completing this form to USAC via the following options:

Website: http://www.usac.org/about/tools/contact/default.aspx

Email: CustomerSupport@usac.org

Telephone: 888-641-8722

Fax: 888-637-6226

User Accounts

The applicant must submit a customer service case to request that USAC establish user accounts for a School or Library Official or General Financial Contact. Applicants can submit a case via the **Contact Us** link in EPC or call the Client Service Bureau (CSB) at (888) 203-8100.

User Roles and Permissions

User rights are provided on a form by form basis. The designated rights are:

School or Library Official - Full Rights: The user can create, edit, and certify these forms.



- **General Financial Contact** Partial Rights: The user can create (start) and edit these forms; however, they are not able to certify the form. Upon the completion of data entry, the system will be automatically route to full rights users in your organization to await certification.
- No Access No Rights: The user cannot sign.

Note: The account administrator for your organization can modify user's permissions.

Certification Requirements

The FCC Form 498 must be certified by a School or Library Official for the following occurrences:

- 1. To create an FCC Form 498.
- 2. To revise an existing FCC Form 498.
- 3. To deactivate an existing FCC Form 498.

Form Prerequisite

Prior to accessing EPC, you must have:

- Applied for a user account by contacting the Client Service Bureau at (888) 203-8100.
- Received an email invitation from <u>admin@portal.usac.org</u> with the subject **USAC EPC-Account** Creation.
- Followed the instructions in the email to setup your username (your email address) and password to sign in.

Note: You will not be able to access the EPC system without a username and password OR user permissions to a designated form.

Applicant Login

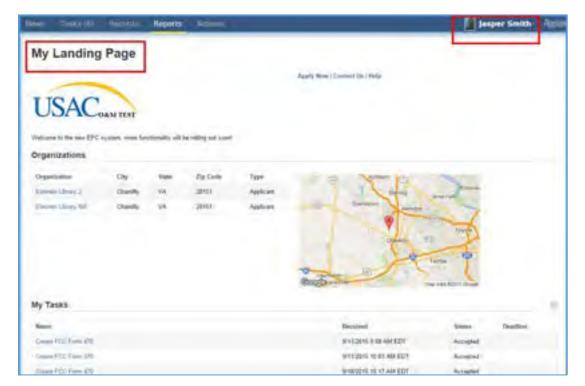
1. Access the system via https://portal.usac.org.



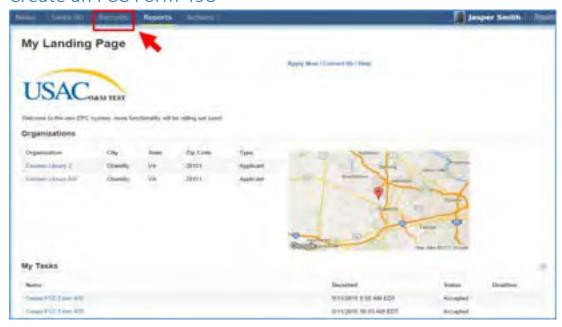




- 2. Enter your **Username** and **Password** and then *click* the **Sign In** button to display the system access information.
- 3. Click the I Agree button to display your Landing Page.

