

Each year, IRIS Networks is required by Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules to obtain Federal Universal Service Fund ("FUSF") contributor certification from its customers to determine their FUSF status. You must complete and return the attached 2025 FUSF Certification form for each 499 filer ID under which you purchase services from IRIS Networks, even if you have provided IRIS Networks with a similar form in prior years.

For self-contributing customers, IRIS Networks will not apply 2025 FUSF surcharges to accounts for which a customer returns a completed and signed Certification form; provided that the customer's contributor status can be confirmed by IRIS Networks through the FCC's 499 Filer Database: <u>https://apps.fcc.gov/cgb/form499/499a.cfm</u>.

If you do not contribute to the FUSF directly or have not filed a Form 499A with the FCC, please provide an explanation as to why such a filing is not required (see page 2 of the attached form). For Private Line services that jurisdictional intrastate as defined by FCC guidelines you may complete the Private Line Jurisdiction Certification Form that is attached with this correspondence.

Please submit the completed Contributor Certification form, together with any necessary attachments, using one of the following methods:

- Email: <u>fusf@irisnetworksusa.com</u>
- Mail: IRIS Networks
  211 Commerce Street, Suite 610
  Nashville, TN 37210

If IRIS Networks does not receive a valid 2025 FUSF Contributor Certification form, by February 28th, 2024, the FUSF surcharge will be assessed on telecommunications services and interconnected VoIP services purchased by your Company as of January 1, 2025, effective on the March 2025 invoice. Failure to submit a valid form means that you will be responsible to pay the FUSF surcharge billed by IRIS Networks; even if you also contribute directly to the USF mechanism based on your end-revenue from the resale of services.

If you have sent your 2025 FUSF Certification forms within the last 90 days; there is no need to reply to this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact our accounting department, or contact your Wholesale Account Manager. Thank you!

# 2025 Tennessee Independent Telecommunications Group LLC (hereinafter "IRIS Networks") <u>Federal Universal Service Fund</u> <u>Contributor Certification</u> <u>Page 1 of 2</u>

Company Name ("Company"): <sup>1</sup>	
(Full Legal Nar	ne)
Form 499 Filer ID:	
Authorized Representative's Name & Title:	
Authorized Representative's Address:	
Authorized Representative's Telephone Number:	
Authorized Representative's E-mail:	

#### Effective January 01, 2025 until it is revoked or withdrawn by Company.

**Note:** Unless you notify IRIS Networks that an account should be excluded from the scope of this certification, this certification will apply to all the IRIS Networks accounts under the company name provided above. You must provide IRIS Networks with a list of all your company's IRIS Networks' wholesale accounts that are not covered by this certification. Such accounts will be subject to Federal Universal Service Fund surcharges.

I am authorized to sign this Certification on behalf of the company named above.

I understand that IRIS Networks is relying on the representations contained in this Certification and that IRIS NETWORKS, therefore, will not contribute to the FUSF on the revenue generated from services sold to Company.

I understand that if Company fails to provide a timely and complete Certification, IRIS Networks will classify the revenues it generates from services sold to Company as end-user revenue and IRIS Networks will contribute to the Federal Universal Service Fund ("FUSF") on that revenue, as appropriate. I also understand that in such instance, IRIS Networks will assess Company a surcharge to recover the amount of its FUSF contribution, which Company will be obligated to pay.

Further, I understand that IRIS Networks may bill Company for any FUSF surcharges waived because of this certification, if the representations contained in this Certification are inaccurate and IRIS Networks reclassifies Company as an end user with respect to interstate telecommunications services, interconnected VoIP services, or any other telecommunication services sold to Company. In such instance, Company will be obligated to pay such surcharges.

I understand that if any of the information or representations made in this Certification change, Company must notify IRIS Networks of any such change(s) within 30 days of the change and, if required by IRIS Networks, Company will submit a new Certification.

I understand that IRIS Networks will require Company to provide a new Certification on an annual basis.

I agree that IRIS Networks may provide a copy of this Certification to the Universal Service Administrative Company, the FCC, or other party as required by law.

<sup>1</sup> If the company files its Form 499 on a consolidated basis, please provide the full legal name of every company covered under the Form 499 Filer ID.

2025 Tennessee Independent Telecommunications Group LLC (hereinafter "IRIS Networks") Federal Universal Service Fund Contributor Certification Page 2 of 2

Company Name ("Company"): \_\_\_\_

(Full Legal Name)

### Certification:

Please place an X beside all statements that apply:

- □ I certify under penalty of perjury that my company is purchasing service for resale in the form of telecommunications or interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol service. I also certify under penalty of perjury that either:
  - □ Company contributes directly to the federal universal support mechanisms, or

□ that each entity to which I provide resold telecommunications is itself an FCC Form 499 worksheet filer and a direct contributor to the federal universal service support mechanisms.

