



CALIFORNIA TELECONNECT FUND OVERVIEW

The California Teleconnect Fund (CTF) program, run by the CA Public Utilities Commission, is focused on bringing affordable, advanced access to broadband networks and technology to local communities in California.

CTF provides a 50% discount on the monthly recurring charges of eligible services. Service providers provide the discount within monthly recurring invoices, and the total amount payable is net of CTF discounts for the billing period.

ELIGIBILITY

CTF participants may include schools, libraries, community colleges, government hospitals/clinics, community-based organizations (CBOs), healthcare CBOs, and 2-1-1 providers. Interested applicants must submit an application to CTF to confirm their eligibility for the program.

Public schools must:

- Provide elementary or secondary education (grades K-12).
- Possess an active County District School code number from the California Department of Education.

ELIGIBLE SERVICES

Eligible services generally correspond to E-Rate Category One services (i.e., Internet access – fiber, DSL, WANs, cable modems, etc.). Voice services are **not** eligible. Participating service providers include AT&T, Comcast, Verizon, Spectrum, etc. CTF's website, listed below, includes the full list of providers.

CTF AND E-RATE

There are several important notes for E-Rate participants who also want to apply for CTF.

- CTF participants who also receive E-Rate funds must use SPI (Service Provider Invoicing) as their E-Rate reimbursement method.
- If a participant is eligible for E-Rate, the CTF discount cannot exceed the E-Rate discount the participant receives for that service (i.e., if your E-Rate discount is 20%, your CTF discount will only be 20% as well).
- The CTF discount applies only to the balance of eligible costs remaining after the application of any discounts received from E-Rate. For example, if the monthly recurring cost of your service is \$120, and the E-Rate discount rate is 80%, the CTF discount of \$12 is calculated as follows:

80% of \$120 = \$96 (E-Rate discount)

\$120 - \$96 = \$24 (balance)

50% of \$24 = \$12 (maximum CTF discount)

The school's overall responsibility will be \$12.

HWC Consultants applies for CTF as part of its E-Rate consulting service. For more information, check out CTF at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/consumer-support/financial-assistance-savings-and-discounts/california-teleconnect-fund> or contact HWC Consultants at info@hwc-consultants.com.