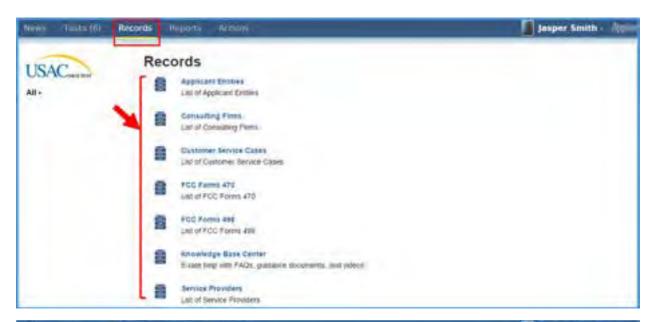


Create an FCC Form 498



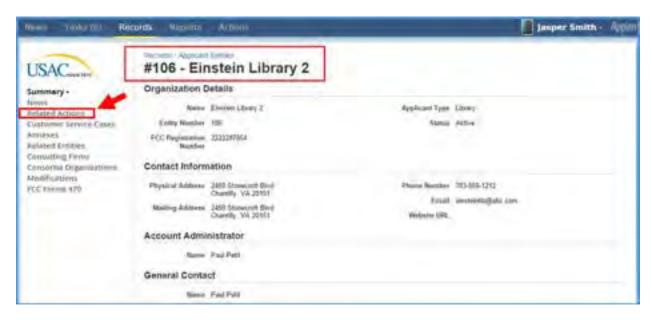
1. *Click* the **Records** tab. The **Records** page displays a list of records.



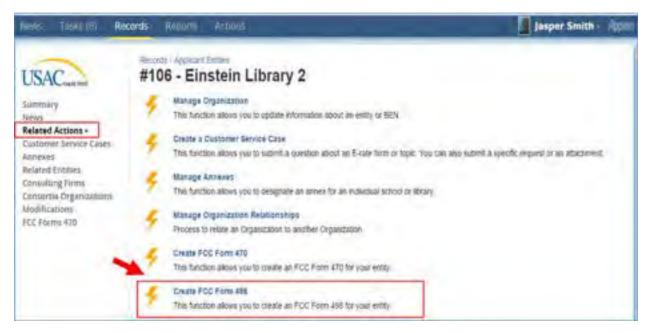




2. Click the Applicant Entities link. The selected entity's page displays.



3. Select the Related Actions link. The Related Actions options displays.

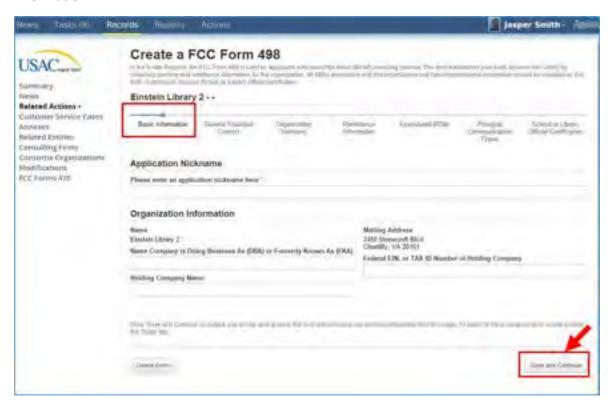


4. Select the Create FCC Form 498 link. The Create a FCC Form 498 page displays.



Basic Information

The Basic Information page requests information regarding the **Application Nickname** and **Organization Information**.



- 5. Enter information into all fields.
- 6. Click the Save and Continue button.



General Financial Contact

The General Financial Contact page requests information on the organization's contacts.



7. Enter information into the appropriate field.

Note: This information will automatically populate the contact information when the name of an assigned contact is entered, as shown below.



8. Click the Save and Continue button.



Organization Numbers

The Organization Numbers page requests Further Details (Federal Employee Identification Number, Dun and Bradstreet Number (DUNS), and FCC Registration Number) information.

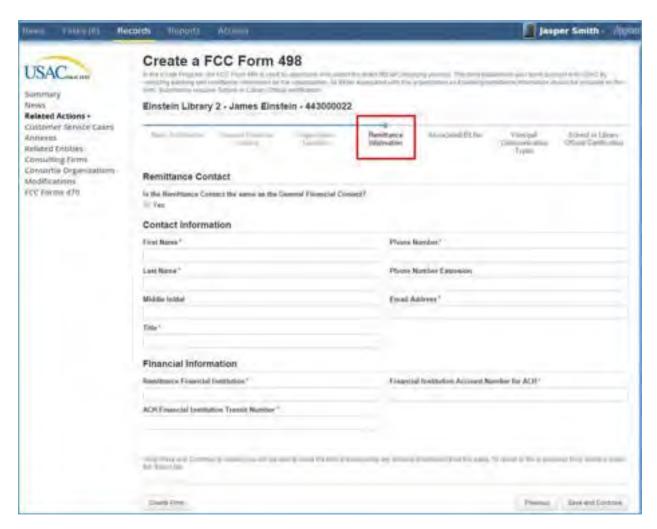


- 9. Enter the appropriate information into each field.
- 10. Click the Save and Continue button.



