

**A RENEWAL OF THE COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY AND THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
AND
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Under the applicable provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. § 552a), a computer matching agreement (CMA) will remain in effect for a period not to exceed 18 months. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552a(o)(2)(C). Within 3 months prior to the expiration of such CMA, however, the Data Integrity Board (DIB) of each party to the CMA may, without additional review, renew the computer matching agreement for a current, ongoing matching program for a period not to exceed 12 additional months if:

1. Such matching program will be conducted without any change; and
2. Each party to the CMA certifies to the DIB in writing that the program has been conducted in compliance with the CMA.

5 U.S.C. § 552a(o)(2)(D).

A copy of the CMA to be renewed is attached hereto.

The following match meets the conditions for renewal upon signature of the officials authorized in sections VII through IX of this renewal of the CMA:

I TITLE OF MATCH:

Computer Matching Agreement Between U.S. Department of Education and Universal Service Administrative Company and The Federal Communications Commission

I PARTIES TO THE MATCH:

Source Agency: U.S. Department of Education (ED)

Recipient Agency: Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and
The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

I PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT:

The purpose of this renewal is to extend the current documented terms and conditions of the computer matching agreement for an additional 12-month period for the USAC, FCC, and ED to exchange information, using the National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier (National

Verifier), concerning applicants to and subscribers of the Federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Such exchanges are for the sole purpose of benefit eligibility determinations.¹ Specifically, USAC may use the ED data, which identifies individuals with current Federal Pell Grant disbursements in an active award year, to verify that certain applicants to and subscribers in the ACP are eligible to receive the ACP benefits based on receipt of a Pell Grant.

M. ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE MATCH:

Effective Date: May 18, 2023
Expiration Date: November 17, 2024

(*Note:* The above effective and expiration dates are based on the expiration of the 30-day public comment period following FCC’s April 18, 2023, publication of notice of this matching program in the *Federal Register* (88 FR 23675-23676).)

V. RENEWAL DATE AND EXPIRATION OF RENEWAL PERIOD:

Renewal Date: November 18, 2024
Expiration Date: November 17, 2025

VI. CHANGES:

By this renewal, USAC, FCC, and ED make the following non-substantive changes:

1. In paragraph 1 of Section IV of the CMA, DESCRIPTION OF THE DATA TO BE EXCHANGED, the system of records notice publication date and *Federal Register* citation for the “Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System” is updated to “June 28, 2023 (88 FR 41942).”
2. In paragraph 2 of Section IX of the CMA, INCIDENT REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION RESPONSIBILITIES, the ED contact for computer security issues is modified to read as follows:

Davon Tyler, FSA Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
U.S. Department of Education
Federal Student Aid
Enterprise Technology Directorate
830 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20202-5454
Telephone: (202) 401-8512
Email: Davon.Tyler@ed.gov

¹ On February 8, 2024, the FCC’s Wireline Competition Bureau froze new applications and enrollments into the ACP, due to projections of the depletion of remaining funds and the lack of additional funding from Congress for the program. *See Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Order, DA 24-23, at 8, para. 21 (WCB Jan. 11, 2024) (available at: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-23A1.pdf>).

3. Section XV of the CMA, EXPENSES OF EACH PARTY, is revised to read as follows:

This Agreement does not obligate funds for any particular expenditure, nor does it authorize the transfer of funds and/or resources. It is understood and acknowledged that the Parties intend that an interagency agreement (IAA) between the FCC and ED shall be used to document the reimbursement obligations associated with ED's provision of goods and/or services in support of the ACP as required by the Recording statute, 31 U.S.C. § 1501. Any IAA used to document reimbursement obligations shall be executed by both the FCC and ED before the period of performance commences and shall include the signature of officials with authority to obligate funds and shall be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds in compliance with the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. § 1341.

This Agreement does not authorize ED to incur obligations through the performance of services described herein; performance of such services is authorized only by the execution of the Interagency Agreement (IAA) General Terms & Conditions (FS Form 7600A) and Order (FS Form 7600B) in the G-Invoicing system to obligate and transfer funds between the agencies.

