

VPS Consulting Memo

Enhanced A-CAM Funding Illustrative Results Available

ELECTIONS MUST BE MADE BY OCTOBER 1, 2023.

Summary

On July 24, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Enhanced A-CAM Order¹ giving legacy high-cost support recipients and current A-CAM I & II recipients the ability to accept the 15-year Enhanced A-CAM offer to provide 100/20 Mbps broadband service to unserved and underserved locations.

Carriers must elect whether to accept the Enhanced A-CAM offer by October 1, 2023.

Offers have not yet been made, but on August 7, 2023, the Wireline Competition Bureau released illustrative results for Enhanced A-CAM.² The illustrative results provide funding approximations for the Enhanced A-CAM program by company under three different scenarios. The illustrative results also contain estimated total locations (excluding overlap) and support for Tribal locations.

What Else Should Be Considered?

When considering Enhanced A-CAM, companies should assess the realities of meeting the relevant build-out requirements by considering the actual investment and type of technology required to do so. Carriers should also keep in mind that they would need to implement the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and cybersecurity and supply chain risk management plans. Additionally, carriers will need to closely analyze competitive overlap and consider whether a challenge of competitor data in the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) System may be necessary to potentially true-up Enhanced A-CAM eligible locations.

¹ <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-60A1.pdf>

² <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-23-658A1.pdf>

What Should You Do?

Time is of the essence to consider whether your company should accept your upcoming Enhanced A-CAM offer. There will be a very short window to review the information and make a decision by October 1, 2023.

Additional Information

For more information on Enhanced A-CAM or if you would like VPS guidance, please contact these members of the Vantage Point Solutions team:

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