Remittance Information

The Remittance Information page requests your **Remittance Contact, Contact Information** and **Financial Information**.



11. Enter information into the appropriate fields.

Note: Selecting the Yes check box will automatically populate the Contact Information fields.







12. Click the Save and Continue button.



Associated BENs

The associated Billed Entity Number (BEN) page requests information regarding the current BEN, Billed Entity Name, and an option for any additional BENs who will use this bank account during the BEAR process.





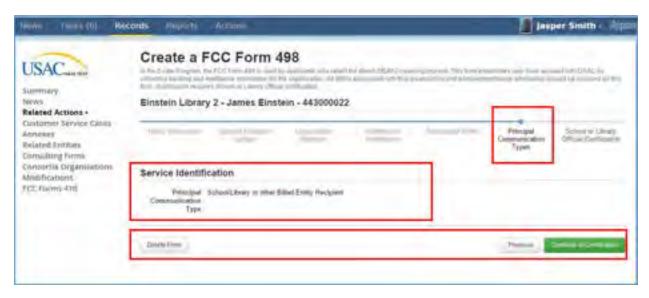
- 13. Enter information into the appropriate fields.
- 14. Click the Add to List link if an additional BEN Number is necessary.
- 15. Click the Save and Continue button.



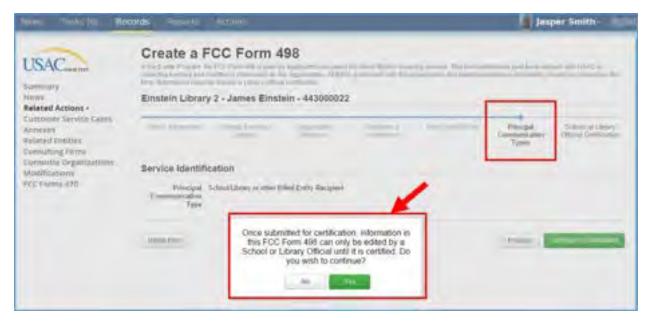
Principal Communication Types

The Principal Communication Types page displays the **Service Identification** information. For applicants this will always be prepopulated.

Note: Information shown on this page automatically populates from previous captured data.



- 16. Review Service Identification information.
- 17. *Select* from the following options:
 - a. Click **Delete Form** button to end the certification process.
 - b. Click the **Previous** button to return to the **Associated BENs** page.
 - c. Click Continue to Certification button to proceed with certification. A popup message displays.





18. Click the **No** button to exit the message and return to the **Principal Communication Types** page.

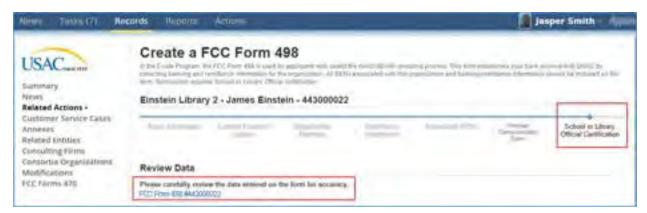
Note: Only the School or Library Official can certify the FCC Form 498. The General Financial Contact can only submit the form.

19. *Click* the **Yes** button to continue. Selecting this option displays the School or Library Official Certification page.

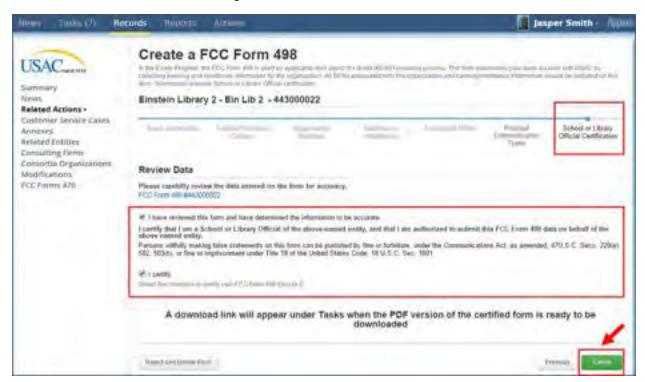


School or Library Official Certification

The School or Library Official Certification page requests that a School or Library Official review the form for accuracy and, if in agreement, to certify the information.



