



# Qualify for Lifeline

## A Guide for Consumers Using the National Verifier

### HOW IT WORKS

[Lifeline](#) is a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone and internet. Consumers now have more ways to check if they qualify for Lifeline.

In [some states](#), customers can apply for Lifeline using the National Verifier. You can apply with the National Verifier through a service provider, by mail, or online using the consumer portal at [CheckLifeline.org](#).

### HOW TO APPLY (Choose One Option):

#### Through a Lifeline Company

Visit a Lifeline phone or internet company near you.

They will ask you for information to check your eligibility.

You can find a list of service providers using the [Companies Near Me](#) tool on USAC's website. Type in your zip code to see a list of companies that offer the Lifeline benefit in your area.

#### By Mail

Mail in your finished [Lifeline Application](#), [Household Worksheet](#), and copies of your proof of eligibility to:

**Lifeline Support Center  
PO Box 7081  
London, KY 40742.**

USAC will contact you by email from [LifelineSupport@usac.org](mailto:LifelineSupport@usac.org) or mail from the Lifeline Support Center to let you know if you qualify for Lifeline.

If the National Verifier cannot check your eligibility, you will need to mail in more documents to the Lifeline Support Center.

#### Online

Visit the consumer portal, [CheckLifeline.org](#), and create an account. You can fill out a Lifeline application online.

You will find out if you are eligible for Lifeline through the consumer portal immediately after applying online.

If the National Verifier cannot prove your eligibility automatically, you will need to upload more documents to the consumer portal.

You may need a copy of a document that proves your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines or that you participate in **one** of these programs:

- SNAP
- Medicaid
- Public Housing Assistance
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribal Head Start
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

You may also need a copy of:

- An item to prove your identity, such as an unexpired government issued ID:
  - Driver's License, passport, or state or Tribal issued ID
- A copy of an item to prove your address:
  - Map screenshot from an internet source (such as Google Maps) with an icon of your residence, address or street name, and coordinates

### RENEW EACH YEAR

**You must recertify every year.** If the National Verifier cannot recertify you, USAC will contact you with instructions to recertify. If you do not respond, you will lose your benefit.

If you have any questions, please call (800) 234-9473 or visit [www.LifelineSupport.org](http://www.LifelineSupport.org).

# Lifeline Program Household Worksheet



## About Lifeline

**Lifeline is a benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service (not both). You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, not per person.**

## What this worksheet is for

Use this worksheet if someone else at your address gets Lifeline. The answers to these questions will help you find out if there is more than one household at your address.

## What is a household?

A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

### Examples of one household:

- A married couple who live together are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.
- A parent/guardian and child who live together are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.
- An adult who lives with friends or family who financially support him/her are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.

### Examples of more than one household:

- 4 roommates who live together but do not share money are 4 households. They can have one Lifeline benefit each, 4 total.
- 30 seniors who live in an assisted-living home are 30 households. They can have one Lifeline benefit each, 30 total.

## Household expenses

A household shares expenses. Household expenses include, but are not limited to, food, healthcare expenses, and the cost of renting or paying a mortgage on your place of residence and utilities.

## Income

Households share income. Income includes salary, public assistance benefits, social security payments, pensions, unemployment compensation, veteran's benefits, inheritances, alimony, child support payments, worker's compensation benefits, gifts, and lottery winnings.



# Lifeline Program Household Worksheet



## Can you apply?

Follow this decision tree to confirm if you qualify for the Lifeline Program.

### 1. Do you live with another adult?

Adults are people who are 18 years old or older, or who are emancipated minors. This can include a spouse, domestic partner, parent, adult son or daughter, adult in your family, adult roommate, etc.

Yes

*If yes, answer question 2*

No

### 2. Do they get Lifeline?

Yes

*If yes, answer question 3*

No

### 3. Do you share money (income and expenses) with them?

This can be the cost of bills, food, etc., and income. If you are married, you should check yes for this question.

Yes

No

**You can apply for Lifeline.** You live in a household that does not get Lifeline yet. Please *initial* line **B** on page 4, *and sign* and date the worksheet.

Check this box

**You do not qualify for Lifeline** because someone in your household already gets the benefit. You are only allowed to get one Lifeline discount per household, not per person.

Check this box

**You can apply for Lifeline.** You live at an address with more than one household and your household does not get Lifeline yet. Please *initial* lines **A** and **B** on page 4, *and sign* and date the worksheet.

