

Eligible Entities

For purposes of universal service fund (USF) support, schools must meet the statutory definition of elementary and secondary schools found in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. § 7801(18) and (38)):

Local Education Agency

- An elementary school is a non-profit institutional day or residential school, including a public elementary charter school, that provides elementary education, as determined under state law.
- A secondary school is a non-profit institutional day or residential school, including a public secondary charter school, that provides secondary education, as determined under state law, except that such term does not include any education beyond grade 12.
- Schools operating as for-profit businesses or that have endowments exceeding \$50 million are not eligible.

Non Instructional Facilities

- Examples of non-instructional facilities on school property include, but are not limited to, administrative buildings, school bus barns and garages, cafeteria offices, and facilities associated with athletic activities. Examples of non-instructional facilities on library property include, but are not limited to, administrative buildings, bookmobile garages, interlibrary loan facilities, and library technology centers.

Non Traditional Facilities

- In many cases, non-traditional facilities and students may be eligible.
- Specific eligibility in Arkansas juvenile justice centers can be found under Non-traditional Education.
- An Educational Service Agency (ESA), which may operate owned or leased instructional facilities, may be eligible for Schools and Libraries Program support if it provides elementary or secondary education as defined in state law.

Note: Schools and libraries can apply on their own or they can form consortia to aggregate demand and thereby negotiate lower prices. The entity leading the consortium may or may not be eligible for discounts.

Libraries

To be eligible for E-Rate funding, libraries must:

- meet the statutory definition of library or library consortium found in the 1996 Library Services and Technology Act (Pub. L. 104-208) (LSTA) and must be eligible for assistance from a state library administrative agency under that Act
- have budgets completely separate from any schools (e.g. elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities)

Libraries are ineligible if:

- they operate as for-profit businesses

It is also possible that certain school or library students and/or facilities may also be eligible for discounts:

Eligible Location

Eligible locations are considered to be locations that are school or library property. The term school or library property includes a district office or similar facility, but does not include businesses or organizations separate from a school or library organization. For example, the facilities of a business that has contracted with a school to provide bus service do not constitute a location eligible for E-Rate support.

Eligible Purpose

Services must not only be eligible, but must also be delivered to eligible locations and used for eligible purposes. The customary work activities of school or library employees and customary activities that occur on school or library property are presumed to be integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students or the provision of library services to library patrons.