- 20. Review the information by clicking the FCC Form 498 link. The form displays for review.
- 21. Close the form after reviewing information.



22. Select both **check boxes** in the Review Data section, if acceptable.

Note: Both check boxes must be selected to continue the certification process.

- 23. *Select* from the following options:
 - a. *Click* the **Reject and Delete Form** button to discontinue the Create a FCC Form 498 process. All of the information entered will be deleted.

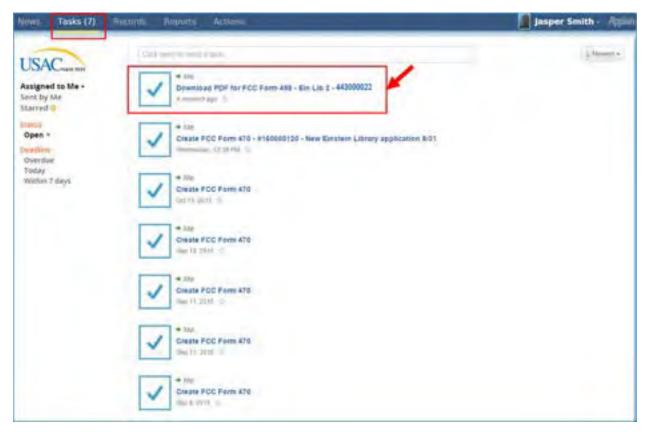


- b. Click the Previous button to return to the Principal Communication Types page.
- c. *Click* the **Certify** button to complete the Create a Form 498 process. Selecting this option displays the **Tasks** tab.

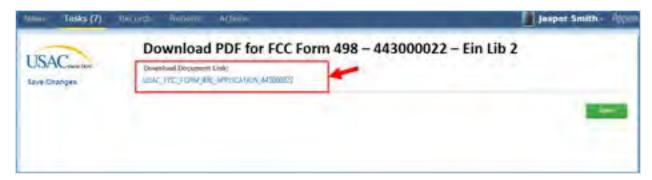
Note: If the Certify button is selected, a download link will appear under the **Tasks** tab when the PDF version of the certified form is ready to be downloaded.

View Form

The Tasks tab displays the user's tasks categorized by Assigned to Me, Status, and Deadline.

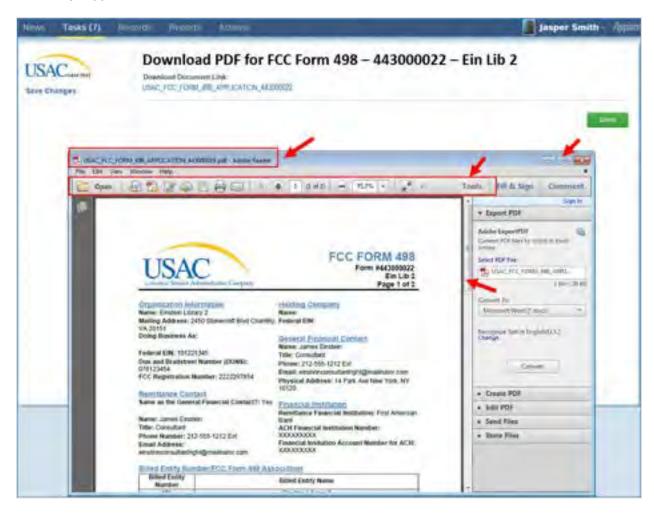


24. *Click* the **Download PDF for FCC Form 498** link. The **Download PDF for FCC Form 498** page displays.





