



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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**Federal Communications Commission**  
**1919 M St., N.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**

Released: July 31, 1998  
DA 98-1519

**Division Announces Release of Revised  
Universal Service Worksheet, FCC Form 457  
CC Docket Nos. 97-21, 96-45**

In this Public Notice, the Accounting Policy Division (Division) issues a revised Universal Service Worksheet, FCC Form 457 (Worksheet) and revised Worksheet instructions. The revisions update universal service reporting requirements.

On May 8, 1997, the Commission released an Order establishing new federal universal service support mechanisms, consistent with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.<sup>1</sup> In that Order, the Commission required all telecommunications carriers that provide interstate telecommunications services, providers of interstate telecommunications, and payphone service providers to contribute to the federal universal service support mechanisms.<sup>2</sup> On July 18, 1997, the Commission released an Order requiring all contributors to universal service to report semi-annually their end-user telecommunications revenues on the Worksheet.<sup>3</sup> The Office of Management and Budget approved the final Worksheet on July 31, 1997, and the Commission announced the release of the Worksheet on August 4, 1997.<sup>4</sup> On March 2, 1998, the Division issued a revised Worksheet and revised instructions to make them consistent with the *Second*

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<sup>1</sup> Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, *Report and Order*, 12 FCC Rcd 8776 (1997) (*Universal Service Order*).

<sup>2</sup> *Universal Service Order*, 12 FCC Rcd at 9173-9178, 9183-9185.

<sup>3</sup> Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, *Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, 12 FCC Rcd 18400, 18442 (1997) (*NECA Order*).

<sup>4</sup> See FCC Announces Release of Universal Service Worksheet, Form 457, *Public Notice*, DA 97-1671 (FCC rel. Aug. 4, 1997). The Commission announced minor changes to the worksheet instructions on August 1, 1997. See FCC Announces Non-Substantive Changes to Universal Service Worksheet Instructions Released on August 4, 1997, Form 457, *Public Notice*, DA 97-1671A (FCC rel. Aug. 11, 1997).

*Order on Reconsideration and Fourth Order on Reconsideration.*<sup>5</sup>

We add to the Worksheet a new Line 48, where contributors shall report the revenues derived from charges assessed on end-users to recover contributions to state or federal universal service support mechanisms. We also revise Lines 22 and 35 of the attached Worksheet to require contributors to include on those lines, respectively, revenues derived from presubscribed interexchange carrier charges (PICCs) levied on carriers and PICCs levied on end users. We direct contributors to begin reporting at this time the revenues derived from such charges, because contributors began assessing these charges on January 1, 1998, the first day of the revenue-reporting period for the attached Worksheet.<sup>6</sup>

Section 254(d) provides that telecommunications carriers that provide interstate telecommunications services shall contribute to the universal service support mechanisms.<sup>7</sup> Accordingly, we clarify the paragraph on pages 3-4 of the revised instructions attached hereto that carriers that use switches or lines that are used to provide interstate services, but that do not themselves provide interstate telecommunications services, are not required to contribute to the universal service support mechanisms.

Furthermore, we clarify on page one of the instructions to the Worksheet that the Commission may make publicly available a list of the entities that file a Worksheet. Section 54.711 of our rules provides that companies may request Commission nondisclosure of company-specific information and that the Commission shall make all decisions regarding nondisclosure of company-specific information.<sup>8</sup> Making publicly available a list of entities that file a Worksheet will not reveal company-specific information. We therefore clarify that such a list may be made publicly available. In addition to the revisions and clarifications to the Worksheet and instructions described above, we also make minor typographical and non-substantive changes to the Worksheet instructions.

Copies of the revised Worksheet and instructions may be downloaded from the Commission's Forms Web Page, [www.fcc.gov/formpage.html](http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html). Copies also may be obtained by calling the fax-on-demand line at (202) 418-2830 and selecting document number 000457.

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<sup>5</sup> See Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, *Second Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket 97-21*, 12 FCC Rcd 22423 (1997) (*Second Order on Reconsideration*); Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Access Charge Reform, Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers, Transport Rate Structure and Pricing, End User Common Line Charge, *Fourth Order on Reconsideration*, 13 FCC Rcd 5318, 5471-5476, 5481-5482 (1997) (*Fourth Order on Reconsideration*).

<sup>6</sup> Worksheets due on September 1 of each year contain data for the six-month period from January 1 - June 30 of the current calendar year. Worksheets due on March 31 include data for the prior calendar year.

<sup>7</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 254(d).

<sup>8</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.711.

Finally, copies may be obtained from USAC at (973) 560-4400.

For further information, contact Frances Downey or Lori Wright, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-7400.

Action by the Chief, Accounting Policy Division