

Before the  
**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC

**UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**

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Federal Universal Service Support Mechanisms Fund Size  
Projections for Third Quarter 2014

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**BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC**

**FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT MECHANISMS  
FUND SIZE PROJECTIONS FOR  
THIRD QUARTER 2014**

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***INTRODUCTION***

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The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) hereby submits the federal Universal Service Support Mechanisms fund size and administrative cost projections for the third quarter of calendar year 2014 (3Q2014), in accordance with Section 54.709 of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC or Commission) rules.<sup>1</sup>

USAC is the not-for-profit corporation responsible for administering the federal Universal Service Fund (USF) and the Universal Service Support Mechanisms (also referred to as "Support Mechanisms" or "Programs" below): High Cost, Low Income, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries.<sup>2</sup> USAC also performs the billing, collection, and disbursement functions for the Support Mechanisms.

Upon approval of the quarterly funding requirements for the Support Mechanisms and the projected administrative expenses, and the submission of the contribution base amount, the Commission will establish a quarterly contribution factor. USAC will bill USF contributors on a monthly basis for their individual obligations based on the approved contribution factor, collect amounts owed from contributors, and distribute funds to eligible recipients based on the schedules filed herein.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.709(a)(3).

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.701.

<sup>3</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.709(a)(4), 54.201, 54.203, 54.515, 54.517, 54.301-54.307, 54.407, 54.413, 54.515 and 54.611.

***ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND INTEREST INCOME PROJECTION***

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**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

Section 54.709(a)(3) of the Commission's rules requires USAC to submit its projected quarterly budget at least 60 days prior to the start of the quarter.<sup>4</sup> USAC includes any costs that can be directly attributed to the High Cost, Low Income, Rural Health Care, and Schools and Libraries Support Mechanisms in the projected administrative expenses and capital expenditures of each mechanism. USAC's remaining joint and common costs including costs associated with the billing, collection, and disbursement of funds are included in the projected administrative expenses and capital expenditures of the respective support mechanisms based on USAC's methodology for allocating costs submitted to the Commission.<sup>5</sup>

USAC projects a consolidated budget of \$34.50 million for 3Q2014. Direct costs for all support mechanisms total \$21.51 million<sup>6</sup> and are listed for each mechanism in the chart provided below. Joint and common costs (including billing, collection, and disbursement activities) are projected at \$11.24 million and capital expenditures are projected at \$1.75

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<sup>4</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.709(a)(3).

<sup>5</sup> On January 1, 2006, USAC implemented a revised methodology for allocating joint and common costs that was filed with the Commission on October 3, 2005. *See* Letter from D. Scott Barash to Marlene H. Dortch regarding Revisions to the Method for Allocating Costs Among the Four Universal Service Support Mechanisms, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45 (Oct. 3, 2005).

<sup>6</sup> This amount includes \$0.1 million for High Cost data collection performed by the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA)—an independent entity not affiliated with USAC. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 36.611-13 and 69.603. Although USAC is required to pay for the data collection, it does not have the ability to directly oversee the effort and cannot verify, monitor, or otherwise evaluate the cost of performing the data collection function. Consistent with the fiduciary obligations of its members to safeguard USAC assets and the USF, USAC's Board of Directors has requested clarification from the Commission concerning this matter. *See* letter from D. Scott Barash, USAC, to Irene Flannery, FCC (Dec. 10, 1999), Comments of the Universal Service Administrative Company to the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 01-8 (Feb. 26, 2001). *See also*, Comments of the Universal Service Administrative Company to the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in CC Docket No. 05-195, FCC 05-124 (June 14, 2005); and *Reply Comments of the Universal Service Administrative Company* (Dec. 19, 2005).



## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

million; both are allocated to each support mechanism as described in the chart below based on the allocation methodology on file with the Commission.

### *3Q2014 Administrative Expenses (in millions) – Budgeted*

<b>USF Mechanism</b>	<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>USAC Common</b>	<b>Capital Costs</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>High Cost</b>	\$2.69	\$3.53	\$0.20	\$6.42
<b>Low Income</b>	4.81	1.56	0.09	6.46
<b>Rural Health Care</b>	1.69	0.93	0.05	2.67
<b>Schools &amp; Libraries</b>	12.32	5.22	1.41	18.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21.51</b>	<b>\$11.24</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>	<b>\$34.50</b>

Appendix M01 provides USAC's administrative expense and capital expenditure budget for 3Q2014. Appendix M02 provides the fund size projections for 3Q2014.

### **INTEREST INCOME PROJECTION**

For 3Q2014, USAC projects interest income of approximately \$1.31 million for the High Cost Support Mechanism, \$0.09 million for the Low Income Support Mechanism, \$0.30 million for the Rural Health Care Support Mechanism and \$4.28 million for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism. USAC projects total interest income of \$5.98 million. As in previous quarters, projected interest income is being included as an offset to administrative expenses for each of the support mechanisms and reduces the amount that USAC will be required to collect from carriers for those support mechanisms that are funded at caps established by the Commission.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the three months ending March 31, 2014, on a cash basis, USAC disbursed to beneficiaries \$1,922.00 million in universal service support as follows: \$968.62 million in High Cost support, \$443.43 million in Low Income support, \$469.20 million in Schools and Libraries support, and \$40.75 million in Rural Health Care support. The total cash balance

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

available as of March 31, 2014 to the universal service support mechanisms was \$7,196.72 million. On an accrual basis, USAC had a fund balance of \$7,418.35 million at March 31, 2014.

Appendices M03 and M04 provide 2014 year-to-date statements of fund activity on a cash and accrual basis.

### **EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND REDUCE IMPROPER PAYMENTS**

USAC has established a foundation of processes, systems, procedures, and outreach activities to prevent or reduce “improper” payments as defined by the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-300). USAC is also evaluating additional measures that may help to identify or reduce improper payments. USAC has initiated efforts consistent with its February 28, 2008 letter to the Commission identifying additional steps that USAC proposed to take to prevent or reduce potential improper payments and the additional resources needed to implement such measures.<sup>7</sup> Commission staff has directed USAC to report on a quarterly basis its progress in implementing proposed actions to prevent or reduce improper payments and anticipated administrative costs of such actions.<sup>8</sup>

The steps initiated by USAC include additional oversight and managerial controls, strengthened audit and investigative techniques, improved information technology tools, and more effective use of outreach resources. In 3Q2014, USAC will continue efforts identified and initiated during the previous years. These efforts include, but are not limited to:

1. *Assessing and strengthening USAC's internal controls.*

The USAC Internal Controls Team (IC Team) continues to develop and update

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<sup>7</sup> See Letter from D. Scott Barash, Acting Chief Executive Officer, USAC, to Anthony Dale, FCC Managing Director (Feb. 28, 2008), concerning suggested additional steps to reduce or prevent improper payments.

<sup>8</sup> See Letter from Anthony Dale, FCC Managing Director, to D. Scott Barash, Acting Chief Executive Officer, USAC (Aug. 18, 2008).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

required internal controls documentation and perform testing of key controls to conform the USAC internal controls program to best practices consistent with OMB Circular A-123. In February 2014, the IC Team presented the results of the 2013 internal control testing to the Senior Management Council and completed the 2013 internal control assessment report. Business owners are working on remediation activities for the deficiencies identified. The IC Team will retest the deficiencies in the third and fourth quarters to ensure corrective action plans are operating effectively and efficiently. During the first and second quarters of 2014, the IC Team is performing a privacy assessment on USAC's systems to ensure personally identifiable information is inventoried and properly protected. During the third and fourth quarters, the IC Team will update the internal control narratives, risk assessments and test the key controls selected for this year. In addition to documentation and testing activities, the IC team continues to facilitate review and approval activities for all USAC policy and procedure documents and provide assistance with ad hoc process improvement projects.

### *2. Strengthening audit and investigative techniques.*

(a) In February 2010, the FCC directed USAC to implement an assessment program to determine the rate of improper payments made to universal service support mechanism beneficiaries to support the FCC's reporting requirements under the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA),<sup>9</sup> formerly known as the Improper Payments Information Act (IPIA),<sup>10</sup> and to assess universal service support mechanism beneficiary and USF contributor compliance with FCC regulations.<sup>11</sup> USAC successfully

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<sup>9</sup> See The Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010, Pub L. No. 111-204, July 22, 2010.

<sup>10</sup> See 31 U.S.C. § 3122; Public Law 107-300, Stat. 2350, Nov. 26, 2002.

<sup>11</sup> Letter from Steven Van Roekel, FCC Managing Director, to Scott Barash, USAC Acting Chief Executive Officer, re: "Implementation of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (IPIA) Assessment Program and Companion Audit Program," Feb. 12, 2010.

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

implemented this assessment program, known as the Payment Quality Assurance (PQA) Program, in August 2010 (see paragraph b below).

The FCC also directed USAC to establish a comprehensive support mechanism beneficiary and USF contributor audit program, which is known as BCAP. Audits occurring under BCAP are performed using USAC IAD internal staff and external audit firm resources, upon approval from the FCC Office of Managing Director (OMD). The specific audits that are being conducted as part of BCAP were designated based on a set of randomly selected beneficiaries and contributors. In addition, non-random audits of beneficiaries and contributors are performed when requested by USAC management to review whether a beneficiary or USF filer is complying with FCC rules.

