



Windstream Helps K-12 Schools Maximize E-Rate Funds for Telecommunications and Internet

Application for FY2012 E-Rate Funding Must be Started by Feb. 21

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 16, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- With E-Rate filing deadlines just days away, Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq:WIN) is encouraging K-12 schools and libraries to act now to take advantage of discounts on telecommunications, Internet, and internal connections.

The [E-Rate program](#), administered by the [Universal Service Administrative Company \(USAC\)](#), provides discounts ranging from 20 to 90 percent on certain telecommunication and Internet services, as well as equipment and maintenance, to eligible K-12 schools and libraries across the country.

The deadline to start the application process for FY2012 E-Rate funding is February 21; schools and libraries then have until March 20 to choose their E-Rate service provider.

"Windstream has been involved with the E-Rate program since its inception," said Don Perkins, Windstream vice president of business marketing. "We have a dedicated E-Rate support team that understands the details of the program, as well as the application and compliance requirements. It is a program that all K-12 schools and libraries should be aware of, and we encourage all schools and libraries to participate."

As an approved service provider in the [E-Rate program](#), Windstream has already [partnered with more than 5,000 schools and libraries nationwide](#) to install affordable state-of-the-art [telecommunication and data networks](#). Windstream's customized solutions allow its educational institution customers to bring technologically advanced [phone systems](#), [Internet access](#), [networking solutions](#), and [security](#) to their students, teachers, and communities.

With Windstream solutions, qualifying schools and libraries stay up to date with changing technologies, future-proof their networks, and more effectively prepare their students for 21st century learning. Schools are able to offer their teachers and students the resources needed to effectively communicate with parents, improve Internet-based learning, and network with all of the schools in a district. Libraries are able to add value to their membership services through enhanced online card catalogs and reference tools, and the ability to participate in e-book programs.

For more information about [E-Rate](#) and Windstream's solutions for schools and libraries, contact one of Windstream's E-Rate specialists by visiting <http://www.windstreambusiness.com/quote-request/e-rate>.

About Windstream

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq:WIN) is a leading provider of advanced network communications, including cloud computing and managed services, to businesses nationwide. The company also offers broadband, phone and digital TV services to consumers primarily in rural areas. Windstream has more than \$6 billion in annual revenues and is listed on the S&P 500 index. For more information, visit www.windstream.com.

The Windstream Corporation logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=7044>

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