Filing the Form 471 for Internet Access Over the TEACH Network

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The TEACH Network

- What's new:
  - TEACH Network is new name for BadgerNet
  - ISPs not on state contract can provide service on the TEACH Network
  - If WiscNet is your ISP, list WiscNet on your 471 (not AT&T)
  - If changing ISPs, notify TEACH

The TEACH Network

- What's the same as before:
  - TEACH provides data circuits to schools/lib., but not internet service
  - $100/month for < 1 Gbps; $250/month for 1 Gbps - 10Gbps
  - Sch./lib. don't file E-rate on data circuits, TEACH does this
  - Sch./lib. file Form 471 for internet service on the TEACH Network
  - TEACH Network operated under a new contract with AT&T
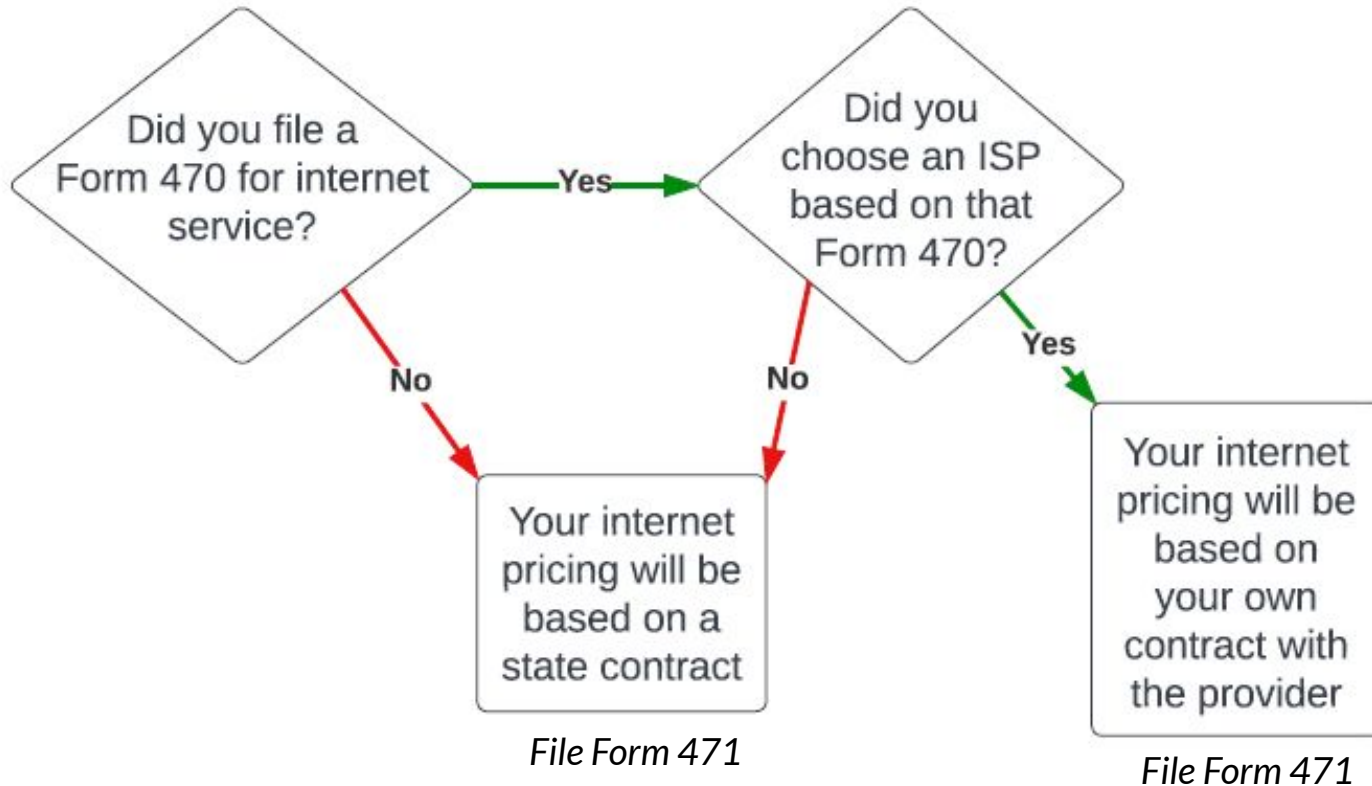
Internet Service on the TEACH Network

Three ISPs under state contract (schools, libraries must file Form 471)

- AT&T
- Lumen
- WiscNet

ISPs not under state contract (schools, libraries must file Forms 470 **and** 471)

- Other ISPs must contact AT&T to arrange interconnects with TEACH Network

Are You Purchasing off of a State Contract?

Did you file a Form 470 for internet service? → **Yes** → Did you choose an ISP based on that Form 470?

No → Your internet pricing will be based on a state contract

File Form 471

Did you choose an ISP based on that Form 470? → **No** → Your internet pricing will be based on a state contract

Yes → Your internet pricing will be based on your own contract with the provider

File Form 471

Bid Evaluation

ISPs under state contract (schools, libraries must file Form 471)

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

ISPs not under state contract (schools, libraries must file Forms 470 **and** 471)

- Other ISPs contact AT&T to arrange interconnects with TEACH Network
  - Evaluate all bidders who respond to your Form 470

