discount level until there are no category two funds remaining.

(3) To the extent that there are single discount percentage levels associated with "shared services" under §54.505(b)(4), the Administrator shall allocate funds to the applicants at each descending discount level (e.g., 90 percent, 89 percent, then 88 percent) until there are no funds remaining.

(4) For both paragraphs (f)(1) and (2)of this section, if the remaining funds are not sufficient to support all of the funding requests within a particular discount level, the Administrator shall allocate funds at that discount level using the percentage of students eligible for the National School Lunch Program. Thus, if there is not enough support to fund all requests at the 40 percent discount level, the Administrator shall allocate funds beginning with those applicants with the highest percentage of NSLP eligibility for that discount level by funding those applicants with 19 percent NSLP eligibility, then 18 percent NSLP eligibility, and shall continue committing funds in the same manner to applicants at each descending percentage of NSLP until there are no funds remaining.

[79 FR 49201, Aug. 19, 2014]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTES: 1. At 79 FR 49201, Aug. 19, 2014, §54.507 was revised. However, paragraph (d) contains information collection and recordkeeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

2. At 79 FR 49201, Aug. 19, 2014, \$54.507 was revised however, paragraphs (a) through (c)and (e) through (f) are effective July 1, 2015.

## §54.508 [Reserved]

## §54.509 Adjustments to the discount matrix.

(a) Estimating future spending requests. When submitting their requests for specific amounts of funding for a funding year, schools, libraries, library consortia, and consortia including such entities shall also estimate their funding requests for the following funding year to enable the Administrator, to estimate funding demand for the following year.

(b) Reduction in percentage discounts. At all times other than within

a filing period described in §54.507(c), if the estimates schools and libraries make of their future funding needs lead the Administrator to predict that total funding request for a funding year will exceed the available funding, the Administrator shall calculate the percentage reduction to all schools and libraries, except those in the two most disadvantaged categories, necessary to permit all requests in the next funding year to be fully funded.

(c) Remaining funds. If funds remain under the cap at the end of the funding year in which discounts have been reduced below those set in the matrices, the Administrator shall consult with the Commission to establish the best way to distribute those funds.

[62 FR 32948, June 17, 1997, as amended at 62 FR 41304, Aug. 1, 1997; 63 FR 70572, Dec. 21, 1998; 69 FR 6191, Feb. 10, 2004]

## §54.511 Ordering services.

(a) Selecting a provider of eligible services. Except as exempted in §54.503(e), in selecting a provider of eligible services, schools, libraries, library consortia, and consortia including any of those entities shall carefully consider all bids submitted and must select the most cost-effective service offering. In determining which service offering is the most cost-effective, entities may consider relevant factors other than the pre-discount prices submitted by providers, but price should be the primary factor considered.

(b) Lowest corresponding price. Providers of eligible services shall not submit bids for or charge schools, school districts, libraries, library consortia, or consortia including any of these entities a price above the lowest corresponding price for supported services, unless the Commission, with respect to interstate services or the state commission with respect to intrastate services, finds that the lowest corresponding price is not compensatory. Promotional rates offered by a service provider for a period of more than 90 days must be included among the comparable rates upon which the lowest corresponding price is determined.

[79 FR 59203, Aug. 19, 2014]