

FAQ's on Waves in FY 9 (2006-2007)

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- Wave 1-3 of FY 9 only contains funding for priority one services -- telecommunications services and Internet access. There is sufficient funding for all approved Priority 1 requests, however, given total demand of nearly \$3.55 billion with funds available of \$2.25 billion, it is too early to determine whether there will be enough funding available for internal connections for all applicants.
- If you disagree with a funding commitment decision, an appeal letter MUST be received at the SLD within 60 days of the date that is on the decision letter (not the letter's postmark date). There are no exceptions to this rule.

How will I be notified of my E-rate Funding Commitment?

The SLD will be sending out Funding Commitment Decision Letters to inform applicants of their E-rate discounts. These letters will be mailed in waves, rather than waiting for all applications to be fully processed before issuing any letters. Only those applicants who submitted complete requests within the "application window" will be receiving Funding Commitment Decision letters.

When will the first wave of letters be sent and how frequently will the waves of letters be sent?

Every week a wave of letters will be issued to applicants. As each wave is sent, the SLD will announce its size and post state-by-state information on their Web Site.

How will I know which wave my letter is in?

There is no definitive way to know in advance which wave a particular Funding Commitment Decision Letter might be in. The SLD will post information about each wave on their public Web Site the first business day after it has been mailed.

Will I receive only one Funding Commitment Decision Letter?

No, not necessarily. The SLD will issue Funding Commitment Decision Letters according to the FCC's rules of priority (See questions 5 -6 for details) when answers are known about any of the requests made in your application(s). If you submitted multiple applications for services, you will receive more than one Funding Commitment Decision Letter. If you submitted only one application for discounts on all three types of service -- telecommunications service, internet access, and internal connections -- you may receive more than one Funding Commitment Decision Letter.

How is each wave formed?

There are three factors determining how each wave is formed:

- The FCC Rules of Priority: There are two rules of priority.
 - o "*Priority One*" approved requests are for discounts on telecommunications services and Internet access and "*Priority Two*" approved requests are for discounts on internal connections. If "*Priority One*" services can be fully funded, discount requests for internal connection, or

- o "Priority Two" services, are funded beginning with the highest need at the 90% discount level.
- Successful Data Entry: The date when the application was successfully entered into the SLD database will also determine when a Funding Commitment Decision Letter may be sent.
- Complete Processing: Before a funding commitment can be made, the SLD must complete processing of your application, including the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review process. The SLD has set aside funds to cover all telecommunications and Internet access requests received inside the filing window. They will consider "priority two" requests - Internal connections requests - if there are remaining funds available.

If funds are available for internal connections requests below the 90% discount level, how will SLD make these funding decisions?

Consistent with FCC rules, the SLD will consider Internal Connections requests below the 90% discount level, by discount level - 89%, 88%, 87%, etc.

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