

E-rate Guidance for Transition of Services to DoIT Consortium

Instructions for Funding Year 2026

If your School District/Library is intending to move forward with circuits provided by the DoIT Consortium, it is highly recommended you file your own Form 470 and Form 471 to ensure continuity of service from your current provider to the DoIT Consortium selected provider, should the DoIT Consortium selected provider be delayed in the installation of the circuits.

SCENARIO:

You have one or more services in place now that will be replaced by services provided by the Consortium at some point on or after July 1, 2026.

You should file a Form 470 (using your own BEN) that includes the services transitioning to the DoIT consortium.

In your Form 470, you should request Month-to-Month terms in order to allow a smooth transition of services with no early termination penalties. You should indicate this preference in your Form 470 narrative or, as part of any formal or informal RFP that accompanies your Form 470.

Once you have received responses to your Form 470, perform an evaluation of those responses in accordance with FCC rules and USAC guidance and select your service provider for E-rate Funding Year 2026 (1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027).

PLEASE NOTE: If your incumbent service provider does not respond to your request for proposal/quote, you can use your existing bills from that service provider as a response to your Form 470 and that information should be evaluated along with any other responses you do receive.

Once you have selected your service provider for this transition period, it's time to file a Form 471 application for E-rate Funding Year 2026 (1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027) that includes 12 months of service based on the pricing you received during your Form 470 competitive bidding process. The window to file a Form 471 opens 21 January 2026 and closes on 1 April 2026. We recommend filing a Form 471 that covers **all 12 months of service** from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.