



AREN CONSORTIUM
Alabama Research and Education Network Consortium

E-rate Letter of Agency
FY 2023
(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

This is to confirm our library/library system’s participation in the AREN Consortium for the procurement of all E-rate eligible services. I hereby authorize the AREN Consortium, led by the Alabama Supercomputer Authority, to submit FCC Form 470, FCC Form 471, and other E-rate forms to the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company on behalf of the undersigned library/library system.

I understand that in submitting these forms on our behalf, you are making certifications for our library/library system. By signing this Letter of Agency, I make the following certifications:

- (a) I certify that the library/library system is eligible for assistance from a State Library Administrative Agency under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-208, § 211 et seq., 110 Stat. 3009 (1996) that do not operate as for-profit businesses and whose budgets are completely separate from any school (including, but not limited to elementary, secondary schools, colleges, or universities).
- (b) I certify that the library/library system has secured access, separately or through this program, to all of the resources, including computers, training, software, internal connections, maintenance, and electrical capacity, necessary to make effective use of the services purchased, as well as, to pay any non-discounted charges for eligible services not covered by the Billed Entity from funds to which access has been secured in the current funding year. I recognize that some of the aforementioned resources are not eligible for support.
- (c) I certify that the services that our library/library system purchases or receives using E-rate discounts provided by 47 U.S.C. § 254 will be used solely for educational purposes and will not be sold, resold, or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value, except as permitted by the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) at 47 C.F.R. § 54.500(et seq.).
- (d) I certify that the E-rate services will only be used by eligible entities for an eligible (educational) purpose. The library/library system will notify Alabama Supercomputer Authority of any intent to use Consortium provided E-rate services, for any ineligible function. If needed, a cost allocation will be determined, to remove the ineligible portion of service so that only the eligible portion is funded.
- (e) I certify that the library/library system has complied with all program rules and I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in denial of discount funding and/or cancellation of funding commitments. I acknowledge that failure to comply with program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities
- (f) I acknowledge that the discount level used for shared services is conditional, for future years, upon ensuring that the most disadvantaged eligible entities that are treated as sharing in the service, receive an appropriate share of the benefits from those services.
- (g) I certify that I will retain required documents for a period of at least ten years after the last day of service delivered. I certify that I will retain all documents necessary to demonstrate compliance with the statute and Commission rules regarding the application for, receipt of, and delivery of services receiving schools and libraries discounts, and that if audited, I will make such records available to the Administrator. I acknowledge that I may be audited pursuant to participation in the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program.
- (h) I certify that I am authorized to order telecommunications for transport of Internet access and other supported services for the eligible entity(ies) covered by this Letter of Agency. I certify that I am authorized to make this request on behalf of the eligible entity(ies) covered by this Letter of Agency, that I have examined this Letter, that all of the information on this Letter is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entities that will be receiving discounted services under this Letter pursuant to this application have complied with the terms, conditions and purposes of the program, that no kickbacks were paid to anyone and that false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.
- (i) I acknowledge that FCC rules provide that persons who have been convicted of criminal violations or held civilly liable for certain acts arising from their participation in the Schools and Libraries support mechanism are subject to suspension and debarment from the program. I will institute reasonable measures to be informed, and will notify USAC should I be informed or become aware that I or any of the entities, or any person associated in any way with my entity and/or the entities, is convicted of a criminal violation or held civilly liable for acts arising from their participation in the Schools and Libraries support mechanism.
- (j) I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the non-discount portion of the costs for eligible services will not be paid by the service provider. I acknowledge that the provision, by the provider of a supported service, or free services or products unrelated to the supported service or product constitutes a rebate of some or all of the cost of the supported services.
- (k) I certify that I am authorized to sign this Letter of Agency and, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, all information provided to the Alabama Supercomputer Authority as Lead of the AREN Consortium for E-rate submission is true.

Library/Library System _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____