In response to your questions about how to estimate your FY 2021 TV CSG, the following information may be used with this cautionary: Given the many factors in play such as the IRR, it is impossible to establish the actual amount of your station’s FY 2021 CSG award at this point.

1. Base Grant: We expect the appropriation will again be $445M and base grants will increase this year. They’re calculated as 0.12 percent of the appropriation or $534,000. Remember grantees in multi-provider markets share a single base grant.

2. Supplemental Grants: Universal Service Support Grants, Distance Service Grants (DSG), and Interconnection Grants will be similar to what you received in 2020. However, if you receive a DSG, you will see a change if you added or deleted a transmitter.

3. Incentive Grant: These are more difficult to estimate. We do not know the IRR – or CPB’s match - until we know the full amount of NFFS reported by all grantees and the total funds available for the incentive grant pool. Both numbers will not be available until this fall. To estimate, you could use 12 cents (last year’s rate was slightly more than 12 cents/dollar) and apply that to your tiered 2019 NFFS. You’ll apply 12 cents to each dollar up to $3M, you’ll apply 12 cents to 92.5% of your NFFS over $3M but less than $20M, and you’ll apply 12 cents to 95% of your NFFS over $20M. Grantees reporting NFFS of more than $20M with NFFS that grew at a faster rate than the system’s year-over-year average may be subject to an additional cap on matched NFFS. Please remember, these are estimates. For a more conservative estimate, use a smaller match like 10 or 11 cents.

For more information, contact CSG@CPB.ORG.