 Click the Download Document Link. Your USAC FCC Form 498 Application displays in PDF format.



26. Use the Scroll bar to view document OR click the Maximize button to enlarge the document.

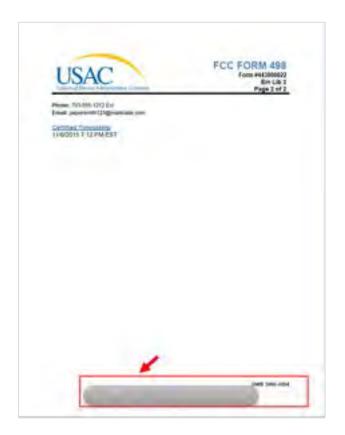
Note: Select options on the PDF toolbar to Open, Save, or Print the document, if preferred.



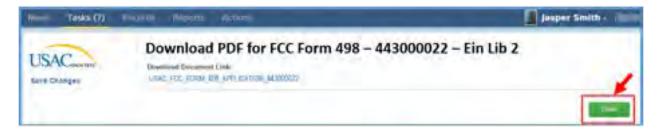


- 27. *Select* the following options from the page toolbar, if applicable:
 - a. *Click* the **Save** button to save a copy of the document for your records.
 - b. Click Print button to print the document.
 - c. *Click* the **Minus (-)** button to minimize the view.
 - d. Click the Plus (+) button to enlarge view.
 - e. Click the **Home** button to return to the Home page view.





- 28. Complete your selected options and then exit Download PDF for FCC Form 498 page.
- 29. Click the **Done** button. The **Records** tab will display.



Modify FCC Form 498

The information in the FCC Form 498 document can be modified. The **Records** tab will display your records and the status of each record.





1. *Click* the **drop-down** arrow next to the **ALL** topic OR *click* the **FCC Forms 498** link. The three Status options and records display.



The Nickname and Form Number assigned to the form will display under the Forms 498 topic.





2. Click the Nickname (Example: Ein Lib 2 – 443000022) link. The form information displays.

Note: The Search field can also be used to retrieve records when multiple records exist.



Note: A **Follow** button displays. *Click* the **Follow** button to see news related to this record in your news feed (optional).

3. Click the Collapse (-)/Expand (+) button to adjust the view.

Note: Do not select the Deactivate FCC Form 498 button to modify the form.



4. Click the Modify FCC Form 498 button to update existing information.

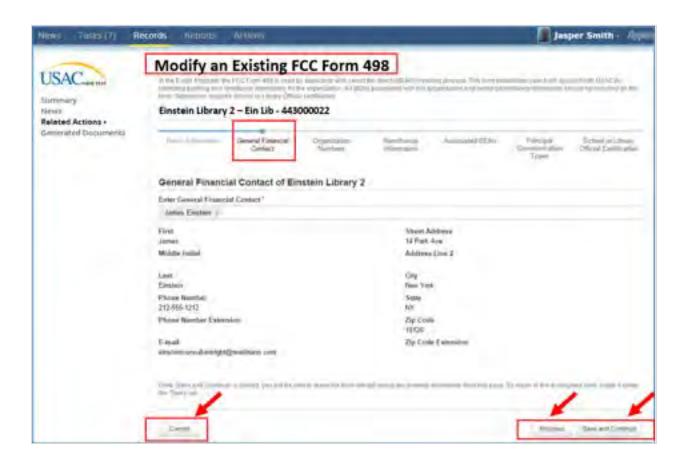


When you select the **Modify FCC Form 498** button, the **Modify an Existing Form 498** page displays. The modification process will take you through the original steps (Basic Information, General Financial Contact, Organization Numbers, Remittance, Associated BENs, Principal Communication Types, and School or Library Official Certification pages).