As previously reported, in mid-2012, IAD selected an audit sample of 119 audits (127 audits in total including eight audits in process at the start of the sample) based on existing staff levels, that concentrate on larger and more complex audits when compared to the audits completed in prior calendar years. In mid-2013, IAD and FCC OMD staff began discussions on the development of a new audit plan that would address fiscal years (FY) 2014 and 2015. IAD and FCC OMD staff agreed that all audits in progress at the start of FY 2014 would be performed within the existing 2012 – 2013 audit plan, and audits announced after October 1, 2013 would be included in the FY 2014 – 2015 audit plan. To effectively utilize IAD staff resources after the audit goal in the existing plan was met, 68 additional audits were performed. In total, 195 audits will be completed under the 2012 – 2013 audit plan.

Following the April 2014 quarterly USAC Board of Directors meeting, 188 audits are complete and 7 audits remain in progress. In addition to completing the audits from the random sample, the audit team is also conducting unplanned audits as requested by USAC

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

management, which are included in the numbers below. The status of the BCAP audits as of 1st Quarter 2014 is as follows:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Planned</b>	<b>Board Approved</b>	<b>% Complete</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Pending Board Approval</b>
Contributor Revenue	47	37	79%	5	5
High Cost	25	25	100%	0	0
Low Income	53	44	83%	0	9
Schools & Libraries	43	39	91%	2	2
Rural Health Care	27	27	100%	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>

(b) As previously reported, the PQA Program has completed three years of testing payments under this directive, and the most recent two years are noted below. Using a statistically drawn sample, each month support mechanism disbursements are selected and reviewed to verify that payments were made at the correct amount in accordance with FCC rules. The table below summarizes the error rates noted and the projected estimated improper payment amounts for each program for Calendar Year 2012 disbursements compared to Calendar Year 2011:

<b>Support Mechanism</b>	<b>2012</b>		<b>2011</b>	
	<b>Improper Payment Rate</b>	<b>Estimated Improper Payment Amount (millions)</b>	<b>Improper Payment Rate</b>	<b>Estimated Improper Payment Amount (millions)</b>
High Cost	0.26%	\$10.6	0.30%	\$12.6
Low Income	0.18%	\$3.9	0.09%	\$1.6
Schools and Libraries	2.21%	\$49.4	1.91%	\$43.4
Rural Health Care	0.24%	\$0.2	0.92%	\$0.7

The PQA Program collects information from program beneficiaries for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of program disbursements requested and received by the beneficiaries. The PQA team performs payment verification on randomly selected

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

beneficiaries over a calendar year. Testing of payments for Calendar Year 2013 is now underway with an estimated completion of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2014.

### 3. Improving information technology tools.

USAC prepared a request for proposals (RFP) for the software procurement and systems integration of the USAC and USF financial systems modernization (FSM) project. The goals of FSM are to provide a more robust, flexible infrastructure to support all aspects of USAC operations. USAC has submitted relevant procurement documents to the FCC for approval prior to initiating procurement activities, and continues to work with the FCC on this initiative. Concurrently, USAC has undertaken a systematic review of the capabilities of its current financial system in order to determine whether additional functionality can be added to improve financial operations in the interim.

### 4. Expanding and enhancing outreach and education.

In 1st Quarter 2014 (1Q2014), USAC provided individual outreach to 140 Schools and Libraries applicants and 274 contributors. USAC held one live training for Rural Health Care Program applicants. USAC conducted 18 webinars: one for contributors, one for High Cost Program beneficiaries, one for High Cost and Lifeline Program beneficiaries, eight for Lifeline Program beneficiaries, and seven for Rural Health Care Program applicants. USAC participated in three professional meetings involving beneficiary audiences for the Rural Health Care Programs. USAC posted 15 online learning tools, including videos for contributors, High Cost, Low Income, and Schools and Libraries Programs.

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***FUNDING REQUIREMENTS***

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**HIGH COST SUPPORT MECHANISM**

**FUNDS RESERVED PURSUANT TO THE *USF/ICC TRANSFORMATION ORDER* (FCC 11-161)**

On November 18, 2011, the FCC released the *USF/ICC Transformation Order* (FCC 11-161).<sup>12</sup> In the Order, the FCC set an annual funding target for the High Cost Support Mechanism of no more than \$4.50 billion annually over the next six years. The Order directed USAC to forecast total High Cost Program demand at no less than \$1.125 billion per quarter beginning with 1Q2012.<sup>13</sup> In the Order, the FCC waived section 54.709(b) of its rules and instructed USAC not to make any prior period adjustments related to High Cost Program support. The Order requires that if actual contributions exceed demand, excess contributions are to be credited to a new Connect America Fund (CAF) reserve account, to be used to fund future broadband deployment.<sup>14</sup> If actual High Cost Program demand exceeds the quarterly target of \$1.125 billion, no additional funds will accumulate in the reserve account for that quarter.<sup>15</sup> In addition, the *USF/ICC Transformation Order* states that the \$4.5 billion budget includes only disbursement of support and does not include administrative expenses or prior period adjustments for support for prior years.<sup>16</sup>

In the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, the Commission instructed USAC to wind down the Corr Wireless reserve account and use \$300 million in the account to fund

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<sup>12</sup> *In the Matter of Connect America Fund A National Broadband Plan for Our Future Establishing Just and Reasonable rates for Local Exchange Carriers High-Cost Universal Service Support Developing an Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Lifeline and Link-Up Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, WC Docket Nos. 10-92, 07-135,05-337,03-109, GN Docket No. 09-51, CC Docket Nos. 01-92,86-45, WT Docket No. 10-208, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, FCC 11-161, ¶¶ 564-567 (rel. November 18, 2011) (USF/ICC Transformation Order).*

<sup>13</sup> See *USF/Transformation Order*, ¶¶ 559-560.

<sup>14</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 560.

<sup>15</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 928.

<sup>16</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 198.

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

anticipated commitments in 2012 to recipients of the Mobility Fund Phase I.<sup>17</sup> The remaining balance was used to fund Phase I of the Connect America Fund for price cap carriers in 2012.<sup>18</sup> The Commission also instructed USAC not to use the Corr Wireless reserve account to fund inflation adjustments for the Schools and Libraries program for the current 2011 funding year. The chart below reflects the Connect America Fund reserve as of March 31, 2014.

<b>Connect America Fund Reserve</b>				
<b>as of March 31, 2014</b>				
<i>(in millions)</i>				
	Beginning Balance	Additions	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Transfer from Corr Wireless	\$524.32			\$524.32
1 <sup>st</sup> Q2012 <sup>19</sup>	524.32	\$93.95		618.27
2 <sup>nd</sup> Q2012	618.27	147.94		766.21
3 <sup>rd</sup> Q2012	766.21	115.52	(\$76.51)	805.22
4 <sup>th</sup> Q2012	805.22	110.29	(28.69)	886.82
1 <sup>st</sup> Q2013	886.82	139.95	(9.14)	1,017.63
2 <sup>nd</sup> Q2013	1,017.63	181.61	(4.47)	1,194.77
3 <sup>rd</sup> Q2013	1,194.77	174.59	(67.13)	1,302.23
4 <sup>th</sup> Q2013	1,302.23	184.41	(284.32)	1,202.32
1 <sup>st</sup> Q2014	1,202.32	195.17	(37.24)	1,360.25
Projected 2 <sup>nd</sup> Q2014	1,360.25	195.42		1,555.67
Projected 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q2014	1,555.67	204.97		1,760.64
Net Activity		\$1,743.82	(\$507.50)	

The following table depicts the status of the Connect America Fund Reserve by support component.

<sup>17</sup> See USF/ICC Transformation Order, ¶ 564-567.

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 566.

<sup>19</sup> Additions include \$27.96 million collected in 3Q2012 via a prior period adjustment for 1Q2012 demand.



**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>Connect America Fund Reserve by Support Component</b>				
<i>(in millions)</i>				
<b>Support Component</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Disbursed</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
Incremental Support Round 1	\$300.00	\$114.34	(\$114.34)	\$0.00
Incremental Support Round 2*	386.00	323.95	(323.95)	0.00
Mobility Phase I – Non Tribal	300.00	300.00	(69.21)	230.79
Mobility Phase I – Tribal	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Mobility Phase II	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,536.00</b>	<b>\$738.29</b>	<b>(\$507.50)</b>	<b>\$780.79</b>

\* Total demand of all carriers exceeded the allocated \$300 million. As directed in FCC 13-73, ¶ 11, the additional \$86 million is taken out of the remainder of Round 1 support and added to the Incremental Support Round 2 allocation of \$300 million.

For 3Q2014, projected support to be reserved pursuant to the *USF/ICC Transformation Order* is \$204.97 million. Any excess contributions will be credited to the Connect America Fund reserve account.<sup>20</sup>

Appendix HC01 provides projected High Cost Support by state, by study area, for 3Q2014. HC01 also provides the projected amount of individual company support, and projected per-month amounts for the components of High Cost support that each ETC<sup>21</sup> may be eligible to receive. HC02 provides the total projected amount of annualized High Cost Support for 3Q2014 for each state and territory.

**CONNECT AMERICA FUND PHASE I – INCREMENTAL SUPPORT**

Incremental Support is designed to provide an immediate boost to broadband deployment in areas that are unserved by any broadband provider.<sup>22</sup> Incremental Support is available to price cap carriers at the holding company level. The Commission determined the amount available for each carrier, which it published in DA 12-639, released on April 25, 2012.<sup>23</sup> Carriers had 90 days to accept all, part, or reject the amount available. If a price cap

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 560-561.

<sup>21</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 36.631 and 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.301-54.303.

<sup>22</sup> See *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, ¶137.

<sup>23</sup> See *Public Notice – Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Support Amounts for Connect America Fund Phase One Incremental Support*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, DA 12-639, rel. Apr. 25, 2012.

