Filing the Form 471 for Internet Access Over the TEACH Network

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction
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TEACH Network: Overview

- TEACH Network is new name for BadgerNet
- TEACH provides discounted data circuits to schools/libraries as an AT&T contracted service
  - Costs: $100/month for <1 Gbps; $250/month for 1 Gbps - 10Gbps
- The state has contracts with AT&T, Lumen, and WiscNet for internet access
- ISPs not on the state contract can still provide service on the TEACH Network

Internet Service on the TEACH Network

- ISPs under state contracts offering internet service over TEACH Network (school or library files Form 471)
  - AT&T
  - Lumen
  - WiscNet
- WiscNet is already connected to the TEACH Network.
- Lumen is not yet connected to the TEACH Network. Interested districts should contact Lumen on this issue.
  - Lumen needs to work with AT&T on this connection
- If you are changing ISPs, notify TEACH

ISP Providers on TEACH: Two Scenarios

Scenario 1: District or library wants to use AT&T, Lumen, or WiscNet for ISP service on the TEACH Network.
- Do not file a Form 470 for ISP service. Only file a Form 471 for ISP service.

Scenario 2: District or library wants to solicit bids from other ISPs for service on the TEACH Network.
- File a Form 470, specifying that bidders must be connected to the TEACH Network before July 1, 2024.
- If preferred bid is not from AT&T, Lumen, or WiscNet, before signing a contract and filing a Form 471, confirm that your preferred provider will be connected to the TEACH Network before July 1, 2024.

Bid Evaluation

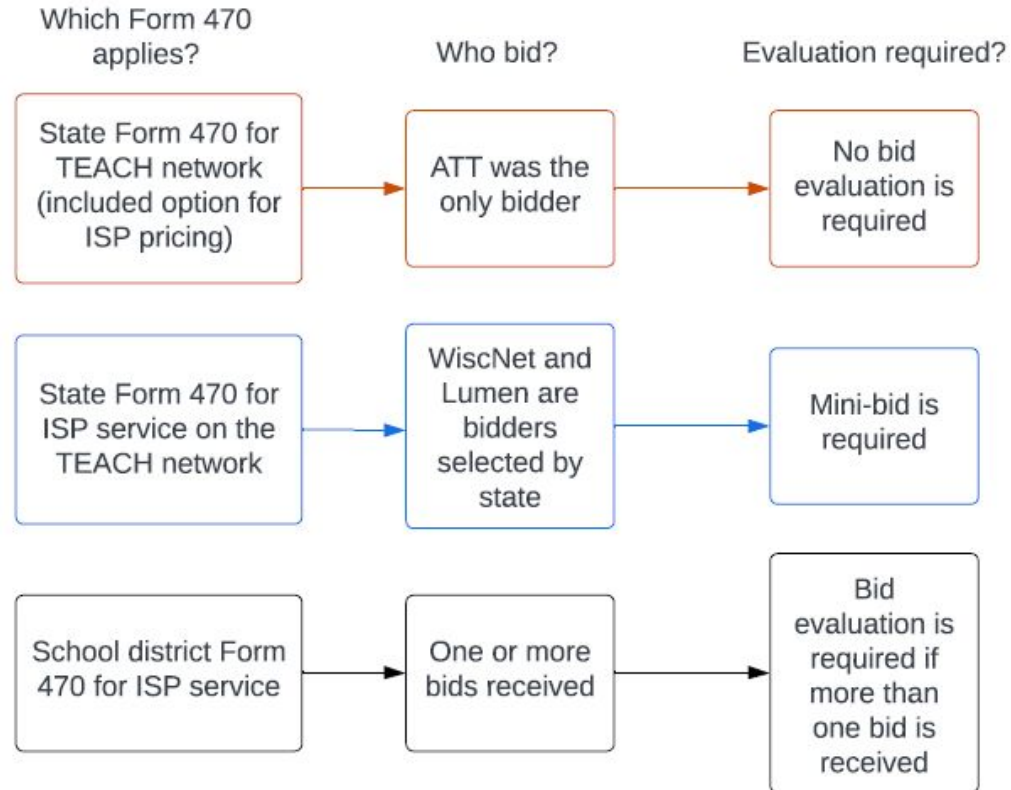<u>ISPs under state contract</u> (schools, libraries must file Form 471)

- ATT -- no evaluation required
- Lumen -- evaluate vs. WiscNet with "mini-bid"
- WiscNet -- evaluate vs. Lumen with "mini-bid"

<u>ISPs not under state contract</u>

- Evaluate all bidders who respond to your Form 470

Why Different Providers Have Different Evaluation Requirements

Different evaluation requirements are needed because providers responded to different Form 470s filed by the state.

Which Form 470 applies?	Who bid?	Evaluation required?
State Form 470 for TEACH network (included option for ISP pricing)	ATT was the only bidder	No bid evaluation is required
State Form 470 for ISP service on the TEACH network	WiscNet and Lumen are bidders selected by state	Mini-bid is required
School district Form 470 for ISP service	One or more bids received	Bid evaluation is required if more than one bid is received

Bid Evaluation

- A mini-bid and a standard E-rate bid evaluation are the same thing

- You must provide a rationale for your choice between two or more vendors

- You should create a bid evaluation matrix to justify your choice

Sample evaluation (from USAC) →

FACTOR	POINTS AVAILABLE	VENDOR 1	VENDOR 2	VENDOR 3
Price of the eligible products and services	50*	20	50	40
Prior experience with the vendor	25	25	0	25
Prices for ineligible services and products	15	10	5	15
Local or in-state vendor	10	10	0	0
TOTAL	**100**	**65**	**55**	**80**

*This number must be higher than all other numbers in the same column.

State Contract Pricing and Form 471 Filing Guidance

- Internet pricing and detailed Form 471 filing guidance are linked below.
- Pricing for other entities (i.e., state agencies, tech colleges) may be included but you can ignore these.
- Contact the provider if you have questions about prices or related services, like any possible need for a router or other hardware.

AT&T pricing and Filing Guidance

Lumen pricing and Filing Guidance

WiscNet pricing and Filing Guidance

2024 Application Timeline

- **January 12, 2024** - Last day for E-rate applicants to update their EPC Profile with lunch numbers, and enrollment information as shown in the DPI posted data.

- **February 28, 2024** - Last day to file Form 470 to comply with the minimum 28 day competitive bidding requirement. DPI recommends filing by February 1, to make sure you have time to evaluate all bids and file your Form 471.

- **January 17, 2024 - March 27, 2024** - Form 471 Filing Window.

Thank You

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For internet service questions:

Contact the ISP