

First Wave of Emergency Connectivity Funding Announced; Second Window Opened September 28

Last week, the FCC announced an [initial wave of Emergency Connectivity Fund Program funding commitments](#) totaling over \$1.2 billion. **11 Montana schools were part of the initial wave of funding, receiving a total of \$853,554.16.** The goal of the [Emergency Connectivity Fund Program](#) is to provide funding to help schools and libraries keep students, staff, and patrons connected during the COVID-19 health emergency. The FCC will continue to review applications and will be making additional commitments on a rolling basis in the coming weeks.

A second application filing window opened September 28 and will remain open until October 13, 2021. During this window, applicants will be able to submit requests for funding for purchases made between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 to meet the needs of students, school staff, and library patrons who would otherwise lack access to basic educational opportunities and library services.

For those interested in learning more about the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program and wanting to submit an application, please visit www.emergencyconnectivityfund.org and don't forget to [sign up](#) for ECF Program emails. The Commission will also continue to update its [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the Program.

The [ECF website](#) is user-friendly and includes information [about the program](#), [key dates](#), [eligible equipment and services](#), the [application process](#), and what you need to know to [get started with your application](#). You will also find a [list of common misconceptions to consider](#) when beginning the application process.