



FY2019 E-Rate State Matching Grant Technical Assistance Webinar



Illinois State Board of Education
May 13, 2019



Agenda

- NOFO/RFP Overview
- Application Process
- Helpful Resources
- District's Next Steps
- Where to Direct Questions



Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)/ Request for Proposal (RFP) Overview

- NOFO/RFP Information found at <https://www.isbe.net/broadband> under the E-Rate State Matching Grant Tab
- NOFO/RFP Released on Tuesday, May 7, 2019
- Proposals due to ISBE Office by 4:00 p.m on Friday, June 21, 2019



NOFO/RFP Overview (cont.)

- ISBE received up to \$16.3 million in FY2019 to help districts cover the non-discounted portion of special construction costs.
- State Matching Provision Information
<https://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/beforeyoubegin/state-matching-provision.aspx>



Eligible Applicants

- **Any Illinois Public School District** who:
 - Has filed both a 470 and 471 for a special construction fiber project as part of the FY2019 E-Rate cycle
 - Form 471 filings were due to USAC on March 27, 2019
 - Checked the “state match” indicator on Form 471
 - Priority is given to districts currently without scalable fiber connectivity
 - Applications for districts wishing to improve WAN connections or reducing costs will also be considered
 - E-Rate approval is required



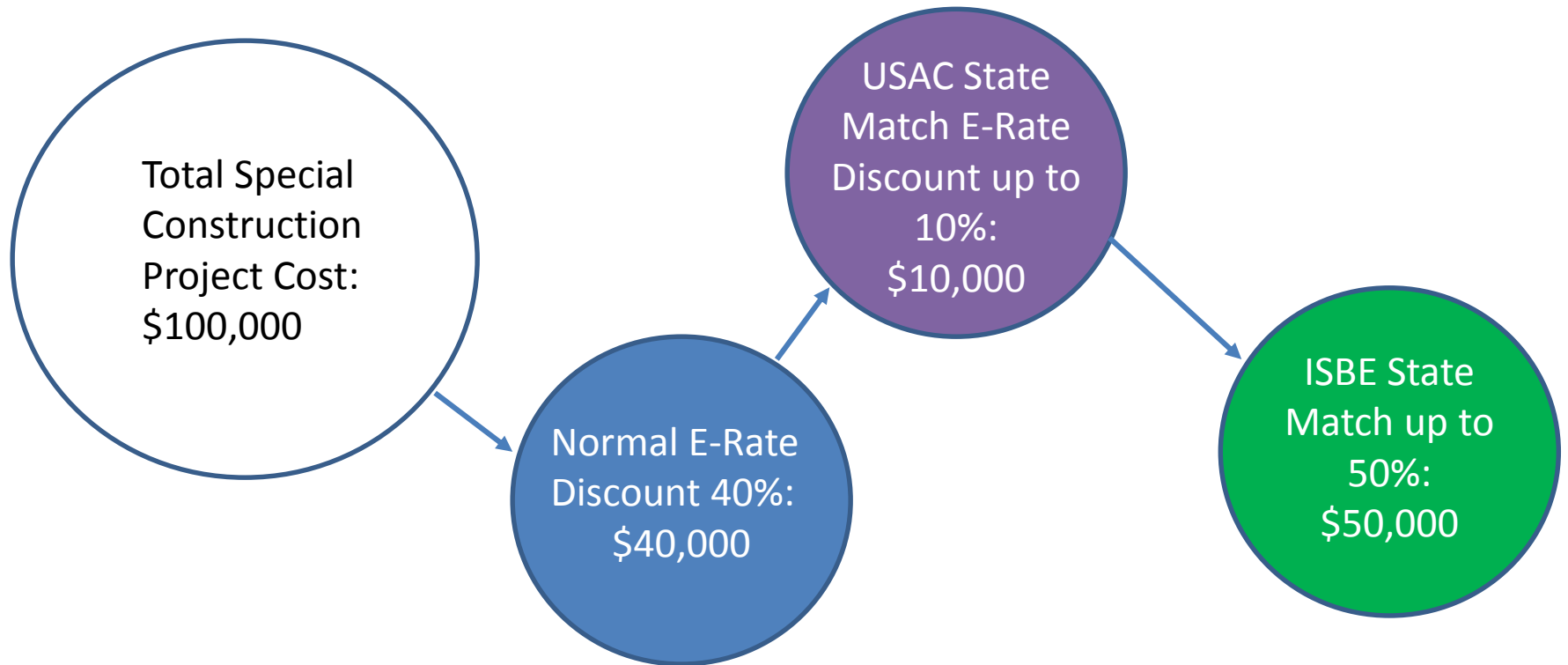
E-Rate Special Construction

- Special Construction Charges are:
 - Upfront, non-recurring costs of deploying new fiber or upgraded facilities to E-Rate eligible entities
 - Consisting of 3 components:
 - Construction of network facilities
 - Design and engineering
 - Project Management
- Special Construction Charges **DO NOT INCLUDE:**
 - Charges for equipment to make the service functional
- More information at:
<https://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/beforeyoubegin/fiber.aspx>



