

What is Net Neutrality?

The FCC recently voted to regulate broadband internet access service (BIAS) as a “common carrier” service, similar to how it oversees telephone services. Although the FCC has said it does not intend to regulate service rates, the reclassification could introduce significant additional privacy, cybersecurity and other requirements.

What does it mean?

BIAS reclassification will impose additional new regulatory requirements for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and will require extensive consultation with legal counsel and management advisors, likely increasing operational costs and liabilities if ISPs are required to amend business practices. Regulations could also affect ISPs’ ability to create special programming or other arrangements that are advantageous to consumers.

What is NTCA doing?

NTCA has explained the complexity of the internet market and reinforced that the end-user market for broadband service is healthy and competitive, and that consumer-focused regulations are not warranted. NTCA has noted, however, that tailored regulatory backstops intended to ensure small ISPs can connect beyond their networks for traffic/transport and content distribution would help these providers access and deliver services their customers desire.