

How Library Supporters Can Participate in the E-Rate Review

Public libraries depend on reliable internet and Wi-Fi to serve their communities. E-Rate helps libraries afford those connections and the equipment needed to keep them working.

The FCC is now reviewing the future of the E-Rate program. **You do not have to be a librarian or an E-Rate expert to participate.**

If your library's internet, Wi-Fi, or technology help has made a difference for you, your family, or your community, you can share that experience.

Who Can Participate?

Anyone can participate, including:

- Library patrons
- Friends of the Library groups
- Library foundations
- Library trustees and board members
- Parents and families
- Community organizations
- Local businesses and workforce partners
- Other library supporters

What Can You Share?

Think about how people in your community use the public library.

You might share how library internet or Wi-Fi helps people:

- Search and apply for jobs
- Complete job or workforce training
- Do schoolwork
- Access government or social services
- Find health information
- Use telehealth services
- Learn computer and digital skills

- Get online when reliable internet is not available at home

A short, real example from your own experience can be very meaningful. **Ways**

You Can Participate

Submit a Comment to the FCC

The FCC is accepting public comments about E-Rate.

Comment Deadline: October 13, 2026

You can submit a comment here:

<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/express?proceeding%5Bname%5D=26-133>

Your comment does not have to be long or technical. Tell the FCC who you are, why your public library matters to you, and how internet and Wi-Fi at the library help your community.

Contact Your Members of Congress

You may also contact Mississippi's U.S. Senators and the U.S. Representative for your district.

Tell them, in your own words, why reliable internet and Wi-Fi at your public library matter to you and your community.

Share the Information

You can also share E-Rate information with neighbors, community groups, local leaders, and others who may want to learn more.

A Simple Example

You can use this as a starting point, but your own words and experience are best:

I support my local public library because it provides internet and Wi-Fi that people in our community depend on. People use the library to look for jobs, complete schoolwork, access services, learn new skills, and get online when they may not have reliable internet at home. E-Rate helps make these services possible. I hope public libraries will continue to receive meaningful E-Rate support.

One Important Reminder

If you are writing as an individual, speak from your own experience.

If you are submitting something on behalf of a Friends group, foundation, library board, or other organization, make sure you are authorized to speak for that organization.

Learn More

For current information, filing instructions, sample materials, and Mississippi E-Rate resources, visit:

<https://www.mlc.lib.ms.us/fcc-review-of-e-rate/>