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

carrier accepts Incremental Support, it is required to deploy broadband to a number of service locations equal to the amount it accepts divided by \$775.<sup>24</sup>

On May 22, 2013, the Commission announced that a second round of Connect America Fund Phase I – Incremental Support funding will be available to promote expansion of broadband to consumers that lack access. The Commission allocated \$300 million for the second round of Phase I support. If total demand exceeds \$300 million, the Commission will authorize up to an additional \$185 million in funding.<sup>25</sup>

On March 14, 2014, the Wireline Competition Bureau issued Public Notice DA 14-353 authorizing \$16.7 million in additional Phase I second round incremental support in response to the modified elections of two carriers, AT&T and Windstream Communications. AT&T was authorized to receive \$5.3 million in incremental support in exchange for a commitment to deploy broadband-capable infrastructure to 6,772 locations. Additionally, Windstream was authorized to receive \$11.5 million in incremental support in exchange for a commitment to deploy to 13,273 locations.

Information concerning whether Connect America Fund Phase II support will be available in 2014 has not yet been determined.

### **CONNECT AMERICA FUND/INTERCARRIER COMPENSATION SUPPORT**

In the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, the FCC adopted a transitional recovery mechanism with an effective date of July 1, 2012 to facilitate incumbent carriers' gradual transition away from intercarrier compensation (ICC) revenues.<sup>26</sup> Eligible incumbent carriers may receive additional support through this recovery mechanism.

For 3Q2014, total Connect America Fund/Intercarrier Compensation Support is

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<sup>24</sup> See *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, ¶138.

<sup>25</sup> See *In the Matter of Connect America Fund Report and Order*, WC Docket No. 10-90, FCC 13-73, rel. May 22, 2013, ¶¶ 7, 11.

<sup>26</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 54.304(b).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

estimated to be \$108.49 million and total annual 2014 Connect America Fund/Intercarrier Compensation Support is estimated to be \$433.96 million.

Appendix HC12 provides projected Connect America Fund/Intercarrier Compensation Support payments by state by study area for 3Q2014.

### **RATE-OF-RETURN CARRIERS**

Rate-of-return carriers not affiliated with price cap carriers may continue to receive legacy High Cost Program support and may receive Connect America Fund support to offset lost inter-carrier compensation (ICC) revenues.<sup>27</sup>

#### ***High Cost Loop Support (including Safety Net Additive and Safety Valve Support)***

High Cost Loop (HCL) Support is calculated based on the results of the annual collection of 2012 incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) loop cost and expense adjustment data that was submitted to the FCC and USAC on October 1, 2013.<sup>28</sup> Growth in total HCL Support for rural carriers is limited under Section 36.603(a) of the Commission's rules to the current level of funding increased yearly by the annual growth in supported rural loops.<sup>29</sup> The *Rural Task Force (RTF) Order*<sup>30</sup> increased HCL support for rural carriers effective July 1, 2001.

Rural HCL Support for calendar year 2014 will be less than the level of payments for 2013 because of a rural growth factor of negative 2.4831 percent. Rural HCL Support for calendar year 2014, therefore, is capped at \$756.51 million. This capped amount reflects reductions pursuant to the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, which was adjusted by NECA in

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<sup>27</sup> See *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, ¶ 206.

<sup>28</sup> Universal Service Fund (USF) 2012 Submission of 2011 Study Results (filed Oct. 1, 2012) (*USF Data Submission*).

<sup>29</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 36.603(a).

<sup>30</sup> *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, FCC 01-157, 16 FC.C Rcd 11244 (2001) (*RTF Order*).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

the first quarter of 2012 to exclude price cap local exchange carriers and their rate-of-return affiliated study areas.

The *RTF Order* provided Safety Net Additive (SNA) Support above the HCL cap for carriers that make significant investment in rural infrastructure in years in which HCL is capped.<sup>31</sup> To receive support, a rural carrier must show that growth in telecommunications plant in service (TPIS) per loop is at least 14 percent greater than the study area's TPIS per loop in the prior year. Pursuant to the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, SNA will be phased down over a two year period, and no SNA support will be provided for carriers whose costs are incurred after 2009.<sup>32</sup> For 3Q2014, projected SNA support is \$4.07 million.

For 3Q2014, projected HCL Support is \$190.30 million, which includes \$4.07 million for SNA support and \$1.24 million for Safety Valve Support (SVS). Total annual 2014 HCL Support is projected to be \$761.20 million.

Appendix HC05 provides projected uncapped monthly HCL Support payments by state by study area for 3Q2014. Appendix HC06 provides projected monthly SNA Support payments by state by study area for 3Q2014. Appendix HC07 displays projected SVS payments by state by study area for 3Q2014.

### ***Interstate Common Line Support***

Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS) is designed to permit each rate-of-return carrier to recover its common line revenue requirement while ensuring that its subscriber line charges (SLCs) remain affordable for its customers.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> *RTF Order* at ¶¶ 77-90.

<sup>32</sup> See *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, ¶ 252.

<sup>33</sup> See *Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Access Charge Reform for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers Subject to Rate-of-Return Regulation, Prescribing the Authorized Rate of Return for Interstate Services of Local Exchange Carriers*, CC Docket Nos. 00-256, 96-45, 98-77, 98-166, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 00-256, Fifteenth Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket Nos. 98-77 and 98-166, FCC 01-304, 16 FCC (rel. Nov. 8, 2001)) (*MAG Order*).

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

For 3Q2014, ICLS is projected to be \$211.18 million and total annual 2014 ICLS is estimated to be \$890.35 million.

Appendices HC09, HC10, and HC11 provide USAC's 3Q2014 projections of ICLS by state by study area, per line and by state, respectively. In addition, HC14 and HC15, provide ICLS by state by study area and per line for 2012 true-up, respectively.

### **PRICE CAP CARRIERS**

In the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, the FCC directed USAC to freeze all support for price cap carriers and their rate-of-return affiliates for HCL, HCM, SVS, LSS, IAS, and ICLS, on a study area basis to the amount of support each carrier received in 2011.<sup>34</sup>

For 3Q2014, total frozen high cost support for price cap carriers is estimated to be \$256.95 million and total annual 2014 frozen high cost support is estimated to be \$1,027.80 million. Appendix HC08 provides frozen high cost support for price cap carriers by state by study area for 3Q2014.

### **COMPETITIVE ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS**

The *USF/ICC Transformation Order* transitioned existing CETC support to the Connect America Fund over a five-year period beginning January 1, 2012.<sup>35</sup> For the transition, the FCC set each CETC's baseline support at its total 2011 support in a given study area, or an amount equal to 3,000 times the number of reported lines as of year-end 2011, whichever is lower.<sup>36</sup> That monthly baseline amount was provided from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012.<sup>37</sup> Beginning July 1, 2012, each CETC's support was reduced by 20 percent for each July to June time period.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> See *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, ¶ 133.

<sup>35</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 513.

<sup>36</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 515.

<sup>37</sup> See *Id.*, ¶ 515.

<sup>38</sup> See *Id.*

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

For 3Q2014, total frozen High Cost Program support demand for CETCs is \$133.63 million. In addition, for rural Alaska CETCs and Standing Rock, 3Q2014 High Cost Program support is estimated to be \$19.48 million. The combined High Cost Program support demand totals for CETCs, rural Alaska CETCs, and Standing Rock for 2014 is estimated to be \$153.11 million.

Appendix HC08 provides frozen high cost support for CETCs by state by study area for 3Q2014. Additionally, Appendix HC03 provides 3Q2014 projections for Rural Alaska and Standing Rock Support by study area. Appendix HC04 provides 3Q2014 per line projections for Rural Alaska and Standing Rock Support.

### **HIGH COST SUPPORT MECHANISM SUMMARY**

The 3Q2014 High Cost Support Mechanism funding requirements are projected as follows: \$190.30 million for HCL Support, \$211.18 million for ICLS, \$256.95 million for frozen Price Cap Carrier Support, \$153.11 million for frozen CETC Support,<sup>39</sup> \$108.49 million for Connect America Fund/Intercarrier Compensation Support, and \$204.97 million for the Connect America Fund reserve account resulting in total High Cost Support Mechanism projected demand of \$1,125.00 million.

Financial results for 1Q2014 contributed to an over-funded condition for which this filing proposes to adjust the 3Q2014 funding requirements. The total adjustment to the 3Q2014 funding requirement based on actual results will decrease the funding requirement by \$5.35 million. The explanation for the adjustment is described in the following table:

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<sup>39</sup> "CETC Support" includes frozen support, rural Alaska CETC support, and support to the Standing Rock Reservation CETC.

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

<b>Reason for the Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>Adjustment in Millions</b>
1Q2014 billings were lower than the projected revenues reported by USF contributors in their quarterly revenue projections.	\$4.17
High Cost Support Mechanism distributions were equal to projected in 1Q2014.	0.00
Interest income was higher than projected for 1Q2014.	(0.18)
Bad debt expense was lower than anticipated.	(9.34)
<b>Total Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>\$(5.35)</b>

The total fund requirement of \$1,125.00 million is adjusted as follows: decreased by the prior period adjustments of \$5.35 million, increased by administrative costs of \$5.80 million, and reduced by the projected interest income of \$1.31 million; resulting in a total projected 3Q2014 funding requirement for the High Cost Support Mechanism of \$1,124.14 million.

Appendix M02 provides information on the individual components of the funding requirement for the quarter.

