



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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

4822 Madison Yards Way
 P.O. Box 7854
 Madison, WI 53707-7854

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
 RECEIVED: 10/2/2024 8:55:00 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:
 TEACH, UW-System and DPI 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 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 Public Service Commission (Commission).

In its Order dated September 27, 2024, in Docket 5-UF-2024, the Commission revised the monthly assessment rates for the Technology for Educational Achievement in Wisconsin (TEACH), University of Wisconsin System (UW-System), and Department of Public Instruction (DPI) programs. ([PSC REF#: 518231](#).) The monthly USF assessment rates and bills for these programs are based on legislative appropriations, less funding from other revenue sources, and the 2023 retail telecommunications revenues as reported to the Commission by the telecommunications providers.

The new monthly assessment rates are as follows:

- 0.12651 percent for the TEACH Program
- 0.01169 percent for the UW-System Services
- 0.34056 percent for the DPI Programs

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 TEACH, UW-System, and DPI assessments are deposited to a different bank account from the account used for the Commission's USF assessment. Therefore, please remit payment as instructed on the invoice. 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 TEACH, UW System, and DPI assessments may be directed to Milena Bernardinello at (608) 267-6919 or at milena.bernardinello@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