

Federally-Designated ETCs Must Submit Annual Reports by October 1st

Section 54.209 of the Commission's rules provides that an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designated by the Commission under section 214(e)(6) shall file annual reports, including:

- a progress report on the ETC's five-year service quality improvement plan
- information on any outages in the past year
- the number of requests for service that could not be fulfilled
- the number of complaints per 1,000 lines
- certification that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules
- certification that the carrier is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in §54.201(a)(2)
- certification that the carrier is offering a local usage plan (for CETCs, one comparable to that offered by the incumbent LEC in the relevant service areas)
- certification that the carrier acknowledges that the Commission may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the service area

Under the Commission's rules, to receive federal universal service support for the following calendar year, an ETC must file its annual report no later than October 1st. ETCs that file the required annual reports after October 1st but before July 1st of the subsequent year can receive universal service support pursuant to the following schedule:

- ETCs that file no later than January 1 of the subsequent year shall receive support for the second, third and fourth quarters of the subsequent year
- ETCs that file no later than April 1 of the subsequent year shall receive support for the third and fourth quarters of the subsequent year
- ETCs that file no later than July 1 of the subsequent year shall receive support for the fourth quarter of the subsequent year

Please submit your reports to the following addresses:

FCC:

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
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USAC:

Karen Majcher
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