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# FCC K-12 Cybersecurity Pilot Program Pre-Application Checklist

Start planning your proposed Pilot project



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## FCC K-12 Cybersecurity Pilot Program Pre-Application Checklist

### What is the Cybersecurity Pilot Program?

The FCC is making up to **\$200 million** available to eligible K-12 schools and libraries over **three years** to evaluate future cybersecurity funding options. This program is being funded through the Universal Service Fund, but is separate from E-Rate. Schools and libraries are eligible to apply, even if they don't currently participate in E-Rate.

### How much funding can I get?

Selected applicants can receive up to **\$13.60 per student per year** for the duration of the **three year program**. Program funding provides a minimum annual fund of \$15,000 per year for smaller schools and libraries. There is also a \$1.5 million per year cap for larger school districts and library systems.

**Don't Miss Out! Program Applications Open This Fall**

**You only have one chance to apply for this 3-year pilot program**

### Eligible services



Advanced/Next-Gen Firewalls



Identity Protection & Authentication



Endpoint Protection



Monitoring, Detection, & Response

[Learn More: Official USAC's Cybersecurity Pilot Program Page](#)

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### Sign up for pilot program email updates

The link will take you to the form on the FCC's Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)'s website where you can sign up for emails from the USAC, which will be administering the program.



[Sign up for email updates](#)



### Review the program Report and Order

This document was published by the FCC to provide schools and libraries with details the history, purpose, goals, requirements, and many more details about this new pilot program.



[Access the Report and Order](#)



### Determine how you will apply

The pilot program allows any eligible school, district, and library system to apply individually or as part of a consortium. You won't need to take many of the rest of the steps in this document if you are applying in a consortium, so it's a good idea to decide how you will apply early on.



### FCC Registration Number

Ensure you have your FCC registration number or sign up for one if you don't.



[FCC Registration Number](#)

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### USAC Billed Entity Number (BEN)

Ensure you have your Billed Entity Number or register for one if you don't.



[Register for a USAC BEN](#)



### E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) Profile

EPC is the account and application management portal for the E-Rate program. Even if you don't participate in E-Rate, you'll need a profile to apply for the Cybersecurity Pilot Program.



[E-Rate Productivity Center \(EPC\)](#)



### Check outstanding balances

Make sure your school or district doesn't have an outstanding balance with the FCC.



### "Do Not Pay" list

Make sure your school or district isn't on the U.S. Treasury's "do not pay" list.



[U.S. Treasury's "Do Not Pay" List](#)



### Unique Entity ID

Locate or register for your Unique Entity ID through SAM.gov.



[Register at SAM.gov](#)



## FCC K-12 Cybersecurity Pilot Program Pre-Application Checklist



### Free or reduced lunch program

The FCC aims to award funds to a combination of large, small, urban and rural schools and libraries, with a particular focus on low-income and tribal applicants. Low-income districts are determined by the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced lunch under the National School Lunch Program. This will also be used to determine the discount rate that will be applied in this program.



%



### Calculate funding maximum

Get an idea of how much funding you will apply for by understanding the maximum amount you will be eligible to apply for, based on the number of students enrolled in your school or district.



x \$13.60 =

**NOTE:** The pilot program provides a minimum annual fund cap of \$15,000 and a maximum annual fund cap of \$1.5 million per school/district. This means, regardless of the number of students, smaller applicants will receive a minimum of \$15,000 per year and larger applicants will receive a maximum of \$1.5 million per year.



## FCC K-12 Cybersecurity Pilot Program Pre-Application Checklist



### Start thinking about your Pilot proposal

Consider your goals and objectives for the proposed Pilot project, a description of how Pilot funding will be used for the proposed project, and the cybersecurity risks the proposed Pilot project will prevent or address.



### Start planning cybersecurity equipment and/or services

What cybersecurity equipment and/or services will you request as part of your proposed project? See the Report and Order, Appendix B for eligible services list.



[Access the Report and Order](#)



## FCC K-12 Cybersecurity Pilot Program Pre-Application Checklist



### Description of current cybersecurity practices

Specifically, the application will ask whether you've implemented, or begun implementing, any Education Department or CISA best practices recommendations (answered on a yes/no basis). It will also ask for a description of any Education Department or CISA free or low-cost cybersecurity resources you're currently using or plan to use. OR an explanation of what is preventing you from using them.



### Pilot project cost estimates

Estimate of the total costs for the proposed Pilot project and provide information about how you will cover the non-discount share of costs for the Pilot-eligible services.

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### Other funding sources

Do you receive, or expect to receive, cybersecurity funding from other federal, state, local, or Tribal programs or sources? If yes, describe.



### Goals and metrics

The application will ask for a description of your proposed metrics for the Pilot project, how they align with your cybersecurity goals, how those metrics will be collected, and whether you are prepared to share and report your cybersecurity metrics as part of the Pilot Program.

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# K-12 Cybersecurity & Safety Made Easy



Monitor

24/7/365 cybersecurity and student safety monitoring

Detect

Actionable notifications sent to your selected admins

Respond

Easy to use, easy to respond when time is of the essence



“During our free audit, we found out some of our student accounts were getting hacked from other countries. I would have had no idea without that early warning system. I was able to show the district this is important for us to have for two reasons. One, to detect it, and two, to deal with it in real time.”

**James Hatz, Technology Coordinator**



## Cloud Monitor

- Control third-party apps
- Data loss prevention
- Threat protection
- Prevent account takeovers
- AI student safety signals

## Content Filter

- Easy block and allow listing
- Customize policies by OU
- YouTube controls
- AI student safety signals
- Identify lost or stolen devices



“Content Filter is so lightweight that we were able to run it at the same time as our existing solution without impacting our end users’ experience. **We were set up in about 15 minutes and we started seeing results almost immediately.** It’s a no-brainer for us.”

**Manny Sanchez, Director of Technology**

## Eligible services

### Identity Protection & Authentication



- Cloud application protection
- Cloud services
- Content blocking and filtering
- Email and web security
- Web content controls
- Zero trust architecture

### Monitoring, Detection & Response



- Data loss prevention
- Vulnerability scanning
- (Cloud) network monitoring & response
- (Cloud) network security audit
- + SO much more!

## Benefits

- ✓ Covers two program categories purpose-built for K-12
- ✓ Affordable, transparent pricing includes implementation, training, ongoing support, and updates
- ✓ Customizable policies automate repetitive cybersecurity and DLP tasks
- ✓ Differentiate your application from districts that will be applying for advanced/next-generation firewalls
- ✓ No prior cybersecurity experience required, easy reporting

[Click Here to Claim My FREE! Security & Safety Audit](#)

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