

Basic E-Rate Cycle

1. File Form 470 (quasi-RFP)
2. Wait 28 days (vendor selection period)
3. File Form 471 (application)
4. PIA review and FCDL
5. File Form 486 (confirmation)
6. Submit invoices to USAC (BEAR or SPI)

Category 2 Budgets:

Each eligible school shall be eligible for support for Category 2 services up to a pre-discount price of \$150 per student over a five-year funding cycle.

TPSD is now in Year 2 of the 5 year funding cycle based on the premise that we are going to purchase what we were awarded in Year 1. The Contract to Venture Technologies is an E-Rate requirement and the rules state:

Contracts are required to be signed for all Category Two services/purchases before the Form 471 is submitted.

The window for filing a Form 471 is now open and TPSD must have this contract signed in order to proceed with our filing.

E-Rate rules require that applicants follow local requirements and local policy when it comes to contract approvals. So if your school board requires their approval on all contracts, then the board must approve those contracts prior to their signing and Form 471 submission. Some school boards have given superintendents or business managers delegated authority to sign certain contracts, and that is permissible under E-Rate rules.

E-rate Step One: File a 470 for Category 2 services –This has been completed by TPSD

Category Two eligible services are focused on connectivity to devices within buildings, and will cover only broadband distribution services and equipment.

Category 2 Equipment & Services

- Basic: Cabling, routers, switches, wireless access points
- Maintenance of basic LAN equipment

- Managed Wi-Fi

We asked for cloud managed switches\AP's, UPS's, cables to connect switches and devices to finish the replacement of older devices based on money we are allotted after last year's approved funding and those purchases we are about to make for Year One funding.

We also asked for 6a wiring for THS based on money we are allotted after last year's approved funding

E-rate Step Two: We waited the 28 days and we had a bid opening and awarded Venture the bid. We are asking for Board Approval to meet local requirements. We can then proceed to Step Three.

Our budget remaining for Year Two of the Five year cycle is \$256,430.56

We filed a 470 for:

Meraki \$315,387

APC \$26,000

Cabling for THS \$149,266.50

Of course this adds up to \$490,753.50 and we only have \$256,430.56 but we did a multiyear contract so that if our student numbers change next year and increase we can use this same 470 and bid to purchase. We also included wiring up to the amount allotted for THS just to give us the option to file a 471 for either\or on a 471 for THS up to their remaining money for this year. THS only has \$ 86,812.81 amount of money for this year and that is the total amount we would have for THS.

Bottom line is this is a multiyear contract so we can buy from it next year if we have a little money left at some or all locations based on student count per site. The most we could purchase with E-rate dollars awarded would be \$256,430.56 for this year and of this amount the district portion is 20% of the total which is \$51,256.12 for Category 2.

There are contingencies in place in the agreement to purchase to protect the district in the event

1. We do not receive the funding from E-rate
2. The availability of local funds

3. The service meets our requirements and needs.

So we will not be liable to Vendor based on the aforementioned contingencies.

E-rate Step Three: File a 471 to request the funding

We are asking the board to approve this Agreement to Purchase so we can proceed to Step 3 of the E-rate process.

If we are awarded a funding commitment from E-rate, based on the Filing of a 471, for the requested amount of \$256,430.56 for this year, the district would pay only \$51,256.12 (our 20%) of the \$256,430.56 for the requested Category 2. E-rate pays the other 80%.