

News from your local provider to keep you connected. September 2026

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Get Discounted Phone or Internet Service with Lifeline

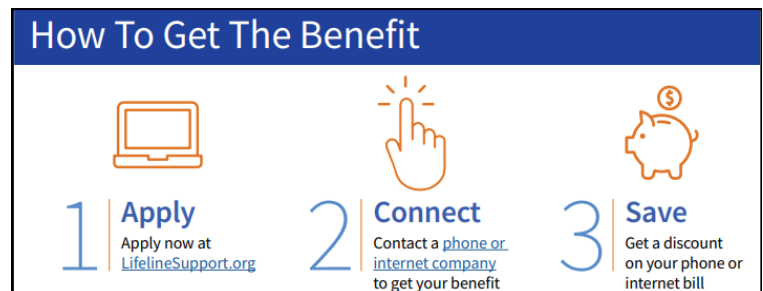
Access to affordable voice and internet service is vital to stay connected in today's world. People need these services to connect with healthcare providers, potential employers, educational programs, and loved ones. Affordable service remains a challenge for many low-income consumers. The federal Lifeline program helps close the gap for these consumers by offering a monthly discount of up to \$9.25 towards a qualified household's phone or internet service. A household is a group of people who share income and expenses. Consumers who live with another person already receiving the Lifeline benefit may still be eligible for the discount if they do not share income and expenses with that person.

Households with income at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for the Lifeline program. Consumers enrolled in a government assistance program, such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Federal Public Housing, Veterans Pension or Survivor's Benefit may qualify for Lifeline as well.

Consumers have several options to apply. They may visit a Lifeline phone or internet company in their area (MiBroadband). Consumers also have the option to submit an online application or mail in a paper application to the Lifeline Support Center.

USAC's Lifeline Support Center serves as a resource for prospective and current Lifeline participants. Consumers may submit questions via email to **LifelineSupport@usac.org**, or by calling **(800) 234-9473**. More information is available on their website **www.LifelineSupport.org**.

The Lifeline Program is one of four programs administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), under the policy guidance of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).



Mindful Moment

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness, reduce the stigma surrounding mental health and remind those who may be struggling that hope and help are available. Mental health challenges are not always visible, which is why checking in with friends, family members, coworkers and neighbors can be so important. A sincere question such as, "How are you really doing?" followed by patient, judgment free listening can help someone feel seen and supported.

Changes in mood or behavior, withdrawing from others, expressing hopelessness, giving away meaningful belongings or talking about feeling like a burden may be signs that someone needs additional support. Take these concerns seriously, listen with compassion and help the person connect with a trusted loved one, healthcare professional or crisis counselor.

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional distress or thoughts of suicide, call or text 988 to reach the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Free and confidential support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You do not have to be suicidal to contact 988, and you never have to face a difficult moment alone.