The parties acknowledge that an IAA documenting the reimbursement obligations associated with ED's provision of matching services went into effect on February 1, 2023, and will expire on July 31, 2025 (GT&C A2301-027-091-037299). ED and FCC intend to revise the GT&C A2301-027-091-037299 to expire November 17, 2025, so that it will expire at the end of the full CMA renewal period. ED and FCC have an existing order covering the time period from February 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024. ED and FCC intend to establish an order under GT&C A2301-027-091-037299 to cover the time period from March 1, 2024, through November 17, 2024. Moreover, ED and FCC intend to execute two new orders under GT&C A2301-027-091-037299 to cover the CMA renewal period. The first new order will cover the time period from November 18, 2024, through January 31, 2025, and the second new order will cover the time period from February 1, 2025, through November 17, 2025, once ED determines the new operations and maintenance costs. The parties acknowledge that future enrollments and corresponding matching of records by ED would require an additional appropriation from Congress to fund the ACP beyond the existing IAA effective on February 1, 2023. The FCC will notify ED's point of contact in Section XVIII, Points of Contact, within one week if the FCC funding for the connection is exhausted or terminated and the FCC is unable to pay for the connection. If the FCC receives additional appropriations for the ACP after the date of this Renewal, the FCC will notify ED's point of contact in Section XVIII, Points of Contact, as soon as possible but no later than one week before resuming the matching with ED.

VI FCC SIGNATURES:

FCC Certification:

Electronic Signature Acknowledgement: The signatories may sign this document electronically by using an approved electronic signature process. Each signatory electronically signing this document agrees that their electronic signature has the same legal validity and effect as their handwritten signature on the document, and that it has the same meaning as their handwritten signature.

As the authorized representative of the recipient agency named above, I certify that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing computer matching agreement between the parties; and (2) the subject matching program will continue without any changes for an additional 12 months, subject to the approval of the respective Data Integrity Boards of the parties.

MARK
STEPHENS
Digitally signed by
MARK STEPHENS
Date: 2024.11.12
13:31:50 -0500

Mark Stephens
Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Date

Data Integrity Board Approval:

Having jurisdiction and oversight over the Federal Communications Commission's participation in this matching program, upon consideration of the foregoing certifications of the agencies named herein that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing computer matching agreement between the parties, and (2) the subject matching program will continue without change for an additional 12 months, the Data Integrity Board for the Federal Communications Commission hereby approves the renewal of this matching agreement for 12 months.

ELLIOT TARLOFF
Digitally signed by ELLIOT
TARLOFF
Date: 2024.11.12 13:47:43 -0500

Elliot S. Tarloff
Chairperson
Data Integrity Board
Federal Communications Commission


Date

VI USAC SIGNATURES:

USAC Certification:

Electronic Signature Acknowledgement: The signatories may sign this document electronically by using an approved electronic signature process. Each signatory electronically signing this document agrees that their electronic signature has the same legal validity and effect as their handwritten signature on the document, and that it has the same meaning as their handwritten signature.

As the authorized representative of the recipient agency named above, I certify that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing computer matching agreement between the parties; and (2) the subject matching program will continue without any changes for an additional 12 months, subject to the approval of the respective Data Integrity Boards of the parties.



Tim O'Brien
Vice President, Lifeline
Universal Service Administrative Company

11/12/2024

Date

IX ED SIGNATURES:

ED Certification:

Electronic Signature Acknowledgement: The signatories may sign this document electronically by using an approved electronic signature process. Each signatory electronically signing this document agrees that their electronic signature has the same legal validity and effect as their handwritten signature on the document, and that it has the same meaning as their handwritten signature.

As the authorized representative of the source agency named above, I certify that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing computer matching agreement between the parties; and (2) the subject matching program will continue without any changes for an additional 12 months, subject to the approval of the respective Data Integrity Boards of the parties.

DENISE CARTER Digitally signed by DENISE CARTER
Date: 2024.10.29 13:59:44 -04'00'

Denise Carter
Acting Chief Operating Officer
Federal Student Aid
U.S. Department of Education

Date

Data Integrity Board Approval:

Having jurisdiction and oversight over the U.S. Department of Education's participation in this matching program, upon consideration of the foregoing certifications of the agencies named herein that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing computer matching agreement between the parties, and (2) the subject matching program will continue without change for an additional 12 months, the Data Integrity Board for the U.S. Department of Education hereby approves the renewal of this matching agreement for an additional 12 months.

Frank E. Miller, Jr.
Senior Agency Official for Privacy
Chair, Data Integrity Board
U.S. Department of Education

Date