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For Immediate Release

**FCC ANNOUNCES OVER \$5 BILLION IN FUNDING REQUESTS
RECEIVED IN EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND PROGRAM**

*Second 15-Day Window to Open September 28 for School and Library Purchases in the
2021-22 School Year*

WASHINGTON, August 25, 2021—The Federal Communications Commission today announced that it has received requests for \$5.137 billion to fund 9.1 million connected devices and 5.4 million broadband connections as part of the \$7.17 billion Emergency Connectivity Fund Program. The first filing window, which closed August 13, 2021, attracted applications from all 50 states, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia – including schools and libraries in both rural and urban communities seeking funding for eligible equipment and services received or delivered between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. In view of outstanding demand and the recent spike in coronavirus cases, the FCC will open a second application filing window for schools and libraries to request funding for connected devices and broadband connections for off-campus use by students, school staff, and library patrons for the current 2021-22 school year.

“The Emergency Connectivity Fund is the single largest effort to bring connectivity and devices to students who lack them – and this robust response from applicants shows the tremendous need in our communities. This funding is an important down payment in closing the Homework Gap so that all children, regardless of their circumstances or where they live, have access to the tools they need to succeed,” **said acting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel**. “The pandemic highlighted like never before the difference a reliable internet connection can make in a student’s education, and we want to make sure that as many schools and libraries can apply for support this school year. The need is there, and the opening of a second application window reflects that. Together with the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, we are investing more than \$10 billion in American students and households, so more Americans can connect, communicate, and more fully participate in modern life.”

The FCC will open the second application filing window to provide support for the current school year in light of outstanding demand, including applications that were filed after the close of the initial application filing window, and resource challenges some schools faced with a summertime application filing window. Moreover, the rise of the Delta variant means off-campus connectivity remains vital to ensuring students, school staff, and library patrons can engage in remote learning as they face challenges and uncertainty amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

During the second application filing window, which will run from September 28 to October 13, eligible schools and libraries can apply for financial support to purchase eligible equipment and services for students, school staff and library patrons with unmet needs. The acting Chairwoman has long made closing the Homework Gap a priority during her tenure at the

Commission. Recent estimates suggest there may be as many as 17 million children struggling without the broadband access they need to fully engage in remote learning.

For the first application filing window, the FCC set a target to review and issue decisions for 50% of workable applications within 60 days of the close of the application filing window and 70% of workable applications within 100 days of the close of the application filing window. The funding is available for the purchase of laptops and tablets, Wi-Fi hotspots, modems, routers, and broadband connections for off-campus use by students, school staff, and library patrons in need, and is available to support off-campus learning, such as homework, even if schools have returned to full time in-person instruction.

A state-by-state breakdown of funding demand is available below.

State / Territory	Total Funding Requested	State / Territory	Total Funding Requested
Alabama	\$62,677,788.77	Montana	\$4,248,117.07
Alaska	\$51,874,215.69	Nebraska	\$21,607,941.17
American Samoa	\$25,333,082.75	Nevada	\$29,125,668.53
Arizona	\$200,700,041.70	New Hampshire	\$5,500,399.98
Arkansas	\$29,625,857.99	New Jersey	\$225,318,068.42
California	\$812,045,890.55	New Mexico	\$67,218,187.36
Colorado	\$36,571,291.19	New York	\$559,653,550.51
Connecticut	\$37,089,292.04	North Carolina	\$149,795,970.80
Delaware	\$8,704,910.69	North Dakota	\$3,631,027.80
District of Columbia	\$19,874,749.59	Northern Mariana Islands	\$1,314,000.00
Florida	\$264,359,207.11	Ohio	\$103,412,800.95
Georgia	\$183,225,350.75	Oklahoma	\$94,616,613.76
Guam	\$6,327,126.00	Oregon	\$82,187,638.46
Hawaii	\$67,304,321.57	Pennsylvania	\$99,766,355.39
Idaho	\$35,155,222.55	Puerto Rico	\$102,867,340.87
Illinois	\$197,177,597.95	Rhode Island	\$15,040,521.71
Indiana	\$53,587,049.39	South Carolina	\$27,150,599.18
Iowa	\$23,005,029.79	South Dakota	\$6,821,624.05
Kansas	\$24,789,998.78	Tennessee	\$44,010,989.51
Kentucky	\$54,103,362.53	Texas	\$496,488,916.30
Louisiana	\$72,348,418.89	U.S. Virgin Islands	\$5,016,227.60
Maine	\$7,672,141.84	Utah	\$34,209,445.61
Maryland	\$53,330,800.91	Vermont	\$5,048,353.29
Massachusetts	\$61,436,020.80	Virginia	\$62,890,826.34
Michigan	\$108,365,415.67	Washington	\$101,244,763.67
Minnesota	\$62,868,827.25	West Virginia	\$48,189,817.50
Mississippi	\$21,104,090.16	Wisconsin	\$66,626,909.48
Missouri	\$90,636,490.46	Wyoming	\$2,962,578.64
TOTAL		\$5,137,258,847.31	

More information on the Emergency Connectivity Fund program is available at: www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org. The program is administered by the Universal Service

Administrative Company, with oversight from and under rules unanimously adopted by the Federal Communications Commission.

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