

Federal Communications Commission

§ 64.6040

Subpart FF—Inmate Calling Services

SOURCE: 78 FR 67975, Nov. 13, 2013, unless otherwise noted.

§ 64.6000 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

*Ancillary charges* mean any charges to Consumers not included in the charges assessed for individual calls and that Consumers may be assessed for the use of Inmate Calling Services. Ancillary Charges include, but are not limited to, fees to create, maintain, or close an account with a Provider; fees in connection with account balances, including fees to add money to an account; and fees for obtaining refunds of outstanding funds in an account;

*Collect calling* means a calling arrangement whereby the called party agrees to pay for charges associated with an Inmate Calling Services call originating from an Inmate Telephone;

*Consumer* means the party paying a Provider of Inmate Calling Services;

*Debit calling* means a calling arrangement that allows a Consumer to pay for Inmate Calling Services from an existing or established account;

*Inmate* means a person detained at a correctional institution, regardless of the duration of the detention;

*Inmate calling services* means the offering of interstate calling capabilities from an Inmate Telephone;

*Inmate telephone* means a telephone instrument or other device capable of initiating telephone calls set aside by authorities of a correctional institution for use by Inmates;

*Prepaid calling* means a calling arrangement that allows Consumers to pay in advance for a specified amount of Inmate Calling Services;

*Prepaid collect calling* means a calling arrangement that allows an Inmate to initiate an Inmate Calling Services call without having a pre-established billing arrangement and also provides a means, within that call, for the called party to establish an arrangement to be billed directly by the Provider of Inmate Calling Services for future calls from the same Inmate;

*Provider of Inmate Calling Services, or Provider*, means any communications service provider that provides Inmate

Calling Services, regardless of the technology used.

§ 64.6010 Cost-based rates for inmate calling services.

All rates charged for Inmate Calling Services and all Ancillary Charges must be based only on costs that are reasonably and directly related to the provision of ICS.

§ 64.6020 Interim safe harbor.

(a) A Provider's rates are presumptively in compliance with § 64.6010 (subject to rebuttal) if:

(1) None of the Provider's rates for Collect Calling exceed \$0.14 per minute at any correctional institution, and

(2) None of the Provider's rates for Debit Calling, Prepaid Calling, or Prepaid Collect Calling exceed \$0.12 per minute at any correctional institution.

(b) A Provider's rates shall be considered consistent with paragraph (a) of this section if the total charge for a 15-minute call, including any per-call or per-connection charges, does not exceed the appropriate rate in paragraph (a)(1) or (2) of this section for a 15-minute call.

(c) A Provider's rates that are consistent with paragraph (a) of this section will be treated as lawful unless and until the Commission or the Wireline Competition Bureau, acting under delegated authority, issues a decision finding otherwise.

§ 64.6030 Inmate calling services interim rate cap.

No provider shall charge a rate for Collect Calling in excess of \$0.25 per minute, or a rate for Debit Calling, Prepaid Calling, or Prepaid Collect Calling in excess of \$0.21 per minute. A Provider's rates shall be considered consistent with this section if the total charge for a 15-minute call, including any per-call or per-connection charges, does not exceed \$3.75 for a 15-minute call using Collect Calling, or \$3.15 for a 15-minute call using Debit Calling, Prepaid Calling, or Prepaid Collect Calling.

§ 64.6040 Rates for Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) calling.

No Provider shall levy or collect any charge in addition to or in excess of the