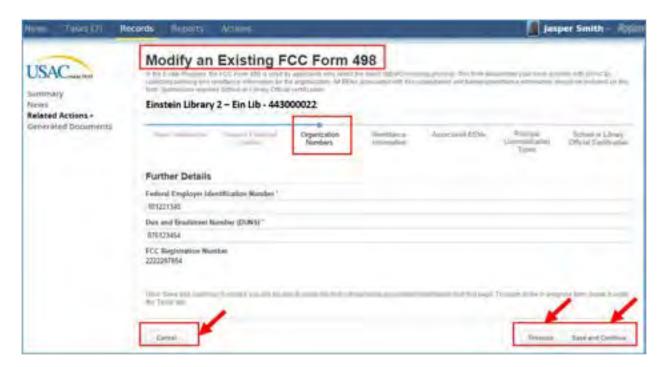
- 5. Review or update information displayed in the Basic Information page.
- 6. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 7. *Click* the **Save and Continue** button. Selecting this button will display the **General Financial Contact** page.



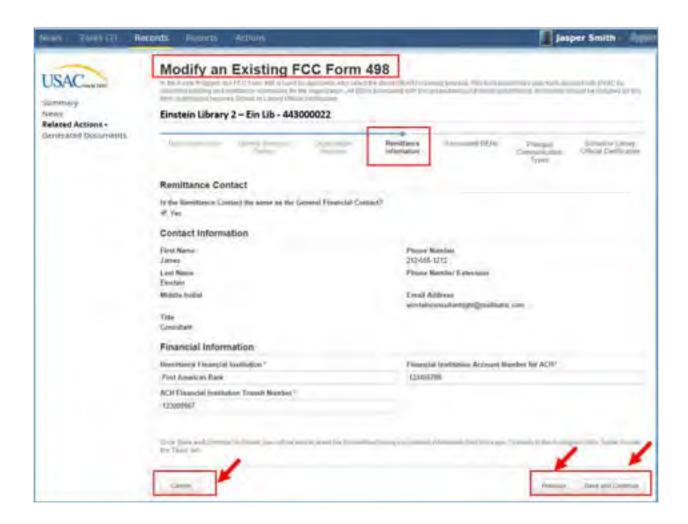


- 8. Review or update information displayed on the General Financial Contact page.
- 9. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 10. *Click* the **Previous** button to return to the **Basic Information** page.
- 11. *Click* the **Save and Continue** button. Selecting this button will display the **Organization Numbers** page.





- 12. Review or update information displayed on the Organization Numbers page.
- 13. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 14. Click the **Previous** button to return to the **General Financial Contact** page.
- 15. *Click* the **Save and Continue** button. Selecting this button will display the **Remittance Information** page.

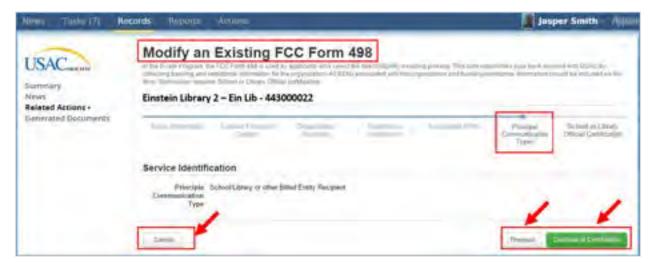


- 16. Review or update information displayed on the Remittance Information page.
- 17. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 18. Click the **Previous** button to return to the **Organization Numbers** page.
- 19. Click the Save and Continue button. Selecting this button will display the Associated BENs page.





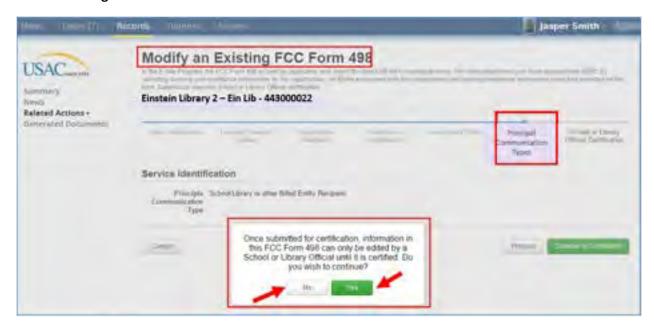
- 20. Review or update information displayed on the Associated BENs page.
- 21. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 22. Click the **Previous** button to return to the **Remittance Information** page.
- 23. *Click* the **Save and Continue** button. Selecting this button will display the **Principal Communication Types** page.