### **LOW INCOME SUPPORT MECHANISM**

#### **LIFELINE SUPPORT**

All ETCs must offer Lifeline support to qualified low-income consumers.<sup>40</sup> ETCs providing Lifeline support are entitled to receive funding for the waiver of charges and reduced rates provided to qualified low-income subscribers.<sup>41</sup> In the *Lifeline Modernization Order*, all non-tribal Lifeline support is set to a flat rate of \$9.25 for all subscribers equally, regardless of whether they subscribe to wireline or wireless Lifeline service.<sup>42</sup> The Order, however, does not make any changes to Tier 4 support available to low-income consumers

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<sup>40</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 54.201.

<sup>41</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.401 - 54.417.

<sup>42</sup> See *In the Matter of Lifeline and Link-up Reform and Modernization Lifeline and Link-up Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Advancing Broadband Availability Through Digital Literacy Training*, WC Docket Nos. 11-42, 03-109, 12-23, CC Docket No.96-45, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, FCC 12-11, ¶58 (rel. Feb. 6, 2012) (*Lifeline Modernization Order*).

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

residing on tribal lands.<sup>43</sup> As established in the *Tribal Order*, Tier Four support makes available each month up to an additional \$25 per low-income subscriber to eligible residents of tribal lands.<sup>44</sup>

For 3Q2014, USAC projects \$412.97 million will be required for Lifeline Support. Based on this projection, total annual 2014 Lifeline Support is estimated to be \$1,690.00 million.

### **LINK-UP SUPPORT**

Effective with the April 2012 support claims, Link-Up support was eliminated for all ETCs on non-tribal lands. Link-Up support is available for ETCs that provide support on tribal lands, but is limited to those ETCs receiving High Cost Program support.<sup>45</sup> Eligible ETCs may claim a 100 percent reduction, up to \$100, of the customary charge for commencing telephone service for a single telecommunication connection at a subscriber's principal place of residence.<sup>46</sup>

For 3Q2014, USAC projects that \$0.15 million will be required for Link-Up support. Based on this projection, total annual 2014 Link-Up support is estimated to be \$0.53 million.

### **TOLL LIMITATION SUPPORT**

Toll Limitation Support (TLS) compensates ETCs for providing voluntary toll-limitation service based on the carrier's incremental cost of providing toll-limitation services. The Commission has defined these costs as the costs that carriers otherwise would not incur if they did not provide toll-limitation service to a given customer.<sup>47</sup> Toll limitation consists

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<sup>43</sup> See *Lifeline Modernization Order*, ¶59.

<sup>44</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.400(e); see also, *Twenty-Fifth Order on Reconsideration, Report and Order, Order, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, CC Docket 96-45, 18 FCC Rcd. 10,958 (2003) (*Tribal Order*). On August 31, 2000, the FCC stayed the implementation of the federal Lifeline and Link-up rule amendments only to the extent that they apply to qualifying low-income consumers living near reservations.

<sup>45</sup> See *Lifeline Modernization Order*, ¶ 253.

<sup>46</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.413( a)(i).

<sup>47</sup> See *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 8776 (1997) at ¶ 386



## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

of toll blocking, which permits consumers to elect not to allow the completion of outgoing toll calls, and toll control, which allows consumers to specify a certain amount of toll usage that may be incurred per month or per billing cycle.<sup>48</sup>

The *Lifeline Modernization Order* phases out TLS over a period of time by capping the maximum amount that an ETC may claim. As of April 2012 through the remainder of 2012, TLS was capped at \$3.00 per month per TLS subscriber. TLS was reduced to \$2.00 in 2013, and eliminated and unavailable at the beginning of 2014.<sup>49</sup>

### **BROADBAND PILOT**

The *Lifeline Modernization Order* established a Broadband Pilot Program for low-income consumers to test the impact of broadband adoption with variations in the monthly discount for broadband services. The broadband discounts will be provided over an 18-month period with no more than \$13.8 million to be disbursed.<sup>50</sup> USAC projects that \$0.25 million will be required for the Broadband Pilot Program in 3Q2014.

### **LOW INCOME SUPPORT MECHANISM SUMMARY**

The estimated 3Q2014 Low Income Support Mechanism funding requirements are projected as follows: \$412.97 million for Lifeline, \$0.15 million for Link-Up, \$0.25 million for Broadband Pilot, resulting in total of \$413.37 million.

Financial results of 1Q2014 contribute to an over-funded condition, for which this filing proposes to adjust the 3Q2014 funding requirement. The total adjustment to the 3Q2014 funding requirement based on actual results will decrease the funding needed by \$44.62 million. The explanation for the adjustment is described in the following table:

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(*First Report and Order*) (subsequent history omitted).

<sup>48</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400(b) and (c).

<sup>49</sup> See *Lifeline Modernization Order*, ¶ 234.

<sup>50</sup> *In the Matter of Lifeline and Link-up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42, DA 12-2-45, Order (rel. December 19, 2012).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

Reason for the Prior Period Adjustment	Adjustment in Millions
1Q2014 billings were lower than the projected revenues reported by USF contributors in their quarterly revenue projections.	\$1.76
Low Income Support Mechanism distributions were lower than projected in 1Q2014.	(42.61)
Interest income was higher than projected in 1Q2014.	(0.02)
Bad debt expense for 1Q2014 was lower than anticipated.	(3.75)
<b>Total Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>(\$44.62)</b>

The total fund requirement of \$413.37 million decreased by the prior period adjustment of \$44.62 million, increased for administrative costs of \$6.34 million, and reduced by projected interest income of \$0.09 million, resulting in a total projected funding requirement for the Low Income Support Mechanism for 3Q2014 of \$375.00 million.

Appendix LI01 provides projected Low Income support amounts by state and study area for 3Q2014.<sup>51</sup> LI03 provides a list of ETCs for 1Q2014.<sup>52</sup> LI04 provides detail on quarterly company specific Low Income support disbursement amounts for 1Q2014. LI05 provides detail on annual company-specific Low Income support amounts for January 2011 through 1Q2014.<sup>53</sup> LI06 provides historical data of monthly support amounts claimed by ETCs from January 1998 through March 2014. LI07 provides detail on Low Income support claimed by state for January 2011 through 1Q2014.<sup>54</sup> LI08 and LI09 provide subscriber and beneficiary information by state or jurisdiction for Lifeline and Link-up support, respectively, for January 2014 through March 2014.

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<sup>51</sup> Companies that are no longer ETCs have been removed from LI01.

<sup>52</sup> Companies that are no longer ETCs have been removed from LI03.

<sup>53</sup> For data for years prior to 2009 see LI05 of USAC's 2Q2010 FCC Quarterly Demand Filing.

<sup>54</sup> For data for years prior to 2009 see LI07 of USAC's 2Q2010 FCC Quarterly Demand Filing.

## **RURAL HEALTH CARE SUPPORT MECHANISM**

Following is a summary of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism commitments and disbursements for Funding Years 2008-12 as of March 31, 2014. Prior funding years are closed.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2008**

Funding Year 2008 began on July 1, 2008 and ended on June 30, 2009. The window for Funding Year 2008 opened on April 8, 2008. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 3,563 Form 465s were posted and 7,431 packets were received.

On September 29, 2006, the FCC released an order establishing a new two-year Rural Health Care Support Mechanism Pilot Program for Funding Years 2006 and 2007 to cover “up to 85 percent of an applicant’s costs of deploying a dedicated broadband network.”<sup>55</sup> The application window for the Pilot Program opened on March 8, 2007 and closed on May 7, 2007.<sup>56</sup> On November 19, 2007, the FCC released an order increasing the number of funding years to three for the Pilot Program and awarding \$417.78 million in support to 69 applications over funding years 2007, 2008 and 2009.<sup>57</sup> Support under the Pilot Program is capped at \$139.26 million in each of the three funding years. The Commission stated that monies collected in funding year 2006 for the Pilot Program should be applied to Funding Year 2007,<sup>58</sup> resulting in \$54.44 million of funds collected for Funding Year 2006 being reallocated to Funding Year 2007.

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<sup>55</sup> *In the Matter of the Rural Health Care Support Mechanism*, FCC 06-144, 2006 WL 2819579 (F.C.C.) (rel. Sept. 29, 2006). See also, *Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment on the Petition for Reconsideration or, in the Alternative, Clarification Filed by National LambdaRail, Inc.*, WC 02-60, DA 06-2279 (rel. Nov. 6, 2006); *FCC Expands Eligibility to Include National LambdaRail’s Backbone in Rural Health Care Pilot*, FCC 07-6 (rel. Feb. 7, 2007).

<sup>56</sup> *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces OMB Approval of the Rural Health Care Pilot Program Information Collection Requirements and the Deadline for Filing Applications*, DA 07-1188 (rel. Mar. 9, 2007).

<sup>57</sup> See *In the Matter of the Rural Health Care Support Mechanism*, FCC 07-198 (rel. Nov. 19, 2007).

<sup>58</sup> *Id.*

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

As of March 31, 2014, Pilot Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$16.75 million for Funding Year 2008. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2008 Pilot Program demand will be \$16.30 million. In accordance with the instructions in a January 17, 2008 letter from the Chief of the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau allowing Pilot Program participants to roll forward support not used in one year to a subsequent funding year, USAC carried forward funds not used in Funding Year 2008 to Funding Year 2009. USAC has collected \$139.26 million for each of the Pilot Program Funding Years, thus no further collection is necessary.

As of March 31, 2014, Primary Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$68.52 million. Based on information provided by applicants USAC estimates Funding Year 2008 Primary Program demand will be \$66.69 million. The Commission previously authorized collection of \$66.69 for Funding Year 2008.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices RH02 and RH03, respectively.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2009**

Funding Year 2009 began on July 1, 2009 and ended on June 30, 2010. The window for Funding Year 2009 opened on April 9, 2009. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 3,942 Form 465s were posted and 8,031 packets were received.

