



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

October 24, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: E-Rate Webinar

On July 23, 2014 the Federal Communications Commission released the E-Rate Modernization Order in an effort to modernize and streamline the schools and libraries universal service support program (more commonly known as the E-Rate program) and expand funding for Wi-Fi networks in elementary and secondary schools and libraries. The E-Rate Modernization Order changes the program significantly in a number of ways: program emphasis will shift from telephone and cellular service to affordable broadband availability to schools and libraries; funding will be earmarked for Wi-Fi deployment within buildings; and discount calculations will be simplified by setting a single discount rate for all schools within a school division.

On November 13, 2014, the Virginia Department of Education will conduct a webinar to provide information to school divisions on the changes to the E-Rate program for the upcoming 2015 funding year as a result of the modernization order.

School personnel can [view the webinar by clicking here](#) the day of the webinar. The webinar will start at 10:00 and will include a question and answer period. Participants should call 866-842-5779 and enter conference code 5669268525 to join the conference call. Participants can also ask questions via online chat by downloading and installing the AT&T Connect application. [Click here to view supported operating systems and devices](#). To [prepare in advance for the webinar, click here](#) to download the application for your device. Choose "Run" to install the application on your device. On the day of the webinar, participants should [click here to enter the chat room](#). When prompted, enter the meeting access code: 7107953.

The webinar will be recorded for later viewing for those unable to view the live webinar. All webinar materials will also be available for download after the webinar has concluded.

Questions regarding the E-Rate webinar should be directed to Mark Saunders, educational technology specialist, at mark.saunders@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 786-0307.

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