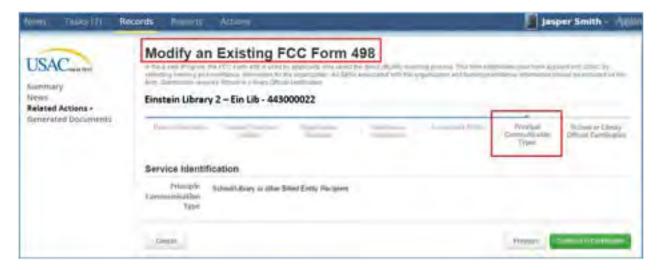
- 24. Review information displayed on the Principal Communication Types page.
- 25. *Click* the **Cancel** button to exit the modification process. Selecting this option will discard the new updates.
- 26. Click the **Previous** button to return to the **Associated BENs** page.



27. *Click* the **Continue to Certification** button. Selecting this button will display a **Submittal warning** message.



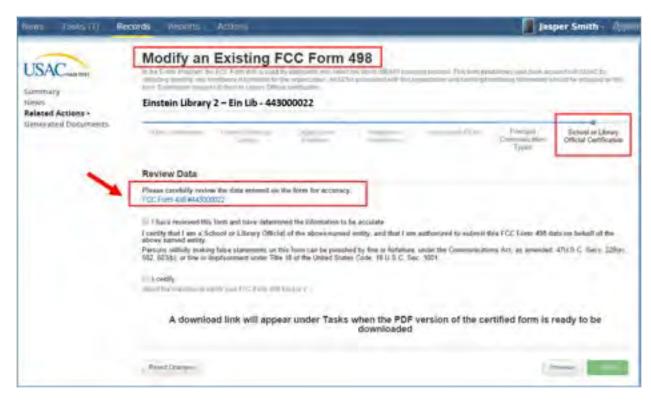
28. *Click* the **No** button to exit the modification submittal process. Selecting this option returns the user to the **Principal Communication Types** page.



29. *Click* the **Yes** button to Continue to Certification. Selecting the **Yes** button displays the **School or Library Official Certification** page.

Last Modified: May 2016





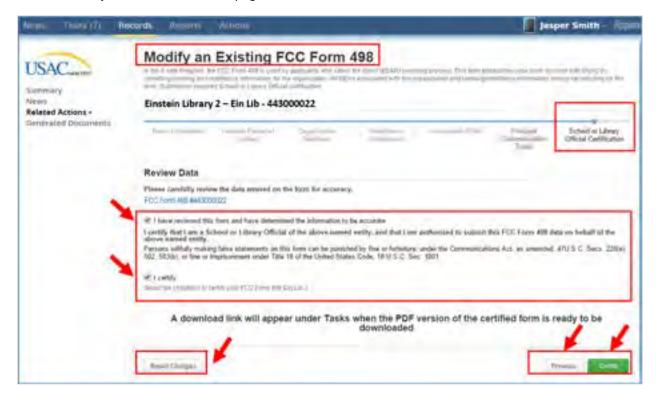
- 30. Review information displayed on the School or Library Official Certification page.
- 31. Click the FCC Form 498 # link to display the modified form.







32. *Review* the modified form for accuracy, and then close the form to return to the **School or Library Official Certification** page.



33. Select both check boxes in the Review Data section, if acceptable.

Note: Both check boxes must be selected to continue the certification process.



- 34. Select from the following options:
 - d. *Click* the **Reject Changes** button to discontinue the Modify an Existing FCC Form 498 process and discard the updated information entered.
 - e. Click the Previous button to return to the Principal Communication Types page.
 - f. *Click* the **Certify** button to complete the **Modify an Existing Form 498** process. Selecting this option displays the **Tasks** tab.