As of March 31, 2014, Pilot Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$431.24 million for Funding Year 2009. In accordance with the instructions in a January 17, 2008 letter from the Chief of the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau allowing Pilot Program participants to roll forward support not used in one year to a subsequent funding year, USAC has previously carried forward funds not used in Funding Year 2007 and Funding Year 2008 to Funding Year 2009. Based on information provided by

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2009 Pilot Program demand will be \$401.48 million. USAC has collected \$139.26 million for each of the Pilot Program Funding Years, thus no further collection is necessary.

As of March 31, 2014, Primary Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$73.48 million. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2009 Primary Program demand will be \$71.35 million. The Commission previously authorized collection of \$71.36 million for Funding Year 2009.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices RH05 and RH06, respectively.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2010**

Funding Year 2010 began on July 1, 2010 and ended on June 30, 2011. The window for Funding Year 2010 opened on March 15, 2010. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 4,283 Form 465s were posted and 9,689 packets were received.

As of March 31, 2014, Primary Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$92.45 million. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2010 Primary Program demand will be \$87.07 million. The Commission previously authorized collection of \$87.07 million for Funding Year 2010.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2011**

Funding Year 2011 began on July 1, 2011 and ended on June 30, 2012. The window for Funding Year 2011 opened on April 4, 2011. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 4,793 Form 465s were posted and 11,885 packets were received.

As of March 31, 2014, Primary Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$105.17 million. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

estimates Funding Year 2011 Primary Program demand will be \$97.05 million. The Commission previously authorized collection of \$97.05 million for Funding Year 2011.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2012**

Funding Year 2012 began on July 1, 2012 and ended on June 30, 2013. The window for Funding Year 2012 opened on April 16, 2012. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 5,162 Form 465s were posted and 11,818 packets were received.

As of March 31, 2014, Primary Program funding commitments have been issued totaling \$91.64 million. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2012 Primary Program demand will be \$114.83 million. The Commission previously authorized collection of \$116.29 million for Funding Year 2012. Considering the revised Primary Program demand estimate for Funding Year 2012, USAC recommends the Commission decrease collections for Funding Year 2012 of the Primary Program by \$1.46 million in 3Q2014.

Funding commitments made during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix RH13. Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices RH14 and RH15, respectively.

### **FUNDING YEAR 2013**

Funding Year 2013 began on July 1, 2013 and ends on June 30, 2014. The window for Funding Year 2013 opened on April 16, 2013. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 5,365 Form 465s were posted and 6,355 packets were received.

Funding commitments made during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix RH16. Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices RH17 and RH18, respectively.

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

The Commission previously authorized collection of \$116.29 million for Funding Year 2013. Based on information provided by applicants, USAC now estimates Funding Year 2013 Primary Program demand will remain \$116.29 million.

### **RURAL HEALTH CARE SUPPORT MECHANISM SUMMARY**

The estimated 3Q2014 Rural Health Care Support Mechanism demand requirement is \$57.23 million which includes amounts for the Telecommunications program as well as the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF). Projected 3Q2014 Telecommunications programs requirements are \$31.23 million. Pursuant to the HCF Order, the FCC was directed to work with USAC to project the amounts to be collected for the early period of the new program until historical data provides an adequate basis for projecting demand.<sup>59</sup> Pursuant to FCC instruction, USAC projects \$26 million for 3Q2014 demand associated with the HCF.

The FCC has also directed USAC to use uncommitted Pilot Program dollars for the demand associated with the HCF. As of March 31, 2014, USAC estimates that there will be \$51.43 million in uncommitted Pilot Program dollars available for commitment under the HCF in 3Q2014. Total estimated HCF funds available for commitment in 3Q2014 will be \$173.55 million.

The results of 1Q2014 contributed to an over-funded condition for which this filing proposes to adjust the 3Q2014 funding requirements. The total adjustment to the 3Q2014 funding requirement based on actual results will decrease the funding requirement by \$0.26 million.

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<sup>59</sup> In the Matter of Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket 02-60, Report and Order, 27 FCC Red 16678, FCC 12-150, ¶368 (2012).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

The explanation for the adjustment is provided in the following table:

<b>Reason for the Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>Adjustment in Millions</b>
The 1Q2014 billings were lower than the projected revenues reported by USF contributors in their quarterly revenue projections.	\$0.28
Interest income was higher than estimated for 1Q2014.	(0.04)
Bad debt expense was lower than anticipated.	(0.50)
<b>Total Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>\$(0.26)</b>

The total fund requirement of \$57.23 million is adjusted as follows: decreased by the prior-period adjustment of \$0.26 million, increased for administrative costs of \$2.66 million, and decreased by the projected interest income of \$0.31 million, resulting in a total projected funding requirement for the Rural Health Care Support Mechanism for 3Q2014 of \$59.32 million.

### **SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES SUPPORT MECHANISM**

Following is a summary of Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism net commitments<sup>60</sup> and net authorized for payment<sup>61</sup> by funding year as of March 31, 2014.

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<sup>60</sup> Net Commitments are the amount of total funding commitments (including appeals, less funding commitment adjustments (COMADs) and other recaptures) reduced by the remaining dollar amount of commitments that had not been fully disbursed by their invoicing deadline.

<sup>61</sup> Net authorized for payment is the amount of total approved invoices less any returned funds. Authorized payments may be greater than net commitments due to recoveries in the process of collection.



Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

**FUNDING YEAR 1998**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 1998</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 679.26	39.98%	\$ 507.76	36.29%	74.75%
Internet Access	\$ 134.12	7.89%	\$ 94.82	6.78%	70.70%
Internal Connections	\$ 885.82	52.13%	\$ 796.48	56.93%	89.91%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,699.20</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,399.06</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>82.34%</b>
De-obligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (300.14)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,399.06</b>				

No Funding Year 1998 applications remained in the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review process. Funding Year 1998 began on January 1, 1998 and ended on June 30, 1999.

**FUNDING YEAR 1999**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 1999</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 634.54	29.54%	\$ 452.16	27.38%	71.26%
Internet Access	\$ 148.68	6.92%	\$ 95.40	5.77%	64.16%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,364.70	63.54%	\$1,104.12	66.85%	80.91%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,147.92</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,651.68</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>76.90%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (496.25)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,651.67</b>				

No Funding Year 1999 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 1999 began on July 1, 1999 and ended on June 30, 2000.

Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

**FUNDING YEAR 2000**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2000</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 719.03	34.59%	\$ 481.21	29.22%	66.92%
Internet Access	\$ 218.66	10.52%	\$ 131.92	8.01%	60.33%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,140.87	54.89%	\$1,033.90	62.77%	90.62%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,078.56</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,647.03</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>79.24%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (431.52)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,647.04</b>				

No Funding Year 2000 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2000 began on July 1, 2000 and ended on June 30, 2001.

**FUNDING YEAR 2001**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2001</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 766.62	35.22%	\$ 540.79	31.89%	70.54%
Internet Access	\$ 224.78	10.33%	\$ 147.05	8.67%	65.42%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,185.14	54.45%	\$1,007.81	59.44%	85.04%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,176.54</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,695.65</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>77.91%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (479.79)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,696.75</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, two potentially fundable Funding Year 2001 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2001 began on July 1, 2001 and ended on June 30, 2002.

Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

**FUNDING YEAR 2002**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2002</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 860.76	39.15%	\$ 613.26	38.42%	71.25%
Internet Access	\$ 251.66	11.45%	\$ 168.96	10.58%	67.14%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,085.93	49.40%	\$ 814.07	51.00%	74.97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,198.35</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,596.29</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>72.61%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (592.84)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,605.51</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, one potentially fundable Funding Year 2002 application remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2002 began on July 1, 2002 and ended on June 30, 2003.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL01 and SL02, respectively.

**FUNDING YEAR 2003**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2003</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 906.74	34.36%	\$ 659.94	34.01%	72.78%
Internet Access	\$ 276.00	10.46%	\$ 203.27	10.48%	73.65%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,456.01	55.18%	\$1,077.01	55.51%	73.97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,638.75</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,940.22</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>73.53%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (691.72)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,947.03</b>				

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

As of March 31, 2014, two potentially fundable Funding Year 2003 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2003 began on July 1, 2003 and ended on June 30, 2004.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL03 and SL04, respectively.

### Funding Year 2004

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2004</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 950.45	43.37%	\$ 691.31	45.00%	72.74%
Internet Access	\$ 246.08	11.23%	\$ 193.28	12.58%	78.54%
Internal Connections	\$ 994.96	45.40%	\$ 651.58	42.42%	65.49%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,191.49</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,536.17</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>70.10%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (653.35)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,538.14</b>				

No Funding Year 2004 applications remain in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2004 began on July 1, 2004 and ended on June 30, 2005. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL05.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL06 and SL07, respectively.

Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

FUNDING YEAR 2005

FUNDING YEAR 2005					
	Net Commitments		Net Authorized for Payment		Auth/Com
	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Commitments	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Authorized for Payment	% of Committed Authorized for Payment
Telecommunications	\$ 991.84	46.46%	\$ 776.71	47.89%	78.31%
Internet Access	\$ 259.88	12.17%	\$ 214.50	13.23%	82.54%
Internal Connections	\$ 749.55	35.11%	\$ 538.68	33.22%	71.87%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 133.73	6.26%	\$ 91.84	5.66%	68.68%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,135.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,621.73</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>75.96%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (507.88)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,627.12</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, two potentially fundable Funding Year 2005 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2005 began on July 1, 2005 and ended on June 30, 2006.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL08 and SL09, respectively.

Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

FUNDING YEAR 2006

FUNDING YEAR 2006					
	Net Commitments		Net Authorized for Payment		Auth/Com
	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Commitments	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Authorized for Payment	% of Committed Authorized for Payment
Telecommunications	\$ 1,071.71	54.05%	\$ 851.70	54.37%	79.47%
Internet Access	\$ 291.11	14.68%	\$ 236.56	15.10%	81.26%
Internal Connections	\$ 495.88	25.01%	\$ 392.60	25.06%	79.17%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 124.18	6.26%	\$ 85.75	5.47%	69.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,982.88</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,566.61</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>79.01%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (410.42)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,572.46</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, three potentially fundable Funding Year 2006 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2006 began on July 1, 2006 and ended on June 30, 2007.

FUNDING YEAR 2007

FUNDING YEAR 2007					
	Net Commitments		Net Authorized for Payment		Auth/Com
	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Commitments	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Authorized for Payment	% of Committed Authorized for Payment
Telecommunications	\$ 1,189.55	48.75%	\$ 945.45	48.50%	79.48%
Internet Access	\$ 309.83	12.70%	\$ 258.82	13.28%	83.54%
Internal Connections	\$ 778.01	31.89%	\$ 625.50	32.09%	80.40%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 162.38	6.66%	\$ 119.46	6.13%	73.57%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,439.77</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,949.23</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>79.89%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (481.23)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,958.54</b>				

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

As of March 31, 2014, 12 potentially fundable Funding Year 2007 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2007 began on July 1, 2007 and ended on June 30, 2008. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL10.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL11 and SL12, respectively.

### FUNDING YEAR 2008

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2008</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 1,301.16	50.56%	\$1,044.92	54.89%	80.31%
Internet Access	\$ 339.00	13.17%	\$ 278.22	14.61%	82.07%
Internal Connections	\$ 799.35	31.06%	\$ 488.24	25.64%	61.08%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 134.02	5.21%	\$ 92.49	4.86%	69.01%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,573.53</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,903.87</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>73.98%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (626.16)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 1,947.37</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 13 potentially fundable Funding Year 2008 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2008 began on July 1, 2008 and ended on June 30, 2009. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL13.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL14 and SL15, respectively.

Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

FUNDING YEAR 2009

FUNDING YEAR 2009					
	Net Commitments		Net Authorized for Payment		Auth/Com
	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Commitments	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Authorized for Payment	% of Committed Authorized for Payment
Telecommunications	\$ 1,366.35	47.34%	\$ 1,105.32	48.66%	80.90%
Internet Access	\$ 354.41	12.27%	\$ 290.97	12.81%	82.10%
Internal Connections	\$ 962.54	33.35%	\$ 732.88	32.35%	75.35%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 203.19	7.04%	\$ 140.39	6.18%	69.09%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,886.49</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 2,271.56</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>78.70%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (536.46)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 2,350.03</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 22 potentially fundable Funding Year 2009 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2009 began on July 1, 2009 and ended on June 30, 2010. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL16.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL17 and SL18, respectively.



Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

FUNDING YEAR 2010

FUNDING YEAR 2010					
	Net Commitments		Net Authorized for Payment		Auth/Com
	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Commitments	Millions of Dollars	% of Total Authorized for Payment	% of Committed Authorized for Payment
Telecommunications	\$ 1,454.87	46.67%	\$1,170.00	49.59%	80.42%
Internet Access	\$ 398.60	12.79%	\$ 329.51	13.96%	82.67%
Internal Connections	\$ 1,040.73	33.39%	\$ 712.03	30.18%	68.42%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 222.80	7.15%	\$ 148.00	6.27%	66.43%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,117.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 2,359.54</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>75.70%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (580.82)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 2,536.18</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 26 potentially fundable Funding Year 2010 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2010 began on July 1, 2010 and ended on June 30, 2011. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL19.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL20 and SL21, respectively.

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

**FUNDING YEAR 2011**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2011</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 1,472.08	55.17%	\$1,172.34	58.78%	79.64%
Internet Access	\$ 474.70	17.80%	\$ 384.95	19.30%	81.09%
Internal Connections	\$ 596.65	22.36%	\$ 364.46	18.27%	61.08%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 124.69	4.67%	\$ 72.23	3.65%	58.33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,668.12</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$1,994.48</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>74.75%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ (462.71)				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 2,205.41</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 83 potentially fundable Funding Year 2011 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2011 began on July 1, 2011 and ended on June 30, 2012. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL22.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL23 and SL24, respectively.

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

**FUNDING YEAR 2012**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2012</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 1,514.74	52.68%	\$ 1,082.46	58.75%	71.46%
Internet Access	\$ 561.36	19.53%	\$ 416.76	22.62%	74.24%
Internal Connections	\$ 674.39	23.46%	\$ 278.03	15.09%	41.23%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ 124.53	4.33%	\$ 65.20	3.54%	52.36%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,875.02</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,842.45</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>64.08%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ -				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 2,875.02</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 305 potentially fundable Funding Year 2012 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2012 began on July 1, 2012 and will end on June 30, 2013. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL25.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL26 and SL27, respectively.

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

**FUNDING YEAR 2013**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2013</b>					
	<b>Net Commitments</b>		<b>Net Authorized for Payment</b>		<b>Auth/Com</b>
	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Commitments</b>	<b>Millions of Dollars</b>	<b>% of Total Authorized for Payment</b>	<b>% of Committed Authorized for Payment</b>
Telecommunications	\$ 1,429.64	71.09%	\$ 229.43	61.92%	16.05%
Internet Access	\$ 581.30	28.91%	\$ 141.08	38.08%	24.27%
Internal Connections	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	0.00%
Internal Connections-Maint	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,010.94</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 370.51</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18.42%</b>
Deobligations due to Expired FRNs	\$ -				
<b>Net Commitments</b>	<b>\$ 2,010.94</b>				

As of March 31, 2014, 1,409 potentially fundable Funding Year 2013 applications remained in the PIA review process. Funding Year 2013 began on July 1, 2013 and will end on June 30, 2014. Funding commitments made to applicants during 1Q2014 are included in Appendix SL28.

Authorized funding by applicant during 1Q2014 and cumulative payments to service providers through 1Q2014 are listed in Appendices SL29 and SL30, respectively.

**SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES SUPPORT MECHANISM SUMMARY**

In a series of actions from December 1999 through December 2002, the Commission used a net total of \$477.16 million of undisbursed Funding Year 1998 Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism funds to reduce USF collection requirements. Consistent with the Commission's direction in the *Schools and Libraries First Report and Order*, a total of \$852.12 million of undisbursed Funding Years 1999 and 2000 collections were used to stabilize USF contributions and offset collections for 3rd Quarter 2002 (3Q2002), 4th

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

Quarter 2002 (4Q2002), and 1st Quarter 2003 (1Q2003).<sup>62</sup>

In the *Schools and Libraries Third Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, the Commission amended its rules to allow unused funds from prior funding years to be carried forward on an annual basis in the second quarter of each calendar year for use in the next full funding year.<sup>63</sup> The Commission required USAC to file quarterly estimates of unused funds from prior funding years in submitting its projection of Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism demand for the upcoming quarter. The Commission modified the schedule to implement the process for Funding Year 2003 and directed USAC to carry forward \$420 million of unused prior year funds for use in Funding Year 2003.<sup>64</sup> In accordance with the *Schools and Libraries Third Report and Order*, the Commission announced that \$150 million in unused funds from Funding Year 2001 would be carried forward to increase disbursements to schools and libraries in Funding Year 2004.<sup>65</sup>

On June 11, 2007, the Commission instructed USAC to carry forward \$650 million in unused funds to Funding Year 2007.<sup>66</sup> The funds were carried forward from Funding Years 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004 in the amount of \$50 million, \$300 million, \$150 million, and \$150 million, respectively. On June 23, 2008, the Commission instructed USAC to carry forward \$600 million in unused funds to Funding Year 2008.<sup>67</sup> The funds were carried forward from Funding Years 2002, 2003, and 2004 in the amount of \$150 million, \$200 million, and \$250 million, respectively. On July 31, 2009, the Commission instructed USAC

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<sup>62</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-6, First Report and Order, FCC 02-175 (June 13, 2002) (*Schools and Libraries First Report and Order*).

<sup>63</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket 02-6, *Third Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 03-323 (Dec. 23, 2003) (*Schools and Libraries Third Report and Order*).

<sup>64</sup> *Id.*

<sup>65</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-6, *Carryover of Unused Funds for Funding Year 2004*, DA 04-1848 (rel. June 28, 2004).

<sup>66</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-06, *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Carryover of Unused Funds for Funding Year 2007*, DA 07-2470 (rel. June 1, 2007).

<sup>67</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-06, *Carryover of Unused Federal Universal Service Funds for Funding Year 2008*, DA 08-1470 (rel. June 23, 2008).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

to carry-forward \$900 million in unused funds to Funding Year 2009.<sup>68</sup> The funds were carried-forward from Funding Years 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006 in the amount of \$25 million, \$60 million, \$60 million, \$210 million, \$275 million, \$200 million, and \$70 million, respectively. On July 1, 2010, the Commission instructed USAC to carry forward \$900 million in unused funds to Funding Year 2010.<sup>69</sup> The funds were carried-forward from Funding Years 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008 in the amount of \$25 million, \$100 million, \$300 million, \$375 million, and \$100 million, respectively. On August 22, 2011, the Commission instructed USAC to carry forward an additional \$250 million in unused funds to Funding Year 2010.<sup>70</sup> The total funds carried forward to Funding Year 2010 amount to \$1,150 million. The Commission further instructed USAC to carry forward \$850 million in unused funds from Funding Years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 to Funding Year 2011.<sup>71</sup> The funds were carried-forward from Funding Years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 in the amount of \$20 million, \$50 million, \$120 million, \$115 million, \$275 million, \$140 million, and \$130 million, respectively. On July 18, 2012, the FCC authorized USAC to carry forward \$1,050 million in unused funds from prior years to increase Funding Year 2012 disbursements in excess of the \$2.34 billion annual cap.<sup>72</sup> The funds were carried-forward from Funding Years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 in the amount of \$5 million, \$15 million, \$20 million, \$25 million, \$15 million, \$55 million, \$60 million, \$120 million, \$80 million, \$140 million, \$115 million, \$300 million, and \$100 million, respectively. On May 16, 2013,

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<sup>68</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Support Mechanism*, CC Docket No. 02-06, *Carryover of Unused Federal Universal Service Funds for Funding Year 2009*, DA 09-1734 (rel. July 31, 2009).