Check this box

# Lifeline Program Household Worksheet



## Agreement

Please initial the agreement below and sign and date this worksheet. Submit this worksheet to your service provider with your Lifeline Program Application Form.

Initial

**A** I live at an address with more than one household.

Initial

**B** I understand that the one-per-household limit is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rule and I will lose my Lifeline benefit if I break this rule.

Signature

Today's Date

I consent to let USAC contact me at my Lifeline phone number for important reminders and updates to my Lifeline service. Message and data rates may apply. Text STOP to end messages.

## Notice

**NOTICE:** Section 54.410 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules requires all Lifeline subscribers to demonstrate their eligibility to receive Lifeline services. If more than one person at the same address is applying for Lifeline service, all applicants must submit a Household Worksheet. This collection of information stems from the Commission's authority under Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.). The data provided in response to this information collection will be used by USAC to verify the applicant's eligibility for Lifeline services.

We have estimated that each response to this collection of information will take, on average, 0.25 hours. Our estimate includes the time to read and complete the form and review the form or response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, OMD-PERM, Paperwork Reduction Project (3060-0819), Washington, D.C. 20554. We also will accept your comments via the Internet if you send them to PRA@fcc.gov. Please DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DATA COLLECTION FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

Remember – You are not required to respond to a collection of information sponsored by the Federal government, and the government may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. This collection has been assigned an OMB control number of 3060-0819.

The Commission is authorized under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect the information we request in this form. We will use the information that you provide to determine your eligibility for Lifeline services. If we believe there may be a violation or potential violation of a statute or a Commission regulation, rule, or order, your form may be referred to the Federal, state, or local agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, or order. In certain cases, the information in your form may be disclosed to the Department of Justice, court, or other adjudicative body when (a) the Commission; (b) any employee of the Commission; or (c) the United States government, is a party to a proceeding before the body or has an interest in the proceeding.

If you do not provide the information we request on this form, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.

The foregoing Notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, P.L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. § 3501, et seq.

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** The Privacy Act is a law that requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to explain why we are asking individuals for personal information and what we are going to do with this information after we collect it.

**Authority:** Section 254 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. § 254), as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254, authorizes the FCC to operate the Lifeline program. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.).

**Purpose:** We are collecting this personal information so we can verify that you qualify for the Lifeline program and so we can efficiently provide Lifeline services to you. We access, maintain and use your personal information in the manner described in the Lifeline System of Records Notice (SORN), FCC/WCB-1, which we have published in 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).

**Routine Uses:** We may share the personal information you enter into this form with other parties for specific purposes, such as: with contractors that help us operate the Lifeline program; with other federal and state government agencies that help us determine your Lifeline eligibility; with the telecommunications companies that provide you Lifeline service; and with law enforcement and other officials investigating potential violations of Lifeline rules.

A complete listing of the ways we may use your information is published in the Lifeline SORN described in the "Purpose" paragraph of this statement.

**Disclosure:** You are not required to provide the information we are requesting, but if you do not, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.



# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 1. About Lifeline

Lifeline is a federal benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service.

### Rules

If you qualify, your household can get Lifeline for phone or internet service, but not both.

- If you get Lifeline for phone service, you can get the benefit for one mobile phone or one home phone, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone or your home connection, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for bundled phone and internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone bundled service or your home bundled service, but not both.

Your household cannot get Lifeline from more than one phone or internet company.

You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, **not per person**. If more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you are breaking the FCC's rules and will lose your benefit.

### What is a household?

A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

### Do not give your benefit to another person

Lifeline is non-transferable. You cannot give your Lifeline benefit to another person, even if they qualify.

### Be honest on this form

You must give accurate and true information on this form and on all Lifeline-related forms or questionnaires. If you give false or fraudulent information, you will lose your Lifeline benefit (i.e., de-enrollment or being barred from the program) and the United States government can take legal actions against you. This may include (but is not limited to) fines or imprisonment.

### You may need to show other documents

If the Lifeline Program Administrator is not able to prove you or someone in your household qualify using this form and electronic databases, you may need to show an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or to prove your annual income. You can submit copies of your official documents with this application or wait until the Lifeline Program Administrator asks you for them. To add them now, include the documents in option 1 or option 2 below:

1. If you qualify through a government program: copies of your state ID card and an official document from the programs you are qualifying through (your SNAP card, Medicaid card, etc.)
2. If you qualify through your income: copies of your state ID card and pay stubs for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents).

Visit [lifelinesupport.org](http://lifelinesupport.org) to see the full list of accepted documents.