□ that Company is a non US telecommunications carrier and uses the IRIS Networks Services only to provide non-US telecommunications services or non-US VoIP services (i.e., services that either originate or terminate in the US for which all revenues are from (i) non-US end users, or (ii) US resellers that they themselves are currently direct FUSF contributors via monthly payments to USAC).

- I certify under penalty of perjury that Company is a de minimis telecommunications carrier and or telecommunications provider as defined in Section 54.708 of the Federal Communications Commission universal service rules and authorize IRIS Networks to invoice Company for any Federal Universal Fund contributions it remits on Company's behalf.
- □ I do not directly contribute to the federal universal support mechanisms and authorize IRIS Networks to invoice Company for any Federal Universal Fund contributions it remits on Company's behalf.

The undersigned individual is authorized to make this certification on behalf of the above-named Company and every company covered under the Form 499 Filer ID (if applicable).

By:

(Signature)

(Print name)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit the completed form by email to <u>fusf@irisnetworksusa.com</u> or by mail to the following address:

IRIS Networks 211 Commerce Street, Suite 610 Nashville, TN 37201

<sup>1</sup> If the company files its Form 499 on a consolidated basis, please provide the full legal name of every company covered under the Form 499 Filer ID.



## **PRIVATE LINE JURISDICTION CERTIFICATION FORM**

#### Effective Date: <u>1 / 1 / 2 0 2 5</u>

Dear Customer:

Company Name ("Company"): \_\_\_\_\_\_

Account #:

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has established certain rules and requirements relating to the jurisdictional classification (interstate vs. intrastate) of telecommunication services provided by companies such as Tennessee Independent Telecommunications Group LLC (hereinafter "IRIS Networks").

Upon routine review of telecommunications carriers, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") Form 499-A requests that <u>intrastate</u> classification be obtained from customers certifying whether or not the total <u>interstate</u> traffic exceeds 10% for the intrastate transport point-to-point services provided. If so, such services will be subject to Universal Service Fund ("USF") fees. These are circuits that connect one physical location to another.

Federal USF fees are applied to all interstate telecommunication services. USF fees also apply to point-to-point circuits with interstate usage greater than 10% regardless if the end points are within the same state boundaries (intrastate). If the interstate usage is 10% or less and the end points of the circuit are within the same state boundaries then USF fees will not apply. <u>There is no exemption based on not-for-profit or government entities.</u>

Company acknowledges that IRIS Networks' determination of jurisdiction of the Service(s) and assessment of USF fees will be based upon the information provided by Company in this Certification. If IRIS Networks determines that the jurisdiction has been established based upon false, inaccurate or erroneous information, IRIS Networks may bill Company and Company will pay such fees based upon the determination of jurisdiction, plus applicable late fees. Company acknowledges and agrees that: (i) it has a duty to update this Certification within thirty (30) days to the extent its usage changes and this Certification is no longer accurate; and (ii) IRIS Networks may provide a copy of this Certification to the Universal Service Administrator, the FCC, statue regulatory agencies and taxing authorities, legal counsel, or an auditor.

# Certification of Jurisdiction: A signed Certification Form must accompany a signed Service Agreement for the Service(s) whether Company is able to certify at this time or not.\*

Company acknowledges and certifies that the total interstate traffic (including internet and usage-based traffic) for the Service(s) listed below constitutes the jurisdictional classification as indicated. Indicate: (i) (<u>YES</u>) if the interstate traffic is greater than 10% and therefore subject to USF fee; (ii) (<u>NO</u>) if the interstate traffic is 10% or less and therefore not subject to USF fee; or (iii) (<u>DEFER</u>\*) if Customer is not able to certify the jurisdiction classification of the Service(s) at this time. *In the event Customer defers jurisdictional classification, Customer will be required to send the completed Certification Form to Customer Support at* <u>fusf@irisnetworksusa.com</u> or contact **IRIS Networks at 615-564-2737** within thirty (30) calendar days from the execution of the Service Agreement or USF fee(s) will be assessed until such time as the Certification Form to the contrary is received.

Circuit ID #	Service	Address Information		USF
		A Location	Z Location	Certification (Yes/No/Defer)

 $\Box$  Check here if information is continued on subsequent page(s).

Ву:	
(Company Name)	
Authorized Signature:	
Name:	Email:
Title:	Phone:
Date:	