How the State Match Works

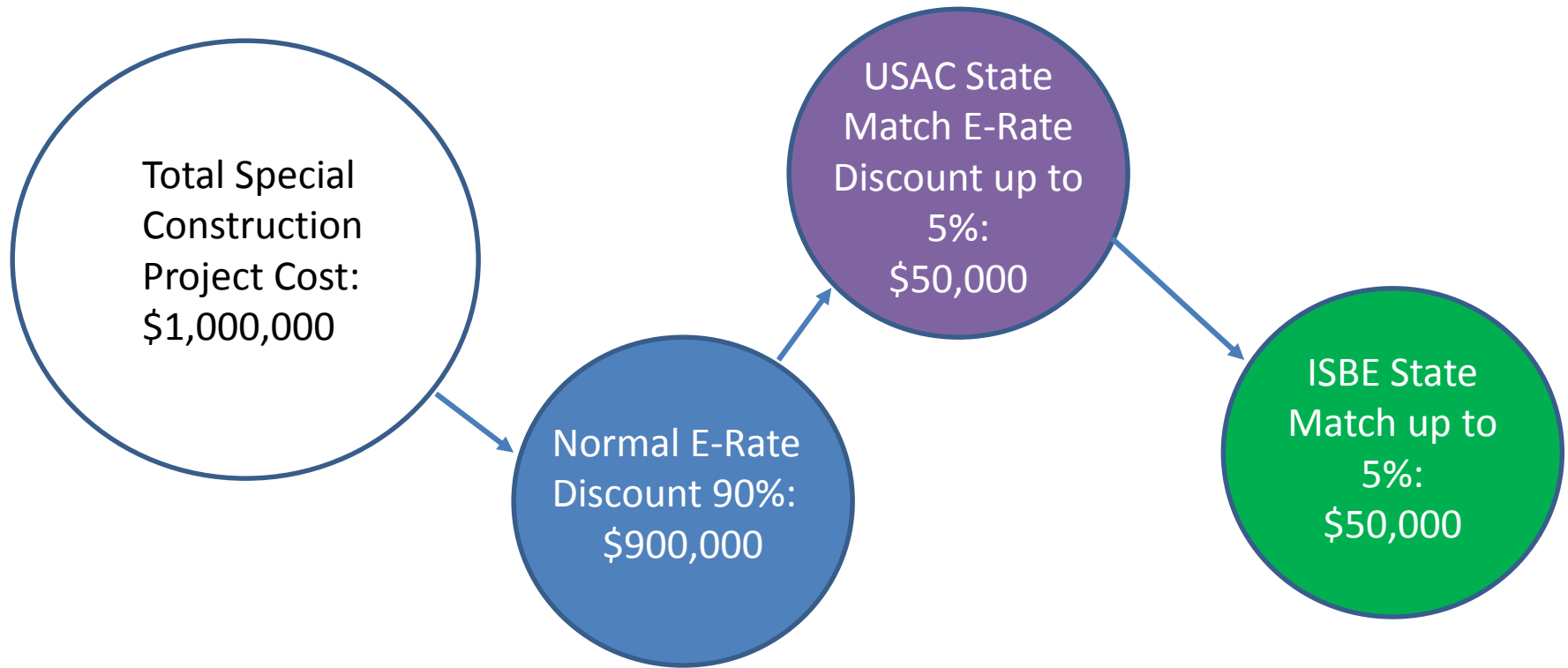
- ABC School District, with a 40% Category 1 Discount Rate applies for State Match Grant:





How the State Match Works

- XYZ School District, with an 90% Category 1 Discount Rate applies for State Match Grant:





The Application Process

- There are several components to the application process for this round:

E-Rate forms and processes:

- FCC Forms 470 and 471 filed with USAC within the FY2019 application window
 - Last date to file Form 471 was March 27, 2019
- FCC Forms 470 and 471 must indicate district is pursuing a fiber special construction project
- RFP for fiber special construction must have been posted and responded to by vendor(s).
- All rules regarding selection of vendor for 471 must follow USAC guidelines for competitive bidding and vendor selection



The Application Process

- Details are IMPORTANT!
 - You must have a plan
 - You must follow all USAC rules regarding competitive bid evaluations
 - You must meet ISBE state match application deadline
 - 4 p.m. on Friday, June 21 , 2019
 - You must have filed a Form 471 by USAC deadline (March 27, 2019) and select the state match box
 - You must be able to answer, or get the answers to detailed questions in PIA review.
 - You must obtain USAC approval before state match funds will be released.



