

Lifeline Assistance

Lifeline is a federal program that offers a discount to qualified customers on their monthly telephone or internet service.

Home Telephone or Broadband Assistance

Effective 12/1/2020, Lifeline will provide a discount up to \$9.25 on your monthly bill for broadband service, or a discount up to \$5.25 on your monthly bill for telephone service.

This program is available to all BEK Communications Cooperative exchanges (excludes: rural Bismarck, rural Morton/Oliver County and Valley City area exchanges).

Do you qualify for Lifeline assistance?

To be eligible for Lifeline, you must be enrolled in a qualifying program. Qualifying programs include: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA), Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit or if your income is 135% or less than the <u>federal poverty guidelines</u>.

Apply Online:

You can apply online by going to <u>CheckLifeline.org</u> and creating an account. Once you have filled out the information, you will find out if you qualify for Lifeline assistance.

You will need the following information to apply online:

- Full legal name
- Date of birth
- Last 4 digits of your SSN
- Address

If you receive an error message, please contact the National Lifeline program at 1-800-234-9473 for additional help.



Apply by mail:

You can also send an application by mail. You will mail in your completed Lifeline Application (English or Spanish) Household Worksheet, and copies of your proof of eligibility to the Lifeline Support Center. USAC will contact you by mail to let you know if you qualify for Lifeline Assistance.

Lifeline Support Center's mailing address is: USAC Lifeline Support Center PO Box 7081 London, KY 40742

The Lifeline program is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC).

USAC is responsible for data collection and maintenance, support calculation, and disbursement for the program. Once on the Lifeline program, you will be contacted by USAC annually to recertify. If you no longer meet the eligibility guidelines above, you will no longer qualify for Lifeline and must inform BEK of your ineligibility by calling 701-475-2361 or toll free at 1-888-475-2361.

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