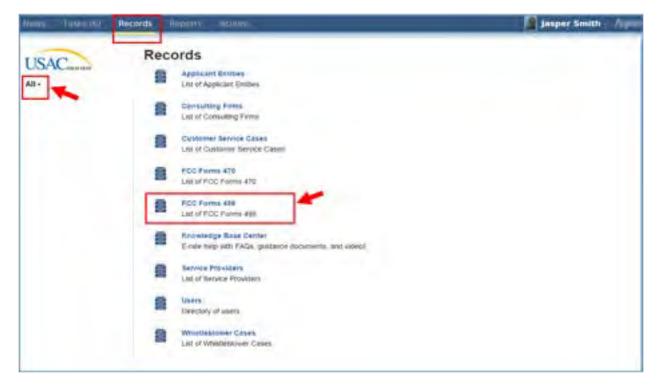
Note: If the **Certify** button is selected, a download link will appear under the **Tasks** tab when the PDF version of the certified form is ready to be downloaded.

35. See <u>View Form</u> section to view the user's tasks categorized by **Assigned to Me**, **Status** and **Deadline**.

Note: You can download the modified FCC Form 498 by following the steps in the View Form section.

Deactivate FCC Form 498

The information in the FCC Form 498 document can be deactivated. The **Records** tab will display your records and the status of each record.



1. *Click* the **drop-down** arrow next to the **ALL** topic OR *click* the **FCC Forms 498** link. The three Status options and records displays.





The **Nickname** and **Form Number** assigned to the form will display under the Forms 498 topic.



2. *Click* the **Nickname** (*Example: Ein Lib 2 – 443000022*) link. The form information displays.

Note: The Search field can also be used to retrieve records when multiple records exist.





Note: A **Follow** button displays. *Select* the **Follow** button to view news related to this record in your news feed (Optional).

3. Click the Collapse (-)/Expand (+) button to adjust the view.

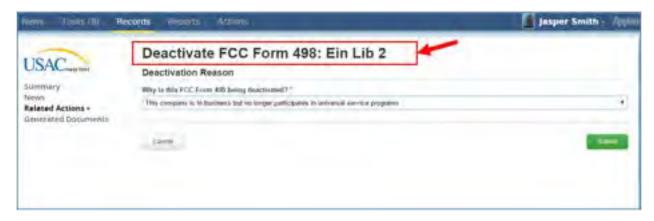
Note: Do not select the **Modify FCC Form 498** button to modify the form if you are deactivating this form.

4. *Click* the **Deactivate FCC Form 498** button to disable the form. The **Deactivate FCC Form 498**: (Nickname) page displays.

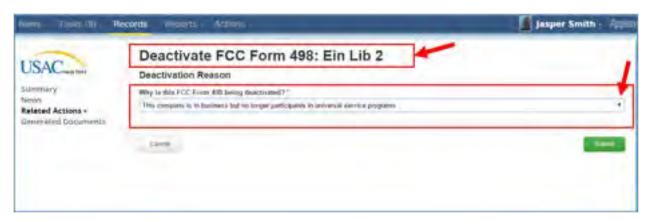


Last Modified: May 2016

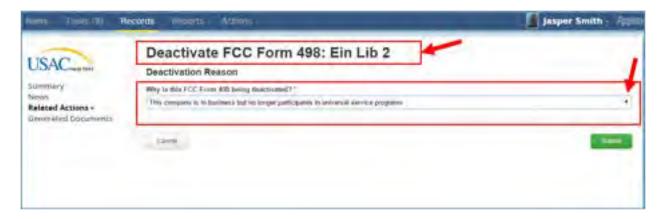




5. *Click* the **drop-down** arrow to select the **Deactivation Reason**. The selected Deactivation Reason displays.



This company is going out of business
This company is in business but no longer participates in universal service programs
This company is being sold
This company has merged with another company
This company has consolidated with another company



6. Select from the following options:



- a. *Click* the **Cancel** button to discontinue the Deactivation process and keep the form in its current status.
- b. *Click* the **Submit** button to deactivate the form. The form displays a Deactivated status.

