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## Section 8 – <u>SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS</u> (cont'd)

## 8.9 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM (Cont'd)

## 8.9.2. Regulations

- a. To be eligible for the reduced rates, rural health care providers are required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the FCC Rules.
- b. Reduced rates are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund.
- c. Eligible rural health care providers may aggregate demand with other entities to create a consortium. Universal service support shall apply only to the portion of eligible services used by an eligible health care provider.
- d. Rural health care providers and consortia shall participate in a competitive bidding process for all services eligible for reduced rates in accordance with any state and local procurement rules.
- e. Rural health care providers and consortia shall submit requests for services to the program Administrator, as designated by the FCC, and follow established procedures.
- f. Services requested must be used for purposes related to the provision of health care services or instruction that the health care provider is legally authorized to provide under the law.
- g. A health care provider that cannot obtain toll free access to an Internet Service Provider and who is eligible for support for limited toll–free access under the Rules must certify that it lacks toll–free Internet access and that it is an eligible health care provider.
- h. Services cannot be sold, resold or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value.

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