Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program –
Pilot Program Grants Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND

On August 5, 2022, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established the Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program (ACP Outreach Grant Program) to raise awareness about the nation's largest ever broadband affordability effort, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The ACP is a $14.2 billion FCC benefit program that helps ensure that qualifying low-income households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The ACP plays an integral role in helping to bridge the broadband affordability gap, which is an ongoing priority for Congress, the FCC, and across the federal government. The ACP Grant Program Second Report and Order directs the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) to develop, administer, and manage the grant program, with a focus on reaching historically underserved communities.

OVERVIEW

Through the ACP Outreach Grant Program, the FCC seeks to enlist and empower trusted community messengers to develop innovative outreach strategies to reach historically underserved and unserved communities. This includes providing those partners with the funding and resources needed to increase participation among eligible, low-income households in need of an affordable internet connection.

The ACP Outreach Grant Program is comprised of four complementary grant programs:

- National Competitive Outreach Program (NCOP)
- Tribal Competitive Outreach Program (TCOP)
- Your Home, Your Internet Pilot Program (YHYI) Outreach Grants
- ACP Navigator Pilot Program (NPP) Outreach Grants

The FCC issues this NOFO to describe the requirements under which it will award grants for YHYI and NPP participants (collectively, Pilot Program Outreach Grants). A separate NOFO was issued for the NCOP and TCOP on November 10, 2022.

PROGRAM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The Goal and Objectives for the Pilot Program Outreach Grants is as follows:

- **Goal**: The goal of the Pilot Program Outreach Grants is to facilitate the promotion of the ACP to increase awareness of and participation among eligible households by providing assistance with the completion and submission of the ACP application.
- **Objectives**: To support the Pilot Program Outreach Grants goal, the FCC has identified four objectives:
    - Expand and support diverse and impactful outreach efforts nationwide;
    - Strengthen outreach partners nationwide by empowering them to mobilize people and organizations to help raise awareness about the ACP;
    - Learn how the assistance of a navigator helps eligible households overcome enrollment barriers; and
    - Increase ACP enrollment as a result of ACP Outreach Grant Program funded activities.

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Release Date: 11/21/2022

FC **ACP** Affordable
Connectivity
Program

FUNDING

The FCC will make up to $10 million of competitive funding available under this FY 2023 Pilot Program Outreach Grants NOFO.

- Up to $5 million for YHYI Outreach Grants
- Up to $5 million for NPP Outreach Grants

ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Eligible Entities:

YHYI Outreach Grants: Entities eligible to apply for YHYI Outreach Grants include state, local, and Tribal housing agencies (including housing authorities). Tenant associations and non-profit and community-based entities that have a partnership with a federal, state, local, or Tribal housing agency participating in the Your Home, Your Internet Pilot may also apply for YHYI funding. Consortia of the entities listed above are also eligible.

NPP Outreach Grants: Entities eligible to apply for NPP Outreach Grants include public and government entities, such as public schools and public school districts, and local, state, or Tribal government entities. Examples of such eligible entities include, but are not limited to, state and local institutions of higher learning, state veterans' affairs offices, state and community libraries, and Tribal schools and libraries.

Ineligible Entities: In addition to any restrictions in 2 CFR Part 200, as implemented by 2 CFR § 6000.1, broadband providers and their subsidiaries, affiliates, representatives, contractors, and agents are not eligible to participate in the Pilot Program Outreach Grants or receive grant awards, either as grantees, pass-through entities, or subrecipients. Additional ineligible entities include broadband industry groups and trade associations that represent broadband providers; entities that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities; and entities that are ineligible by statute (such as 501(c)(4) non-profit organizations that engage in lobbying activities or organizations that are indebted to the United States and have judgment liens filed against them).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligible applicants must submit a complete application to CGB for funding consideration before the application submission deadline which consists of standard forms and program-specific forms:

- Program-Specific Forms:
  - Pilot Programs Application in USAC Application Portal
  - Detailed Budget Worksheet and Narrative
- Standard Forms and Information:
  - Form SF-424 – Application for Federal Assistance
  - Form SF-424A – Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
  - Form SF-LLL – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)
  - Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Applicants must complete the Pilot Programs Application in the USAC Application Portal prior to completing the required Standard Forms as the Pilot Application Number that is generated at the end of the application submission is needed for the Standard Form.

To access standard forms and instructions, go to https://www.grants.gov under Assistance Listing (CFDA) Number: 32.011 - Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program. The Pilot Programs application can be accessed through the USAC portal located at: https://forms.universalservice.org/portal/login. By submitting an application, organizations agree to comply with the requirements of this NOFO. All applications must be received electronically by 9:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST) on January 9, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the Your Home, Your Internet and ACP Navigator Pilot Programs, including application instructions, visit https://www.fcc.gov/acp-pilots. Please direct general questions about the Pilot Programs to ACPpilots@fcc.gov. Please direct grant inquiries to ACPGrants@fcc.gov.

For technical assistance with the Pilot Programs Application in the USAC Application Portal, call USAC customer support 9:00AM – 5:00PM EST, Monday through Friday at (888) 641-8722 or email at customersupport@usac.org.

For assistance using https://www.grants.gov, please contact the Help Desk at (800) 518-4726 or email at support@grants.gov.

For Section 504 Compliance support, please contact the FCC Section 504 Compliance Officer at FCC504@fcc.gov.