

199—38.1(476) General information.

38.1(1) *Application and purpose of rules.* This chapter applies to local exchange carriers. The purpose of these rules is to further the development of competition in the local exchange services market.

38.1(2) *Definitions.* For the administration and interpretation of this chapter, the following words and terms have the meaning indicated below, unless the context indicates otherwise:

“*Act*” means the Telecommunications Act of 1996, effective April 9, 2025.

“*Arbitration*” means the investigative process whereby a dispute is submitted to the commission for resolution.

“*Bona fide request*” means a request to a local exchange carrier that demonstrates a good faith showing that the requesting party intends to purchase the services requested within six months of the date of the request.

“*Competitive local exchange carrier*” means any local exchange carrier that is not an incumbent local exchange carrier.

“*Incumbent local exchange carrier*” means a local exchange carrier, or its successor, that was the historical provider of local exchange service pursuant to an authorized certificate of public convenience and necessity within a specific geographic area described in maps filed with and approved by the commission as of September 30, 1992.

“*Local exchange carrier*” means the same as defined at 199—Chapter 22.

“*Mediation*” means the process in which a neutral party assists the parties in reaching their own settlement but does not have the authority to make a binding decision.

[ARC 8998C, IAB 3/5/25, effective 4/9/25]