



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Office of Communications Business Opportunities

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Title: FCC Office of Communications Business Opportunities News Digest- October 2024

Greetings from the Federal Communications Commission.

The FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) acts as principal advisor to the Chairwoman and the Commissioners on issues, rulemakings, and policies that affect small businesses. OCBO promotes diversity, competition, and innovation in the provision and ownership of telecommunications and information services by supporting policies that create opportunities for small telecommunications businesses, as well as policies that increase affordable access to communications technology for all small businesses.

To make it easy to engage with the FCC, OCBO will be publishing a monthly digest with updates and reminders that may be of interest to small business stakeholders. This list is not comprehensive of all FCC deadlines, programs, and initiatives, but does represent items that OCBO thinks might be important to the communities that you serve.

Please reach out to OCBO at OCBOinfo@fcc.gov with any questions, or to be added to our distribution list. A copy of this news digest is also available at www.fcc.gov/OCBO.

Jeff Tignor, Acting Director
FCC Office of Communications Business Opportunities

Important News and Updates

For daily news from the FCC, sign up for the FCC's Daily Digest at FCC.gov/daily-digest

FCC Announces Tentative Agenda for October 17th Open Commission Meeting

Chairwoman Rosenworcel announced that the following items are tentatively on the agenda, public drafts of each item are linked below and available at FCC.gov/october-2024-open-commission-meeting. Please reach out to OCBOinfo@fcc.gov with any small business inquiries about these items.

- **Implementation of the National Suicide Hotline Act of 2018**

The Commission will consider a [Third Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) that would adopt rules requiring wireless providers to implement a georouting solution for 988 calls to ensure that the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline can connect callers to geographically appropriate crisis centers based on the caller's general

location. The Third Further Notice would also propose and seek comment on requiring covered text providers to support georouting for covered 988 text messages. (WC Docket No. 18-336)

- **Achieving 100% Wireless Handset Model Hearing Aid Compatibility**

The Commission will consider a [Report and Order](#) adopting a 100% hearing aid compatibility requirement for all wireless handset models offered for sale or use in the United States and implementation provisions related to this requirement. (WT Docket No. 23-388)

FCC Opens Spectrum for Fixed-Satellite Operations

- On September 26, 2024 the FCC adopted a [Report and Order](#) opening 1300 megahertz of contiguous spectrum for non-geostationary orbit (NGSO) fixed-satellite service operations in the 17.3-17.8 GHz band. This action promotes spectrum efficiency, fosters competition, and expands the ability of satellite operators to deploy advanced services, including high-speed internet access to unserved and underserved areas.

FCC Accepting IoT Labeling Administrator applications through October 11, 2023

- On September 10, 2024 the [FCC announced](#) that it would begin accepting applications to serve as administrators for its voluntary cybersecurity labeling program for wireless consumer Internet of Things (IoT) products. The program will allow qualifying consumer smart products that meet critical cybersecurity standards to display a label, including a new U.S. government certification mark (“U.S Cyber Trust Mark”), to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions, easily identify trustworthy products, and encourage manufacturers to prioritize higher cybersecurity standards.
- To ensure applicants have sufficient time to prepare full and informed responses, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau has released a [Public Notice \(DA No. 23-23\)](#) announcing that it is extending the deadline for Cybersecurity Labeling Administrator and/or Lead Administrator applicants until October 11, 2024.

Compliance Dates and Guidance on Location-Based Routing for 911 Calls

- On September 26, 2024, the FCC’s Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau released a [Public Notice \(DA No. 24-1002\)](#) providing reporting compliance and reporting deadlines for Commercial Mobile Radio Service providers. Non-nationwide CMRS providers have longer timelines for compliance and reporting than nationwide CMRS providers. Please see the public notice for specific deadlines.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) releases Election Security Checklist

- By partnering with election officials, critical infrastructure owners and operators can help prevent disruptions to the democratic process while increasing the security and resilience of election infrastructure. The [2024 General Election: Cross-Sector Checklist to Support Elections](#) provides a series of questions to help critical infrastructure owners identify actions they can take to support elections. This checklist also includes a brief

overview of election administration and examples of cross-sector dependencies. For more information or to seek additional help, please contact EISRMA@cisa.dhs.gov.

Open Comment Periods

View all FCC proposed rulemakings at [FCC.gov/proposed-rulemakings](https://www.fcc.gov/proposed-rulemakings)

FCC Seeks Comment on Ten Year Review under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (Docket No. 24-245)

- The Office of Communications Business Opportunities published a [Public Notice \(DA 24-782\)](#) announcing the FCC's plan to review rules the agency adopted in calendar year 2013 that have or will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), 5 U.S.C. § 610, requires the Commission to determine whether such rules should be continued without change, amended, or rescinded, consistent with the stated objectives of applicable statutes, to minimize any significant economic impact of the rules upon a substantial number of small entities. Comments may be filed on or before November 18, 2024.

FCC Seeks Comment on STIR/SHAKEN Implementation Extensions (Docket No 17-97)

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released a [Public Notice \(DA 24-1019\)](#) seeking comment on two remaining extensions under section 64.6304 of the Commission's rules: the first for small voice service providers that originate calls via satellite using North American Numbering Plan (NANP) resources, and the second for providers that are unable to obtain the Service Provider Code (SPC) token necessary to participate in the STIR/SHAKEN framework. Comments are due on or before October 21, 2024; reply comments are due on November 5, 2024.

FCC Seeks Comment on Tribal Consent for 5G Fund (GN Docket No. 20-32)

- Through a [Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) the FCC is requesting public comment on whether winning bidders in the 5G Fund Phase I auction must demonstrate they have obtained consent to deploy network facilities using its 5G Fund support on Tribal Lands. Comments are due on or before October 17, 2024; reply comments are due on or before November 1, 2024.

FCC Extends Comment Period on Enhancing the National Broadband Map (WC Docket No. 19-195, WC Docket No. 11-10)

- The FCC has granted a three-week extension of time to file comments and reply comments on a [Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) that sought comment on modifications to enhance the precision of the National Broadband Map. The FCC originally established deadlines of September 16, 2024, for comments and October 15, 2024, for reply comments. The dates to file comments and reply comments in this proceeding were extended to October 7, 2024, and November 5, 2024, respectively.

Upcoming FCC Events

Please visit [FCC.gov/Events](https://www.fcc.gov/events) for a complete FCC event Calendar

October 9, 2024: “This is Only a Test: Understanding Experimental Licensing”

- The FCC’s Space Bureau, with the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET), will host a Transparency Initiative event from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm EDT, in the Commission Meeting Room, FCC Headquarters, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554. The event will also be streamed live online at [FCC.gov/Live](https://www.fcc.gov/live). For more information, and to RSVP, please see the [Event Page](#).

October 24, 2024: Broadband Data Task Force Webinar on Mobile Challenge Process

- The FCC’s Broadband Data Task Force will host a virtual webinar on Thursday, October 24, 2024, starting at 3 p.m. E.T. to provide information about how to challenge the mobile coverage data that is reflected on the National Broadband Map. To participate in the webinar, interested parties should register to attend [HERE](#).
- Questions about the mobile challenge process may be submitted in advance of the workshop to BDCWebinar@fcc.gov, or during the workshop using the Q&A function. The webinar will be recorded and made available on the FCC’s website following the event.