

## **Intrastate Switched Toll Access Restructuring Mechanism Frequently Asked Questions**

*Disclaimer: The answers provided are not meant to be a substitute for legal advice.*

### **What is the Intrastate Switched Toll Access Restructuring Mechanism?**

On December 17, 2009, the Governor signed Public Act 182 of 2009 into law. Public Act 182 of 2009 amends the Michigan Telecommunications Act. The law sets forth a process for the reduction of intrastate switched toll access rates to rates no higher than what providers charge for the same interstate service. The Intrastate Switched Toll Access Restructuring Mechanism (ARM) is a fund established to be active for 12 years in order to provide temporary assistance to rural incumbent local exchange carriers due to the revenue loss associated with the lowered intrastate access rates. The Commission administers the ARM. The Commission established the initial size of the ARM through its Orders on April 13, 2010 and August 10, 2010. The Commission reviewed the size of the ARM in 2018 in accordance with PA 52 of 2014 which eliminated the original four year resize. The Commission established the recalculated size of the ARM through its Order on February 22, 2018.

### **Who is required to pay into the ARM?**

Pursuant to the law, all providers of intrastate retail telecommunications services as well as all providers of commercial mobile wireless voice service are required to pay into the ARM. The MTA defines telecommunications service as including regulated and unregulated services offered to customers for the transmission of 2-way interactive communication and associated usage. This definition includes payphone service, interexchange service, interLATA service, and resale. All providers of intrastate retail telecommunications services are required to contribute monthly to the ARM.

### **How often must I make a payment into the ARM?**

Pursuant to both the law and the Commission's Order of August 10, 2010, all contributing providers are required to remit monthly payments into the ARM.

### **How do I calculate my monthly payment?**

An online worksheet is available on the Commission's website. Each month providers input the previous month's intrastate retail telecommunications services revenues and the worksheet calculates the required contribution amount to be remitted for the month. The online worksheet shows the current contribution percentage. Directions for remittance are on the worksheet.

### **Can I make an electronic payment?**

Unfortunately, no. At this time, the State of Michigan is not able to accept electronic payments for the ARM.

### **Am I still required to remit a form if the monthly intrastate retail telecommunication services revenues are zero dollars or the calculated contribution amount is zero?**

Yes. Forms must be remitted monthly. They can be mailed to the address on the form or emailed to the staff member listed below.

### **Is there a staff person I can contact if I still have questions?**

If you have additional questions please contact Amber McGrath at either [McGrathA@michigan.gov](mailto:McGrathA@michigan.gov) or 517-284-8208.