

Classroom Project — E-Rate Lane Split

A classroom modernization is two projects wearing one budget line. Only one of them is a candidate.

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District / school: Prepared by: Funding year:

E-RATE CANDIDATE LANE

- ☐ Access-layer switching
- ☐ Wireless access points
- ☐ Structured cabling for internal distribution
- ☐ Routers and hubs
- ☐ Internal broadband distribution

Product types named on the Eligible Services List. The final list for the funding year controls.

OTHER FUNDING

- ☐ Display and mount
- ☐ Camera, microphones, speakers
- ☐ Room control and AV switching
- ☐ Voice handsets and voice service — ineligible since FY2019

A network port does not make a product eligible. Eligibility attaches to what the product is and does.

THE MIDDLE — ALLOCATION REQUIRED

LINE ITEM	LANE	BASIS FOR THE SPLIT
UPS serving both the IDF and the AV rack	Mixed	
Shared pathways and conduit	Mixed	
Installation labor across both lanes	Follows its component	
Maintenance on an allocated component	Follows its component	

Allocations must be based on tangible criteria that reach a reasonable result. Where a component is allocated, its installation and maintenance are allocated too.

Three things not to do. Do not bundle AV inside a network line to make it eligible — that is the absence of an allocation method, and it puts the eligible portion at risk alongside the ineligible. Do not treat one funding year's rules as the next year's. Do not write a Form 470 around one manufacturer without the equivalency language the program requires.

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

1. Define what has to happen in the room
2. Survey the network: switch capacity, PoE budget, uplinks, wireless coverage, pathways
3. Count devices and ports the room needs
4. Produce an itemized design, every line categorized
5. Review the eligible-services position with the district's coordinator or consultant
6. Split the scopes; identify a funding source for each
7. Run competitive bidding on the eligible scope with the required documentation
8. Publish evaluation criteria and weights before bids are opened
9. Award and contract against the posted scope
10. Retain records after award

BEFORE THE FORM 470 IS CERTIFIED

- ☐ Room outcome defined, not just a product list
- ☐ Every line item carries a lane
- ☐ Mixed items have a written basis for the split
- ☐ Labor broken out rather than one number across both lanes
- ☐ Equivalency language present; no single manufacturer named
- ☐ Eligibility position reviewed by the coordinator or consultant
- ☐ Checked against the final ESL for this funding year

28 days. Applicants must wait at least 28 days from the date the FCC Form 470 is certified before closing competitive bidding — longer where state or local procurement rules require it. The clock starts at certification.