

About the Lifeline Program

Since 1985, the Lifeline program has provided a benefit on phone service for qualifying low-income consumers to ensure that all Americans have the opportunities and security that phone service brings, including being able to connect to jobs, family and emergency services. In 2005, Lifeline benefits were made available to qualifying low-income consumers on pre-paid wireless service plans in addition to traditional landline service. Starting in 2016, Lifeline benefits for qualifying consumers were further expanded to broadband and mobile internet services. Lifeline is part of the Universal Service Fund.

The Lifeline program is available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. Consumers must have proper proof of eligibility to enroll. Existing Lifeline subscribers must re-certify their eligibility every year by responding to their Lifeline Provider's attempts to re-certify eligibility. Subscribers who fail to re-certify their eligibility will be de-enrolled from the program and lose their Lifeline benefits.

For more information, visit www.lifelinesupport.org or call the FCC at **1-888-225-5322**.

For Tele-Media customers, Lifeline provides a monthly benefit of \$9.25 toward qualifying services.



TeleMedia

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LIFELINE

A PHONE PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME CONSUMERS



TeleMedia

Your Local Cooperative Connecting You To The World

LIFELINE ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Are You Eligible?

To participate in the Lifeline program, a consumer must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines (see chart) or participate in one of the following federal or state assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public House Assistance (Section 8)
- Veteran's Pension and Survivors Benefit

If you reside on tribal lands and participate in any of the federal or state assisted programs listed below:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Tribal Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met)

A consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines as indicated in the chart. These amounts may change and you are required to provide proof of all sources of income. The person applying for eligibility **must be** the same person listed on the telephone bill.



Lifeline Household Eligibility

Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than one Lifeline benefit per household. An eligible consumer may receive one benefit on either phone service (home or wireless) or internet (home or mobile), but not both.

A household is defined, for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address as one economic unit. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of the household. A household may include related and unrelated persons. A household is not permitted to receive Lifeline benefits from multiple providers. Violation of the one-per-household limitation constitutes a violation of the FCC's rules and will result in de-enrollment from the program. Lifeline is a non-transferable benefit and you may not transfer your benefit to any other person.

A consumer whose household currently is receiving more than one Lifeline benefit must select a single Lifeline provider and contact the other provider to de-enroll from their program. Consumers violating this rule may also be subject to criminal and/or civil penalties.

Household Size	Household Income
1	\$16,862.00
2	\$22,829.00
3	\$28,796.00
4	\$34,763.00
For each additional person, add	\$5,967.00



How to Apply

Simply call toll free **1-866-290-1731** to verify eligibility and to request an application. Tele-Media Solutions also provides applications to customers upon request.

You must provide proof of program participation. This could include a copy of your benefit ID card, a copy of an eligibility letter from an authorized agency or prior year's statement of benefits. Do not send original documents.

Mail the application, telephone or internet bill and documents to:

Lifeline Administrator
30 Lanidex Plaza West
PO Box 685
Parsippany, NJ 07054-0685