



### BACKGROUND

The California Telehealth Network (CTN) team is working diligently to gather member information as we move into FCC <u>Rural Health Care Program</u> Funding Year 2024 (FY24) and prepare to submit funding applications on behalf of our <u>consortia</u>.

The subsidy program will provide a 65% discount on eligible <u>broadband connectivity</u> expenses for eligible providers during the funding period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

As consortia leaders, it is CTN's responsibility to help guide members through the **federally required** competitive bidding process. As outlined by Universal Service Administration Co. (USAC), competitive bidding is "a formal process to identify and request... <u>services</u> the applicants need, so that potential service providers can review those requests and submit bids for them."

#### **ACTION NEEDED**

If your organization has historically received services from AT&T through a CALNET agreement under the CTN consortium, you may qualify for a competitive bidding exemption. If you would like to continue with your current service provider, action is needed to renew eligibility.

• ACTION: Please complete CALNET process, below, by March 22, 2024. THIS IS NOT A FLEXIBLE DEADLINE.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **STEP 1: CALNET Eligibility Determination - NESPA**

<u>CALNET</u> is a master service agreement (MSA) negotiated by the State of California that enables eligible entities to receive heavily discounted service rates. It also qualifies for a <u>competitive</u> <u>bidding exemption</u> under FCC Rural Health Care Program.

If you would like to register for CALNET, we encourage you to immediately submit a simple <u>eligibility application</u> to the State of California.

- Download the Non-State Entity Service Policy and Agreement (NESPA)
- Check one of the 4 check boxes. Suggested selections:
  - o Local governmental body or corporation empowered to expend public funds or
  - o Federally recognized Indian Tribe
- Provide contact information
- Provide signature
- Email completed form to the State of California Department of Technology at: <u>calnetcustomerregistration@state.ca.gov</u>.

The State will fill out the customer code if approved. This process can be completed in a day.

# STEP 2: AT&T CALNET Contracting - ATO

If you decide you would like to continue with your current service provider, as soon as the State provides an eligibility determination, we encourage you to prepare and submit an ATO form to AT&T. Completing an ATO form will enable your organization to purchase any non-mobility product or service from the CALNET contract under government-negotiated <u>pricing</u>.

- Download AT&T ATO forms and select the one you prefer:
  - ATO for Legacy Categories 15-18
  - o ATO for DNCS Categories 20-30
- Suggested selections:
  - MPLS products are in Category 20, while many internet products are in Categories 24, 25 and 30.
  - If you need assistance, Stacy Sadler can help guide you to which services would be best for you. Contact Stacy directly at <u>sb5826@att.com</u>.
- Email completed form to AT&T at: <u>CCSOTeam@att.com</u> and copy <u>sb5826@att.com</u>.

## STEP 3: Provide service contract to consortium leader.

As soon as your current provider finalizes new service agreement documents under CALNET, send those documents by email to <u>ctn@caltelehealth.org</u>. These documents must be received by March 22, 2024.

You do not have to continue services with AT&T. If we do not receive a current service contract by the deadline, regardless of the selected service provider, consortia leaders will not be able to submit a funding application for FY24.