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
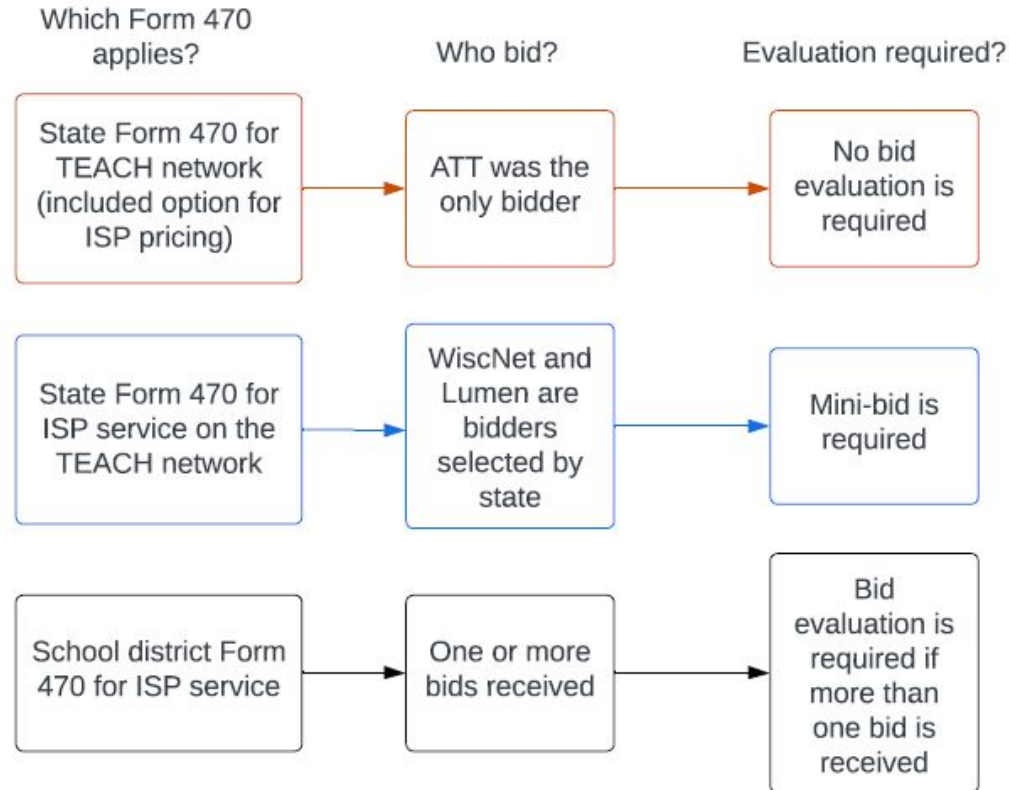
Sample evaluation (from USAC) →

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.

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Why Different Providers Have Different Evaluation Requirements

Different vendors have different evaluation requirements because their bids are based on different Form 470s.

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

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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.
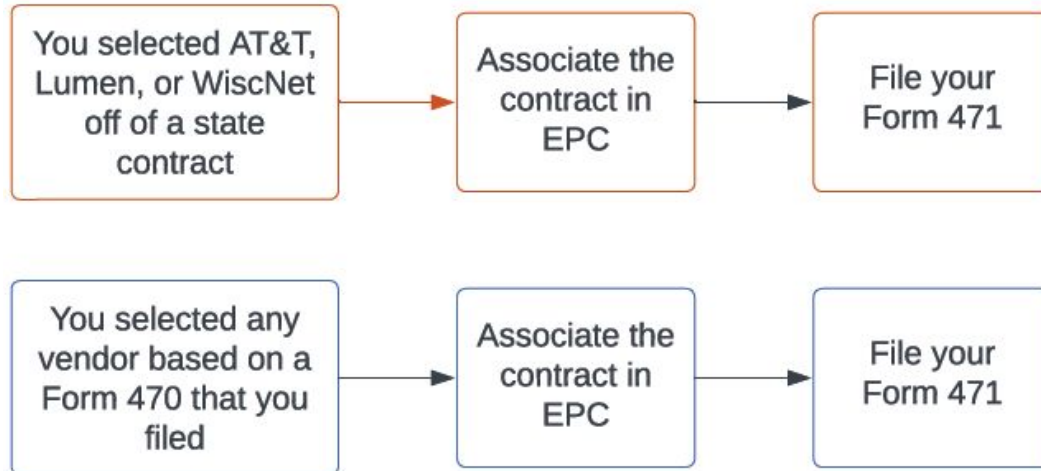
AT&T pricing and Filing Guidance

Lumen pricing and Filing Guidance

WiscNet pricing and Filing Guidance

Associating a Contract and Filing the Form 471

- If you purchase internet service under a state contract, or a contract that you have negotiated separately, you must **associate** that contract with your site in EPC before filing your Form 471.

- Doing this creates a record of the contract in EPC that your Form 471 will refer to.

You selected AT&T, Lumen, or WiscNet off of a state contract	→	Associate the contract in EPC	→	File your Form 471

You selected any vendor based on a Form 470 that you filed	→	Associate the contract in EPC	→	File your Form 471

Form 471 Filing Guidance

- When filing Form 471, be certain to start from scratch and follow the application guidance carefully.
  - ***Do not*** use autofill to copy details from previous years because with new internet contracts, important information has changed.
- In particular, WiscNet members be certain WiscNet is listed as your provider.
  - In previous years, "WiscNet on BadgerNet" sch./libs. listed AT&T as their provider. But in the new contract, sch./libs. must list WiscNet (not AT&T) as their provider.

Form 471 Filing Guidance

- The start date for your internet service is same as start of the E-rate year: 7/1/2023.
- The end date is is same as the end of the E-rate year: 6/30/2024.
- This time-frame is true, regardless of which provider you choose, or your migration date to the TEACH network.
  - If you select a non-state contracted ISP, make certain the ISP can start internet service on 7/1/2023.

Thank You

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For internet service questions:

Contact the ISP