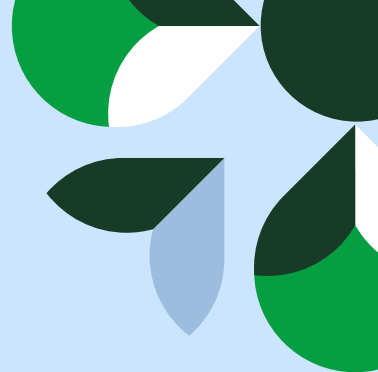


Funding Opportunity Quick Start Guide:

Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program



Funding Opportunity Name	Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program FY2024
Funder	Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Budget Limits	Schools and School Districts (S&SDs) Three-Year Budget <1,100 students – \$45,000 pre-discount 1,101-11,294 students. \$40.80 pre-discount per student >110,294 students – \$4.5 million pre-discount Discount Formulation found here
Cost Match	Participants must pay non-discounted portion of cybersecurity services and equipment.
Eligible Entity	Schools, libraries and consortia of schools and libraries that meet the E-Rate program's eligibility requirements. Prior or current e-rate participation is not a requirement to be eligible to apply for the Pilot Program.
Application Status	The FCC expects to initiate this process by opening a Pilot Program application window this Fall.
Procurement Requirement	Competitive Bid – Participants are NOT PERMITTED to conduct their competitive bidding processes prior to submitting their FCC Form 484 applications and work alongside their selected service providers to develop their proposed Pilot projects.
Resources	Cybersecurity Pilot Program Eligible Services List FCC Webinars FCC Calculating Discounts Sign Up for FCC's: Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program Email List

Summary

The Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program will provide up to \$200 million to selected participants over a three-year term to purchase a wide variety of cybersecurity services and equipment.

Modeled after the FCC's Connected Care Pilot, the Pilot Program will evaluate the effectiveness of using Universal Service funding to support cybersecurity services and equipment to protect school and library broadband networks and data in order to determine whether to fund them on a permanent basis.

Allowable Cost

Four broad categories of services and equipment will be eligible for support. Additional information regarding the services and equipment eligible for support can be found in the Pilot Eligible Services List.

- Advanced and next-generation firewalls
- Endpoint protection
- Identity protection and authentication
- Monitoring, detection, and response

Non-exhaustive list found [here](#).

Actions to Take

1. **SAM.gov Registration**—Pilot Program applicants must have an active registration with the federal System for Award Management. SAM.gov registration may take a few weeks.
2. **FCC Registration Number**—Obtain an FCC Registration Number by visiting FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES).
3. **Billed Entity Number (BEN)**—E-rate applicants already registered in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) will access the application with their existing credentials. New Applicants must call the E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC) to set up a BEN.
4. **Evaluate and identify** your cybersecurity needs.



Grants Services Available

Bluum offers consultation, research, support and eligible products and services to guide districts to understand the requirements for competitive and non-competitive federal grants and funding applications. Bluum provides such services free of charge and with no expectation that Bluum will receive any benefits from the grant other than through a fully competitive bid process as required by any applicable rules and regulations. Bluum assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions occurring in the provision of such services. In no event shall Bluum be liable for any special, direct, indirect, consequential, or incidental damages or any damages whatsoever, arising out of or in connection with the provision of any such services. (February 2023)

Grant Advisory Programs Will Not:

- Allow Grant Advisors to either recommend or promote Bluum Products or Vendors.
- Influence specifications for projects.
- Interfere with procurement requirement. Applicants must undergo competitive bidding.

Questions?

Contact grants@bluum.com

E-Rate Customer Service Center (CSC) (888) 203-8100

USAC's Customer Support Center at (800) 203-8100
(Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM Eastern).

For more information
please visit:

<https://www.bluum.com/cybersecurity-grant-2024>

