



# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Summer Strand, Chairperson  
 Kristy Nieto, Commissioner  
 Marcus Hawkins, Commissioner

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Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
 RECEIVED: 10/2/2024 8:45:01 AM

October 2, 2024

To: Telecommunications Providers in Wisconsin

Re: Administration of the Universal Service Fund

5-UF-2024

Assessments for Wisconsin's Universal Service Fund:  
 PSCW Programs

The Universal Service Fund (USF) assessments forwarded with this letter are for obligations of telecommunications providers operating in this state, including nomadic and non-nomadic Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers, to fund Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) programs specifically established by the Wisconsin Legislature under Wis. Stat. § 196.218(5)(a). Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.218(3)(a)2s, underspending in all USF programs may be used to fund the State's Broadband Expansion Grant Program, which is administered by the Commission.

In its Order dated September 27, 2024, in Docket 05-UF-2024, the Commission revised the monthly assessment rate for Commission USF programs. ([PSC REF#: 518231](#)). The monthly USF assessment rate and bills for these programs are based on the legislative appropriation for the programs, and the 2023 retail telecommunications revenues as reported to the Commission by the telecommunications providers. **The monthly assessment rate for Commission USF programs is 0.06571 percent.**

Please note that Wis. Stat. § 196.218(3)(e) allows all providers to place a surcharge on customer bills to recover costs for all USF contributions.

Alternatively, under Wis. Stat. § 196.218(3)(f), instead of placing a surcharge on the bill, a telecommunications utility that provides local exchange service may adjust rates to recover state USF assessments, but if it does so, it must specifically identify that adjustment on customers' bills.

Thank you for your prompt remittance of billed assessment amounts, and for your cooperation in making Universal Service programs a success in Wisconsin. Payments for the Commission's USF assessments are deposited to a different bank account from the account used for the assessment for other agencies' USF programs. Therefore, please remit payment as instructed on the invoice.

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Questions on invoices or payments may be directed to the USF administrator, Solix, Inc., at the numbers shown on the invoice. Other questions on the Commission's USF assessment may be directed to Milena Bernardinello at (608) 267-6919 or at [milena.berardinello@wisconsin.gov](mailto:milena.berardinello@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Fontaine", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Fontaine

Administrator

Division of Digital Access, Consumer, and Environmental Affairs

JF:TK:AK:MB:prj:bs DL:02028290