

WAC 480-123-110 Petitions for eligibility to receive program support. (1) **Wireline communications providers.** A wireline communications provider that satisfies the prerequisites in WAC 480-123-100 may petition the commission to receive support from the program. The provider must petition the commission each year to be eligible to receive support from the program the following year. The petition must include the following information:

(a) The name of the legal entity that provides communications services and is seeking program support;

(b) A corporate organization chart showing the relationship between the legal entity identified in (a) of this subsection and all affiliates as defined in RCW 80.16.010 and a detailed description of any transactions between the provider and those affiliates recorded in the provider's operating accounts;

(c) A service area map or detailed reference to any maps on file with the commission showing the provider's Washington service area;

(d) A demonstration that the provider's customers are at risk of rate instability or service interruptions or cessation in the absence of support from the program;

(e) Detailed financial information and supporting documentation in a form prescribed by the commission for the provider's total Washington regulated operations for the two calendar years prior to the year in which the provider is filing the petition including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) The provider's balance sheet and statements of income and retained earnings or margin from, or in the same format and detail required in, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Form 479;

(ii) The provider's consolidated audited financial statements; if the provider does not have consolidated audited financial statements prepared in the normal course of its business, the provider must submit financial statements reviewed by a certified public accountant;

(iii) Information demonstrating the provider's earned rate of return on a total Washington unseparated regulated operations basis for each of the two prior years;

(iv) Information demonstrating the provider's earned return on equity on a total company (regulated and nonregulated) Washington basis for each of the two prior years;

(v) Information detailing all of the provider's revenues from the statements of income and retained earnings or margin section of RUS Form 479 for the two prior years; if the provider does not submit RUS Form 479, the provider must file with the commission the same revenue information specified in this subsection that is required to complete the applicable portion of that form;

(vi) Information detailing the amounts of any corporate operations adjustments to existing high-cost loop and interstate common line support mechanisms the Federal Communications Commission required of the provider for the two prior years or a statement under penalty of perjury from a company officer of the provider with personal knowledge and responsibility certifying that no such adjustments apply to the provider;

(vii) Any additional supporting information the commission requests to enable it to analyze the provider's financial results for program purposes; and

(viii) A statement under penalty of perjury from a company officer of the provider with personal knowledge and responsibility certifying that the provider complies with state and federal accounting,

cost allocation, and cost adjustment rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange companies;

(f) A complete copy of the FCC Form 481 the provider filed with the Federal Communications Commission for the calendar year preceding the year in which the provider is filing the petition; if the provider does not submit FCC Form 481 to the Federal Communications Commission, the provider must file with the commission the same information required to complete that form;

(g) Information detailing the number of residential and business local exchange access lines the provider served as of December 31st for each of the prior two years and the monthly rate charged to each customer category; and

(h) A statement under penalty of perjury from a company officer of the provider certifying that if it receives program support the provider will continue to provide communications services pursuant to its tariffs on file with the commission throughout its service territory in Washington for which it is seeking and receives program support during the entirety of the year in which the provider is applying for support from the program.

(2) **Wireless communications provider.** A wireless communications provider that meets the requirements in WAC 480-123-100 may petition the commission to receive support from the program. The provider must petition the commission each year to be eligible to receive support from the program the following year. The petition must include the same type of information for the same periods required of wireline communications providers in subsection (1) of this section. The first time a wireless communications provider seeks to file such a petition, the provider must first submit its request to file the petition to the advisory board, pursuant to any guidelines the advisory board will adopt, detailing how the provider will compile and supply the information required by this rule. The advisory board will make a recommendation to the commission, and the commission will determine the precise information the provider must file in support of its petition.

(3) **Information already on file with the commission.** To the extent that the provider has filed any of the information required under this rule, the provider need not include that same information in its petition so long as the provider identifies the docket number, documents, and location within those documents in which the provider included that information.

(4) **Timing of petitions.** A provider must file a complete petition that fully complies with this section no later than August 1st if the company seeks support from the program for the following calendar year. Program support is available annually until the expiration of the program on June 30, 2019.

(5) **Certification.** One or more company officers responsible for the provider's business and financial operations must certify in the form of a statement under penalty of perjury that the information and representations made in the petition are accurate and that the provider has not knowingly withheld any information required to be provided to the commission pursuant to the rules governing the program. The provider must file this certification with its petition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.36.630, 80.36.650, 80.36.660, 80.36.670, 80.36.680, 80.36.690, and 80.36.700. WSR 14-21-045 and WSR 14-12-008 (Docket UT-131239, General Order R-575), § 480-123-110, filed 10/7/14 and 5/22/14, effective 6/22/14.]