<sup>69</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Carryover of Unused Schools and Libraries Universal Service Funds for Funding Year 2010*, DA 10-1243 (rel. July 1, 2010).

<sup>70</sup> See *School and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism/Funds for Learning, LLC Petition to Reject the Administrator's Discount Threshold Recommendation for Funding Year 2010*, DA 11-1354 (rel. Aug. 22, 2011).

<sup>71</sup> *Id.*

<sup>72</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Carry-Forward of Unused Schools and Libraries Universal Service Funds for Funding Year 2012*, DA 12-1148 (rel. July 18, 2012).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

the FCC authorized USAC to carry forward \$450 million in unused funds from prior years to increase Funding Year 2013 disbursements in excess of the \$2.38 billion annual cap. The funds were carried forward from Funding Years 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 in the amount of \$20 million, \$150 million, \$150 million<sup>73</sup> and \$130 million, respectively.

In the *Schools and Libraries Sixth Report and Order*, the Commission amended its rules to increase the cap on program funding by indexing the cap to inflation.<sup>74</sup> The Commission calculates this annual increase by using the percentage increase in the gross domestic product chain – type price index (GDP-CPI) from the previous year and rounds this to the nearest 0.1 percent. The Commission found that the GDP-CPI increased 0.9 percent between 2008 and 2009. Using this analysis, the Commission set the cap for Funding Year 2010 to \$2,270,250,000. On August 5, 2011, the Commission set the cap for Funding Year 2011 at \$2,290,682,250.<sup>75</sup> On November 18, 2011, the FCC ordered USAC to include the inflation adjustments to the E-rate cap in the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism demand projection.<sup>76</sup> On May 18, 2012, the Commission set the cap for Funding Year 2012 to \$2,338,786,577.<sup>77</sup> On March 11, 2013, the FCC set the cap for Funding Year 2013 at \$2,380,314,485.<sup>78</sup> On March 28, 2014, the FCC set the cap for Funding Year 2014 at \$2,413,817,693.<sup>79</sup>

In consultation with FCC staff, USAC estimates that a total of \$600 million is available to carry forward from funding years as follows: 2002: \$40 million; 2007: \$30

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<sup>73</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Carry-Forward of Unused Schools and Libraries Universal Service Funds for Funding Year 2013*, DA 13-1119 (rel. May 16, 2013).

<sup>74</sup> See *Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Sixth Report and Order*, FCC 10-175 (rel. Sep. 28, 2010) (*Schools and Libraries Sixth Report and Order*).

<sup>75</sup> *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces E-Rate Inflation-Based Cap for Funding Year 2011*, DA 11-1345 (rel. Aug. 5, 2011).

<sup>76</sup> *Connect America Fund Order*, ¶ 567.

<sup>77</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces E-Rate Inflation-Based Cap for Funding Year 2012*, DA 12-791 (rel. May 18, 2012).

<sup>78</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces E-Rate Inflation-Based Cap for Funding Year 2013*, DA 13-382 (rel. Mar. 11, 2013).

<sup>79</sup> See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces E-Rate Inflation -Based Cap for Funding Year 2014*, DA 14-426 (rel. Mar. 28, 2014).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

million; 2009: \$70 million; 2010: \$380 million and 2011: \$80 million. The following sections provide information regarding the use of funds for each funding year, including adjustments made by the Commission and projections of unused funds as required by Commission rules.

### *Funding Year 1998 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,399.06 million of Funding Year 1998 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC estimates that a contingency amount of \$4.94 million should be reserved to pay appeals pending at the Commission and to pay invoices on Funding Year 1998 funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Pursuant to the *Second Report and Order* issued on April 30, 2003 and in consultation with the Commission, \$3 million of needed funds for successful appeals were transferred from available funds in Funding Year 2008. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 1998 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated Funding Year 1998 balance is based on the following:

<b>FUNDING YEAR 1998</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$1,925.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,399.06)
Administrative Expenses (21 months)	(41.79)
Amount Applied to Adjust 2000, 2001, and 2002 Collections	(477.16)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(5.00)
Amount Carried Back to Fund Retroactive Appeals	3.00
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(0.00)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(4.99)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

### *Funding Year 1999 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,651.68 million of Funding Year 1999 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 1999 funds



## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

includes an estimate of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 1999 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 1999 balance is based on the following:

<b>FUNDING YEAR 1999</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,651.68)
Administrative Expenses	(32.32)
Amount Applied to Adjust Third Quarter 2002 Collections	(256.16)
Amount Applied to Adjust Fourth Quarter 2002 Collections	(212.93)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2003	(50.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(25.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(15.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(0.00)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(6.91)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

### *Funding Year 2000 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,647.03 million of Funding Year 2000 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2000 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests, and disbursements on remaining requests that have not received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and make disbursements on Funding Year 2000 funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates no Funding Year 2000 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2000 balance is based on the following:

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2000</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,647.03)
Administrative Expenses	(32.24)
Amount Applied to Adjust Fourth Quarter 2002 Collections	(136.85)
Amount Applied to Adjust First Quarter 2003 Collections	(246.18)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2003	(160.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(20.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(0.00)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(7.70)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

### *Funding Year 2001 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,695.65 million of Funding Year 2001 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2001 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on remaining requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and make disbursements on Funding Year 2001 funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2001 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2001 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

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<b>FUNDING YEAR 2001</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,695.65)
Administrative Expenses	(30.56)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2003	(210.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2004	(150.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2007	(50.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(60.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(25.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(1.11)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(20.33)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(7.35)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

*Funding Year 2002 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,596.29 million of Funding Year 2002 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2002 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and make disbursements on Funding Year 2002 funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that \$40 million Funding Year 2002 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2002 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2002</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,596.29)
Administrative Expenses	(38.53)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2007	(300.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2008	(150.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(60.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2010	(25.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(15.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(9.22)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(0.93)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(15.03)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>

*Funding Year 2003 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,940.22 million of Funding Year 2003 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2003 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2003 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2003 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2003</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,940.22)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 1999, 2000 and 2001	420.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2007	(150.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2008	(200.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(210.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(20.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(55.00)
Administrative Expenses	(44.19)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(6.80)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(32.83)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(10.96)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

*Funding Year 2004 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,536.17 million of Funding Year 2004 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2004 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2004 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2004 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

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<b>FUNDING YEAR 2004</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,536.17)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Year 2001	150.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2007	(150.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2008	(250.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(275.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(50.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(60.00)
Administrative Expenses	(55.75)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(1.97)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(0.00)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(21.11)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

*Funding Year 2005 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,621.73 million of Funding Year 2005 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2005 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2005 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2005 balance is based on the following:

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2005</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,621.73)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(200.00)
Amount Carried forward to Funding Year 2010	(100.00)
Amount Carried forward to Funding Year 2011	(120.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(120.00)
Administrative Expenses	(64.99)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(5.39)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(0.34)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(17.55)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

### *Funding Year 2006 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,566.61 million of Funding Year 2006 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2006 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2006 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2006 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2006</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,566.61)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2009	(70.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2010	(300.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(115.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(80.00)
Administrative Expenses	(80.74)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(5.84)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(0.99)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(30.82)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

*Funding Year 2007 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,949.23 million of Funding Year 2007 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2007 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that \$30 million of Funding Year 2007 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2007 balance is based on the following:



**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2007</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,949.23)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004	650.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2010	(375.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(275.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(140.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2013	(20.00)
Administrative Expenses	(81.24)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(9.31)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(2.97)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(17.25)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>

*Funding Year 2008 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,903.87 million of Funding Year 2008 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2008 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2008 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2008 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2008</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,903.87)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 2002, 2003, and 2004	600.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2010	(350.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(140.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(115.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2013	(150.00)
Amount Carried Back to Funding Year 1998 to Fund Appeals	(3.00)
Administrative Expenses	(125.59)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(43.51)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(4.19)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extension Requests	(14.84)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

*Funding Year 2009 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$2,271.56 million of Funding Year 2009 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2009 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that \$70 million of Funding Year 2009 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2009 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2009</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(2,271.56)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006	900.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2011	(130.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(300.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2013	(150.00)
Administrative Expenses	(81.27)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(78.46)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(36.63)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extensions	(32.08)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>

*Funding Year 2010 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$2,359.54 million of Funding Year 2010 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2010 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that \$380 million of Funding Year 2010 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2010 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2010</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(2,359.54)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009	1,150.00
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2012	(100.00)
Amount Carried-forward to Funding Year 2013	(130.00)
Amount Authorized by FCC Inflation Increment	20.25
Administrative Expenses	(75.33)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(176.65)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(74.96)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extensions	(123.77)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>

*Funding Year 2011 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,994.48 million of Funding Year 2011 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2011 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that \$80 million of Funding Year 2011 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2011 balance is based on the following:

