



NEWS RELEASE

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Funds For Learning Unveils New Version of *E-rate Manager*

Online Suite of Tools Assists Schools and Libraries in their Pursuit of E-rate Funding

EDMOND, OKLA. (July 24, 2007) – More than \$2.25 billion is available annually to schools and libraries through the E-rate program, which provides discounts for eligible telecommunications services. To help applicants navigate the complex and ever-changing nature of the E-rate process, Funds For Learning, LLC, the nation’s leading E-rate funding compliance services firm, announces the latest release of *E-rate Manager for Applicants*.

More than 30,000 schools and libraries apply for E-rate funding every year, with many requests denied due to process and procedure errors. In 2004, loss of funding due to clerical oversight totaled nearly \$25 million, according to the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company, which administers the E-rate program.

To ensure schools and libraries receive the full discount they’re eligible for, education organizations turn to *E-rate Manager for Applicants* for assistance with their E-rate funding requests and commitments. The online suite of tools enables school districts to stay on top of fluctuating deadlines and paperwork, track remaining E-rate funding, monitor sites where funding is used, and respond to E-rate program auditors. The expanded and updated version of *E-rate Manager for Applicants* reflects this year’s deadlines and regulations associated with the E-rate program.

“As the push for 21st century skills continues, it’s essential that every student has access to the Internet in their classroom,” said John Harrington, CEO of Funds For Learning. “Over the past decade Funds For Learning has helped thousands of districts obtain the E-rate funding they need to accomplish this goal, and prepare students with the skills they need to be successful in life.”

Approved by Congress in 1996, the Federal Communications Commission created the E-rate program to help schools and libraries, especially those in economically disadvantaged and rural areas, obtain telecommunications services such as phone service and access to the Internet. Before the E-rate program, only three percent of the nation’s classrooms were connected to the Internet. Today, more than 95 percent of classrooms have Internet access, thanks to the funding schools and districts receive from the E-rate program every year.

MORE

E-rate Manager for Applicants is available as an annual subscription per user fee based on student population. Prices start at \$199 per year for up to 9,999 students.

In addition to helping E-rate applicants, Funds For Learning delivers comprehensive support to service providers with telecommunication offerings. *E-rate Manager for Service Providers* helps companies identify new customers and increase their revenue by participating in the E-rate program. By generating sales leads based on each company's services or products, the online suite of tools provides a wealth of marketing data on potential customers. *E-rate Manager for Service Providers* also makes it easy for companies to track and manage current E-rate business, and ensures they stay in compliance with ever-changing E-rate rules and regulations.

Funds For Learning offers state, regional and national *E-rate Manager for Service Providers* licenses.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the E-rate program and Funds For Learning, the company has published "E-rate Review: 10 Years and Counting," a white paper on the success of the E-rate program and its impact on stakeholders. To download a copy, visit www.fundsforlearning.com/content/view/918/65/.

For more information about Funds For Learning, visit www.fundsforlearning.com or phone 405-341-4140.

About Funds For Learning

Funds For Learning, LLC, is an E-rate compliance firm specializing in guiding E-rate applicants and service providers through the complex and ever-changing E-rate regulatory process. With more than 10 years of experience in providing professional advice and assistance relating to the E-rate program, Funds For Learning exists to provide high-quality solutions for the needs of E-rate stakeholders. The company was established in 1997 and is headquartered in Edmond, Okla. For more information, visit www.fundsforlearning.com or phone 405-341-4140.

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