The Application Process

- Applicants file application to ISBE NOFO/RFP
 - Include form 470 and 471, evaluation rubric of vendors, and the name of your selected vendor along with their proposal
 - Save ALL bids and cost allocation materials in case you are asked for these during PIA review
 - Upon approval from USAC, state will match the non-discounted portion of project subject to funding availability



The Application Process

- Successful awardees will receive a letter from ISBE stating that the proposal passed the review phase and Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) requirements.
- Award letter is submitted to EPC as part of the district's FCC Form 471 application.



Application Process

- Attachment 1 is the Uniform Grant Application
 - Be sure to have all necessary signatures when submitting!



Application Process

- Attachment 1 – Question 45
 - **Amount Requested from the State** is the amount you are requesting for the state match
 - **Applicant Contribution** is the remaining monies going into the project. *Local Contribution, Other Sources of Funding, or Program Income* provide the detail for and should total the Applicant Contribution Line.
 - **Total Amount** is the total of the Amount Requested from State and Applicant Contribution Lines combined.

45.	Estimated Funding <i>(Include all that apply)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Amount Requested from the State: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local Contribution: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source of Contribution: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Program Income: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Total Amount: \$ _____
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Attachment 1 – Question 45 Example #1

- ABC District is requesting a match for a \$100,000 fiber special construction project. Their C1 Discount rate is 50%.
- USAC C1 Discount of 50% - \$50000
- USAC Additional Discount for State/Tribal Match (1:1 to state match, up to 10%) - \$10000
- Remaining \$40000, or 40% of the original project amount, will be covered by state match, subject to funding availability and approvals

45.	Estimated Funding <i>(Include all that apply)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount Requested from the State: \$ <u>40000</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): \$ <u>60000</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Local Contribution: \$ _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Source of Contribution: \$ <u>60000</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Program Income: \$ _____ <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Amount: \$ <u>100000</u></div>
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Attachment 1 – Question 45 Example #2

- Acme School District has a \$100,000 special construction fiber project and has a 20% Discount Rate
- USAC C1 Discount Rate of 20% - \$20000
- USAC State Match of 10% - \$10000
- Remaining \$70000, or 70% of the original project amount will be covered by the state match, subject to funding availability and approvals
- 20% USAC C1 Discount + 10% USAC Match + 70% State Match = 100% of special construction costs

45.	Estimated Funding <i>(Include all that apply)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount Requested from the State: \$ <u>70000</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant Contribution (e.g., in kind, matching): \$ <u>30000</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Local Contribution: \$ _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Source of Contribution: \$ <u>30000</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Program Income: \$ _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Amount: \$ <u>100000</u>
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Application Process

- Attachment 2 – Determining need narrative
 - Describe current technology program
 - Explain the planning used to determine need and the project design
 - Identification of stakeholders and communication with them during project planning
 - Funding limitations facing the district
 - Need for the special construction to meet future district plans
 - Schools chosen to participate and indicate their need
 - Tell how improvements to bandwidth will impact the teaching and learning process – do not just focus on the boxes and wires!



Application Process

- Attachment 3 – Proposed Project/Program
 - Detail the project goals and how they will advance your educational technology program
 - See pages 5 and 6 of RFP document for items to include.
- Attachment 4 – Timeline
 - Complete a timeline of activities to meet goals included in attachment 4. Make sure to have start and end dates and list person(s) responsible.



Application Process

- Attachment 5 – Evaluation Design
 - How will plan be evaluated for effectiveness?
 - What data will be collected and how will it be used?
- Attachments 6, 7A, and 7B – Budget
 - Must submit on form included in application packet & must be signed by superintendent



Application Process

- Attachment 8 and 9 – Certifications and Assurances
 - Signed copies of the following:
 - Program-Specific terms of the Grant
 - Grant Application Certifications and Assurances
 - Each entity in a joint application is required to submit these components



Helpful Resources

- 2019 Round Four Application and attachment can be found on ISBE's website: <https://www.isbe.net/broadband> under the drop-down "E-Rate State Matching Grant."
- The [Learning Technology Centers of Illinois](http://www.ltcillinois.org) provides free assistance to districts
 - Mindy Fiscus (mfiscus@ltcillinois.org) can provide application support
 - www.ltcillinois.org/access
- Email questions to broadband@isbe.net
- A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document will be added to the website and updated based on feedback and questions



District Next Steps

- Determine your eligibility for the grant
 - Special Construction Fiber project 471 on file with USAC
- Fill out application by June 21, 2019
 - Email broadband@isbe.net with questions
 - Mindy Fiscus at the LTC can assist with applications mfiscus@ltcillinois.org
- Save all forms, bids, evaluation matrices, and cost allocation materials for PIA review.



Applications due to ISBE
by 4 p.m. on
Friday, June 21, 2019



Where to Direct Questions

- A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document will be added to the Broadband website <https://www.isbe.net/broadband>
- All questions should be submitted via email to broadband@isbe.net. Questions will be answered in the FAQ document.
- Questions cannot be answered by phone.



Thanks for Attending the Webinar!