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2011</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,994.48)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008	850.00
Amount Authorized by FCC Inflation Increment	40.68
Administrative Expenses	(85.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(210.94)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(430.39)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extensions	(339.87)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>

*Funding Year 2012 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$1,842.45 million of Funding Year 2012 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2012 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2012 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2012 balance is based on the following:

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2012</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized and Actually Collected	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(1,842.45)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010	1,050.00
Amount Authorized by FCC Inflation Increment	88.79
Administrative Expenses	(70.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(1,032.57)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests	(524.49)
Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals and Invoice Deadline Extensions	(80.72)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

### *Funding Year 2013 True-Up*

As of March 31, 2014, \$370.51 million of Funding Year 2013 support had been authorized for disbursement. USAC's projection of remaining Funding Year 2013 funds includes estimates of funds needed to pay additional disbursements on committed funding requests and disbursements on requests that have not yet received funding commitments, as well as a contingency reserve to pay pending appeals and to make disbursements on funding requests that may be granted extended invoice deadlines pursuant to Commission orders. Given these requirements and to preserve the contingency amount, USAC estimates that no Funding Year 2013 funds are available to carry-forward. The estimated remaining Funding Year 2013 balance is based on the following:

<b>FUNDING YEAR 2013</b>	<b>Amounts in Millions</b>
Amount Authorized for Collections	\$2,250.00
Amount Authorized for Disbursement	(370.51)
Amount Carried-forward from Funding Years 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010	450.00
Amount Authorized by FCC Inflation Increment	130.31
Administrative Expenses	(70.00)
Potential Additional Disbursements on Committed FRNs	(1,640.43)
Remaining Uncommitted Requests and Contingency Amount for Pending Appeals	(749.37)
<b>Estimated Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

### *3Q2014 Demand Estimate and Contribution Requirement*

USAC changed the accounting methodology for the USF to generally accepted accounting principles for federal agencies on October 1, 2004 to comply with the Commission's Order of October 3, 2003.<sup>80</sup> Commission staff subsequently determined that Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) for the Schools and Libraries Support

<sup>80</sup> See *In re Application of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for Federal Agencies and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards to the Universal Service Fund*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order, FCC 03-232, 18 FCC Rcd 19911 (2003).

## Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections

Mechanism are to be treated as “obligations” for federal budgetary accounting purposes and subject to the requirements of the Antideficiency Act (ADA).<sup>81</sup> The ADA generally requires that sufficient unobligated resources be available before an obligation can be incurred.

Congress exempted the USF from the requirements of the ADA through December 31, 2015.<sup>82</sup>

To reduce the USF cash reserve that has accumulated primarily because the structure of the program necessarily results in significant time lags between the commitments and actual disbursements while at the same time retaining the ability of the USF to satisfy all outstanding commitments based on historic disbursement patterns, the Commission applied a total of \$550 million of the undisbursed USF balance from prior years against Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism demand in 2004. The Commission applied \$200 million of the cash balance in both Second Quarter and Third Quarter 2004, and \$150 million in Fourth Quarter 2004.<sup>83</sup>

Based on the level of applicant demand in Funding Year 2013, which exceeds the annual funding cap, USAC requests authority to collect an amount to provide \$562.50 million in funding for 3Q2014, which is one-quarter of the \$2.25 billion annual funding cap, increased by an inflation factor of \$40.95 million, an amount equal to one-quarter of the

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<sup>81</sup> 31 U.S.C. § 1341.

<sup>82</sup> See HR 2055 (signed by the President Dec. 23, 2011), Sec. 510 (“Section 302 of the Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ‘December 31, 2010’ each place it appears and inserting ‘December 31, 2011.’”); HR 3082, Sec. 155 (“Section 302 of the Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ‘December 31, 2010’ each place it appears and inserting ‘December 31, 2011.’”); HR 3288, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-117), § 501 (“Section 302 of the Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ‘December 31, 2009’ each place it appears and inserting ‘December 31, 2010.’”). See also, H.R. 5419, 108th Cong 2d Sess., § 302, Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act (effective Dec. 23, 2004) and H.R. 2862, 109th Cong 1st Sess., § 633, Science, State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (effective Nov. 22, 2005); H.J. 20 (effective Jan. 1, 2007); Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, H.R. 2764, Division D—Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2008, Title V—Independent Agencies at 61; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) (signed December 16, 2009; effective Oct. 1, 2009).

<sup>83</sup> As stated in its January 31, 2004, Federal Universal Service Support Mechanisms Fund Size Projections for the Second Quarter 2005, and in its subsequent quarterly filings, USAC will continue to consult with the Commission as appropriate concerning the necessity and timing of any recovery of this \$550 million.

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

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projected annual inflation adjustment of \$163.82 million.<sup>84</sup> Results for 1Q2014 contribute to an over-funded condition for which this filing proposes to adjust the 3Q2014 requirements. The total adjustment to the 3Q2014 fund requirements based on actual results will decrease the funding needed by \$3.12 million. The explanation for the adjustment is provided below:

<b>Reason for the Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>Adjustment in Millions</b>
1Q2014 billings were lower than projected	\$2.31
Interest earned was higher than projected	(0.59)
Bad debt expense was lower than anticipated	(4.84)
<b>Total Prior Period Adjustment</b>	<b>(\$3.12)</b>

The total fund requirement of \$562.50 million, which includes administrative expenses of \$18.41 million, increased by the inflation increment of \$40.95 million, decreased by the prior-period adjustment of \$3.12 million, and reduced by the projected interest income of \$4.28 million, results in a total projected collection requirement of \$596.05 million for the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism for 3Q2014.

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### ***CONTRIBUTION BASE***

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USAC collects quarterly interstate and international revenue information from carriers on FCC Form 499-Q four times each year. USAC uses this information to determine aggregate projected revenue collections, which are filed with the Commission on March 2, June 1, September 1, and December 2 each year.<sup>85</sup> Based on these filings, the Commission establishes the contribution factor for the upcoming quarter.

The quarterly USF contribution factor established by the Commission is derived from projections of support mechanism demand calculated by USAC and projected

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<sup>84</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.507(a).

<sup>85</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 54.709(a)(3). The Form 499-Q includes a box for each of the quarterly filing submissions. Carriers check the appropriate box to indicate the quarter for which revenue information is being reported. See also, 47 C.F.R. §§54.706, .708, .711 and .713 for contributor reporting requirements.



## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

collected revenue submitted by USF contributors on FCC Form 499-Q and aggregated by USAC. The total USF funding requirement is based on many inputs and is the result of the manner in which the support mechanisms operate pursuant to Commission rules. Inputs include actual support mechanism demand, which changes quarterly, adjustments resulting from events that occur in prior periods but are reported to USAC in the current period, and reconciliation of projections from prior periods to actual results reported by USF contributors and support mechanism beneficiaries (i.e., prior period adjustments). Other inputs include USAC administrative expenses and capital expenditures, and the impact of interest income earned on USF funds USAC invests in United States Treasury securities. The USF contribution base is different each quarter due to changes in carrier revenue projections, which among other things are subject to changing business cycles, and changes to requirements concerning the revenue to which the USF assessment applies (e.g., adding or subtracting certain types of services to the contribution base due to rule changes or other Commission activity). Because of the combined influence of these many factors, nearly all of which change each quarter based on the manner in which the Commission rules operate and the programs are administered, the quarterly contribution factor established by the Commission derived from these USAC-submitted inputs can fluctuate substantially from quarter to quarter. Thus, comparisons to preceding or prior year quarters should be made with caution and predicting trends based on such comparisons may not provide a basis for meaningful analysis.

USAC invoices and receives contributions from more than 3,000 telecommunications companies each month. Interstate telecommunications service providers are required to complete the 499-Q form, reporting July – September 2014 projected revenue information, and return it to USAC by May 1, 2014.

## **Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

USAC continues to assist the Commission in its USF collection enforcement efforts, including providing documentation on a quarterly basis to assist the Commission in issuing Notices of Apparent Liability (NALs) and forfeiture orders against delinquent contributors and companies failing to file required forms. Pursuant to a directive issued by the FCC on March 27, 2012, USAC transfers monies that are 120 days delinquent to the U.S. Treasury after USAC has provided the delinquent carrier with the notice required under FCC and Debt Collection Improvement Act (DCIA) requirements.

USAC implemented the Red Light Rule on November 1, 2004 for contributor debts to the USF.<sup>86</sup> If a contributor is delinquent to the USF, USAC performs administrative offsets to resolve the delinquency by netting any pending service provider disbursements where the Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) shares the same Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) as the delinquent contributor. If an entity is delinquent on a debt owed to the Commission or the Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan or Local Portability funds, USAC places administrative holds on any disbursements for SPINs that share the same TIN until the Commission provides information stating that the debt has been satisfied. USAC continues to work closely with the Commission and stakeholders affected by the Red Light Rule implementation.

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### ***AUTHORIZATION TO FILE WITH THE COMMISSION***

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At their January 28, 2014 meetings, USAC's High Cost, Low Income, Rural Health Care and Schools & Libraries Committees adopted resolutions authorizing USAC staff to file with the Commission the 3Q2014 projected support mechanism funding requirements described herein. At its April 29, 2014 meeting, the USAC Board of Directors adopted a

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<sup>86</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.910.

**Universal Service Administrative Company 3Q2014 Fund Size Projections**

resolution authorizing the inclusion of the projected 3Q2014 administrative expenses in this report to the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

UNIVERSAL SERVICE  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

/s/

Richard Belden Chief Operating Officer, Interim  
Chief Executive Officer

David M. Case, Chief Financial Officer and Vice  
President of Finance

May 2, 2014