### Apply

To apply for a Lifeline benefit, fill out the required sections of this form, initial every agreement statement, and sign on page 6.

Bring or mail the form to this address:

**USAC**  
**Lifeline Support Center**  
**P.O. Box 7081**  
**London, KY 40742**

# Lifeline Program Application Form



Universal Service  
Administrative Co.

## 2. Your Information

All fields are required unless indicated. Use only CAPITALIZED LETTERS and black ink to fill out this form.

**What is your full legal name?**  
The name you use on official documents, like your Social Security Card or State ID. Not a nickname.

--	--	--	--

First

--	--

Middle (optional) Suffix (optional)

--

Last

**What is your phone number (if you have one)?**      **What is your date of birth?**

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Month      Day      Year

**What is your email address (if you have one)?**


**What are the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number (SSN)?** [ ][ ][ ][ ]

If you do not have a SSN, what is your Tribal Identification Number?

--

**What is the best way to reach you?**

email     
  phone     
  text message     
  mail







# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 3. Qualify for Lifeline

Fill out this section to show that you, your dependent, or someone in your household qualifies for Lifeline.

You can qualify through some government assistance programs or through your income (you do not need to qualify through both).

### Qualify through a government program:

**Check all programs that you or someone in your household have:**

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs

**Tribal Specific Programs**

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Tribal Head Start (only households that meet the income qualifying standard)

Or

### Qualify through your income:

(Only fill this out if you do not qualify through a government program.)

Including you, how many people live in your household? (check one)	Is your income the same or less than the amount listed for your state and household size? (only check yes or no next to your household size)				
	All 48 States & DC (not Alaska and Hawaii)	Alaska	Hawaii	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	\$16,862	\$21,060	\$19,413	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	\$22,829	\$28,526	\$26,271	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	\$28,796	\$35,991	\$33,129	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	\$34,763	\$43,457	\$39,987	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	\$40,730	\$50,922	\$46,845	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	\$46,697	\$58,388	\$53,703	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	\$52,664	\$65,853	\$60,561	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	\$58,631	\$73,319	\$67,419	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> If more than 8, add this amount for each extra person:	Add \$5,967	Add \$7,466	Add \$6,858	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**135% of the 2019 Federal Poverty Guidelines**  
\*The Federal Poverty Guidelines are typically updated at the end of January.

# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 4. Agreement

I agree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements:

*You must initial next to each statement.*

Initial I (or my dependent or other person in my household) currently get benefits from the government program(s) listed on this form or my annual household income is 135% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines (the amount listed in the Federal Poverty Guidelines table on this form).

Initial I agree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days.

Initial I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not qualify for Lifeline anymore, including:

- 1) I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a government program or income anymore.
- 2) Either I or someone in my household gets more than one Lifeline benefit (including, more than one Lifeline broadband internet service, more than one Lifeline telephone service, or both Lifeline telephone and Lifeline broadband internet services).

Initial I know that my household can only get one Lifeline benefit and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not getting more than one Lifeline benefit.

Initial I agree that my service provider can give the Lifeline Program administrator all of the information I am giving on this form. I understand that this information is meant to help run the Lifeline Program and that if I do not let them give it to the Administrator, I will not be able to get Lifeline benefits.

Initial All the answers and agreements that I provided on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Initial I know that willingly giving false or fraudulent information to get Lifeline Program benefits is punishable by law and can result in fines, jail time, de-enrollment, or being barred from the program.

Initial My service provider may have to check whether I still qualify at any time. If I need to recertify (renew) my Lifeline benefit, I understand that I have to respond by the deadline or I will be removed from the Lifeline Program and my Lifeline benefit will stop.

Initial I was truthful about whether or not I am a resident of Tribal lands, as defined in section 2 of this form.

I consent to let USAC contact me at my Lifeline phone number for important reminders and updates to my Lifeline service. Message and data rates may apply. Text STOP to end messages.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Today's Date</b>
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>



# Lifeline Program Application Form



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We have estimated that each response to this collection of information will take, on average, between 0.25 and 0.75 hours. Our estimate includes the time to read the questions, look through existing records, gather the required data, and actually complete and review the form or response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, OMD-PERM, Paperwork Reduction Project (3060-0819), Washington, D.C. 20554. We also will accept your comments via the Internet if you send them to PRA@fcc.gov. Please DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DATA COLLECTION FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

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The Commission is authorized under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect the information we request on this form. If we believe there may be a violation or potential violation of a statute or a Commission regulation, rule, or order, your response may be referred to the Federal, state, or local agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, or order.

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