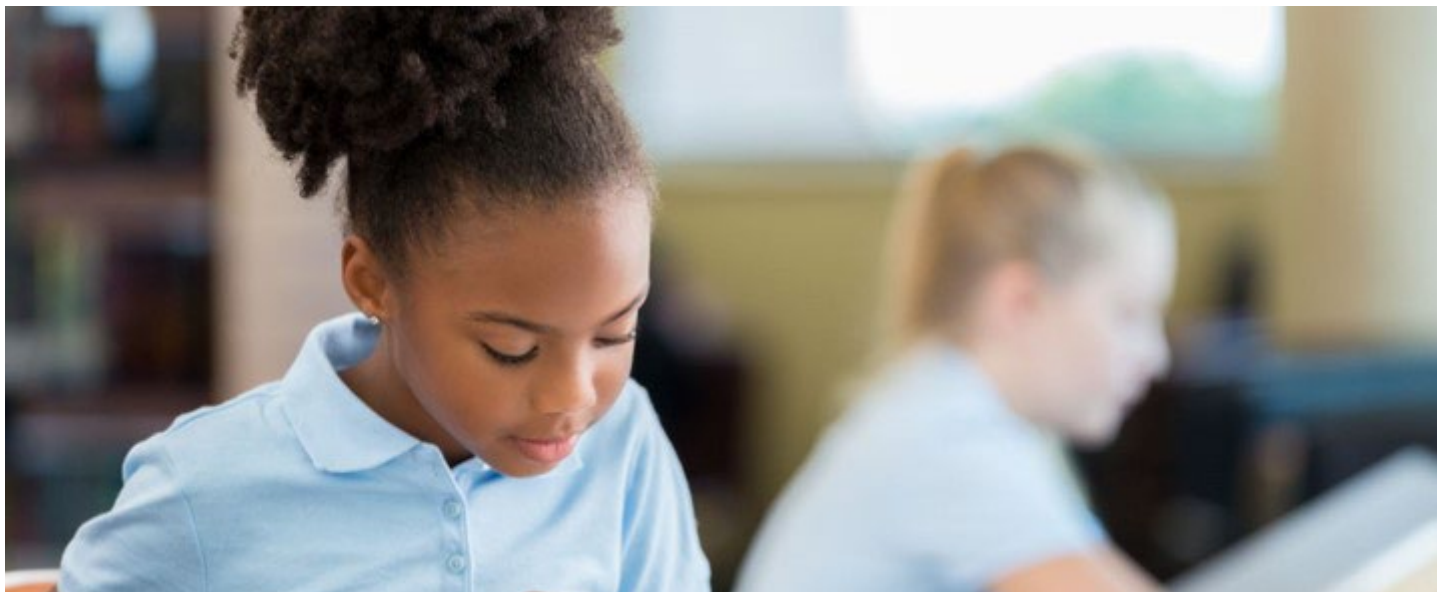


The U.S. Supreme Court issued a significant decision affecting the E-rate program



E-Rate or the Schools and Libraries Program, a federal program in the United States that provides discounts to eligible schools and libraries for telecommunications services, internet access, and internal connections is celebrating a pivotal U.S. Supreme Court decision that affirms the constitutionality of the Universal Service Fund (USF).

This decision is indeed a landmark ruling that reaffirms the constitutionality of the Universal Service Fund (USF). This ruling is crucial as it ensures equal access to necessary internet connectivity for under-resourced schools and libraries, reflecting commitment to equitable educational opportunities across the nation.

Key Implications of the Ruling for E-Rate:

- **Funding Stability:** The ruling guarantees that E-Rate funding commitments and disbursements will continue without interruption, allowing schools and libraries to rely on this financial support.
- **Policy Momentum:** This affirmation may encourage further enhancements to the E-Rate program, potentially incorporating new areas of support such as cybersecurity measures and improved Wi-Fi infrastructure.
- **Renewed Confidence:** With the ruling in place, educational institutions, libraries, and their service providers can engage in planning and investment with increased certainty about the sustainability of E-Rate funding.

Justice Kagan put it best: "For nearly three decades, the work of Congress and the Commission in establishing universal service programs has led to a more fully connected country." Let us all celebrate this ruling!

Cisco is committed to empowering educational institutions with the technology and support necessary to foster a secure and innovative learning environment. By leveraging our advanced solutions, you can ensure your infrastructure is not only compliant with E-Rate requirements but also robust enough to support modern educational needs.

Join us in celebrating this win, and for Giving Every Child the opportunity to succeed in today's digital world.