

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

October 5, 2010

Alex Hunt
Chief, Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requests OMB approval to submit the information collection described herein under the “emergency processing” provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (5 CFR 1320.13). The FCC is requesting clearance for a new information collection entitled: E-rate Deployed Ubiquitously (EDU) 2011 Pilot Program. We respectfully request OMB approval for this collection by October 20, 2010.

On September 28, 2010, consistent with the vision outlined in the National Broadband Plan (NBP), the FCC released a Sixth Report and Order (*Sixth R&O*), CC Docket No. 02-6 and GN Docket No. 09-51, FCC 10-175, upgrading and modernizing the schools and libraries universal services support program (also known as the E-rate program) to bring fast, affordable Internet access to schools and libraries across the country, and eliminating rules that no longer serve their intended purpose.

As part of the *Sixth R&O*, the FCC launched a pilot program—EDU 2011 Pilot Program—that supports off-campus wireless Internet connectivity for mobile learning devices. Specifically, the FCC established the trial program to investigate the merits and challenges of wireless off-premises connectivity services, and to help the FCC determine whether and how those services should ultimately be eligible for E-rate support. The trial program is limited to schools and libraries that are already implementing or in the process of implementing wireless off-campus learning, therefore, any information collected from participants in this program is limited to information about their current projects.

The information requested may be used to offer E-rate support for the upcoming funding year (which starts July 1, 2011 and ends June 30, 2012) under this pilot program to fund wireless connections for a small number of selected applicants. Therefore, the information and applications will need to be submitted to the FCC by the end of December 2010 in order for the agency to evaluate the information and make decisions on who will receive funding before the next funding year, which begins on July 1, 2011. The process of submission and selection will need to be completed within 6 months and so the agency cannot wait 120 days to notify the public and potential applicants of our intent to collect the information. As such, the FCC is requesting emergency processing and approval. Further, due to the emergency nature of this request, the FCC is seeking a waiver of the requirement of a notice and comment period in the Federal Register. The FCC will conduct all the necessary regular submission requirements under the PRA after approval of this emergency request.

FCC staff is ready to work with your PRA Desk Officer to immediately provide any additional information needed to assure OMB's approval of this emergency request by October 20, 2010.

Sincerely,



Mindy Ginsburg
Deputy Managing Director
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission