



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 23, 2024

Dear State Commission Partner:

I am writing to you in light of the approaching end of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The ACP is the largest broadband affordability program in our Nation's history. In just over two years, the ACP grew to serve over 23 million households—more than one in six nationwide—across rural, suburban, and urban America. However, the households that have come to depend on this program will no longer be able to do so after the end of this month when, absent additional funding from Congress, the program will cease.

Unless Congress acts, ACP households will need to make tough choices about what expenses they may need to cut if they want to maintain their internet service. A recent survey revealed that losing the ACP benefit may force up to 77 percent of participating households to change their plan or drop internet service entirely. Moreover, disruptions in service will make it harder for ACP households to search for jobs, complete homework, and access telehealth services.

State public utility commissions have been trusted partners in promoting the ACP since its launch. But this kind of partnership is not new. For the last 40 years you have worked with the Commission to promote the Lifeline program, including our annual collaboration with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates on Lifeline Awareness Week. At their core, both the ACP and the Lifeline program are tools for keeping households connected to their families and their communities.

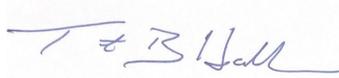
To this end, the Lifeline program's \$9.25 monthly benefit (\$34.25 monthly for households on qualifying Tribal lands) can provide some relief to ACP households that may struggle to afford broadband after the ACP ends. At present, approximately 7.6 million households are currently enrolled in the Lifeline program. While not all of the more than 23 million ACP households will qualify for Lifeline under the law, some ACP households not presently participating in Lifeline may be eligible for the program.

I hope you can help raise awareness of the Lifeline program at this critical time. We have developed a number of resources for our state partners that you might find useful: <https://www.usac.org/lifeline/resources/state-and-federal-partners/>. In addition, the Commission is available to provide training with respect to the Lifeline program and its enrollment process. To request training, please email [Outreach@fcc.gov](mailto:Outreach@fcc.gov) for assistance. I am also enclosing with this letter state-by-state ACP and Lifeline enrollment data and a fact sheet outlining the differences

between Lifeline and the ACP, which may be a useful tool for discussions with households and organizations that have relied on this program.

I appreciate your assistance helping ACP households navigate this transition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T B Harkrader". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Trent B. Harkrader

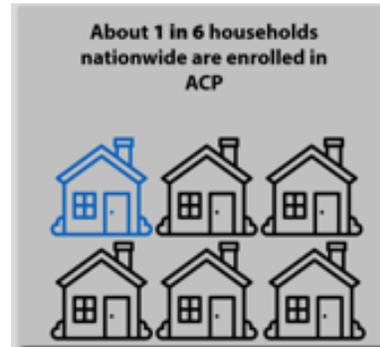

**ACP Impact by State**

	<b>Total ACP Support</b> as of 4/15/2024	<b>Households in State</b> <b>Enrolled in ACP</b> as of 2/8/2024	<b>Total Enrolled</b> <b>ACP Households</b> as of 2/8/2024	<b>Total Enrolled Lifeline</b> <b>Households</b>
<b>AK</b>	\$25,947,939.49	1 in 11	24,784	19,092
<b>AL</b>	\$256,322,227.72	1 in 5	413,668	85,045
<b>AR</b>	\$127,810,694.88	1 in 6	215,017	80,151
<b>AS</b>	\$1,525,853.42	1 in 6	1,684	1,964
<b>AZ</b>	\$345,900,530.41	1 in 6	522,188	189,510
<b>CA</b>	\$1,668,542,768.52	1 in 5	2,945,282	1,123,349
<b>CO</b>	\$145,117,203.67	1 in 9	251,506	87,878
<b>CT</b>	\$114,217,693.91	1 in 8	186,531	57,303
<b>DC</b>	\$39,804,345.83	1 in 5	63,806	20,367
<b>DE</b>	\$29,219,966.59	1 in 8	52,446	13,152
<b>FL</b>	\$998,666,744.97	1 in 5	1,707,856	263,655
<b>GA</b>	\$450,504,396.13	1 in 6	722,473	273,703
<b>GU</b>	\$845,296.02	1 in 30	1,322	335
<b>HI</b>	\$33,719,998.04	1 in 8	60,721	16,952
<b>IA</b>	\$71,028,071.97	1 in 11	124,054	49,646
<b>ID</b>	\$28,963,256.66	1 in 12	53,962	13,735
<b>IL</b>	\$405,980,581.32	1 in 7	704,532	268,537
<b>IN</b>	\$252,111,980.18	1 in 6	425,968	166,329
<b>KS</b>	\$74,822,449.35	1 in 9	133,746	27,292
<b>KY</b>	\$278,755,514.42	1 in 4	455,685	150,432
<b>LA</b>	\$331,652,761.95	1 in 3	558,780	185,940
<b>MA</b>	\$217,388,669.98	1 in 8	367,884	108,254
<b>MD</b>	\$164,531,848.94	1 in 8	287,722	135,094
<b>ME</b>	\$55,922,901.98	1 in 6	98,639	20,154
<b>MI</b>	\$519,164,671.59	1 in 4	941,244	308,610
<b>MN</b>	\$143,311,224.39	1 in 9	244,916	74,642
<b>MO</b>	\$228,362,833.79	1 in 6	395,504	124,268
<b>MP</b>	\$2,519,836.06	1 in 4	3,218	2,171
<b>MS</b>	\$155,225,827.33	1 in 5	244,280	94,907
<b>MT</b>	\$32,968,720.24	1 in 8	54,539	3,322
<b>NC</b>	\$550,562,963.17	1 in 5	901,394	136,436
<b>ND</b>	\$9,938,822.83	1 in 20	17,742	7,480
<b>NE</b>	\$54,668,414.80	1 in 8	96,140	6,908
<b>NH</b>	\$22,320,804.17	1 in 14	38,859	8,786
<b>NJ</b>	\$185,479,059.77	1 in 10	337,969	134,141
<b>NM</b>	\$142,712,302.34	1 in 5	184,131	60,866
<b>NV</b>	\$160,879,893.43	1 in 4	276,024	87,915
<b>NY</b>	\$1,014,672,822.76	1 in 4	1,792,187	630,691
<b>OH</b>	\$693,245,257.93	1 in 4	1,157,054	336,640
<b>OK</b>	\$349,462,349.32	1 in 5	351,879	165,342
<b>OR</b>	\$129,345,086.99	1 in 8	238,974	17,183
<b>PA</b>	\$454,442,743.35	1 in 7	763,742	308,612
<b>PR</b>	\$464,351,364.95	1 in 2	664,623	539,052
<b>RI</b>	\$45,800,238.34	1 in 5	83,516	23,119
<b>SC</b>	\$255,022,887.46	1 in 5	415,680	111,627
<b>SD</b>	\$17,154,189.43	1 in 14	24,194	5,021
<b>TN</b>	\$265,721,626.66	1 in 7	429,621	145,457
<b>TX</b>	\$1,027,650,914.54	1 in 7	1,718,552	243,963
<b>UT</b>	\$42,800,509.89	1 in 14	75,088	28,298
<b>VA</b>	\$267,711,614.03	1 in 7	470,457	154,695
<b>VI</b>	\$2,641,626.54	1 in 6	6,780	1,368
<b>VT</b>	\$14,507,702.14	1 in 11	25,923	8,030
<b>WA</b>	\$206,187,265.84	1 in 8	358,024	132,151
<b>WI</b>	\$255,650,681.84	1 in 6	426,733	114,873
<b>WV</b>	\$76,150,942.14	1 in 6	128,571	58,835
<b>WY</b>	\$12,293,643.32	1 in 11	21,736	893



## Affordable Connectivity Program & Lifeline

More than 23 million households, or 1 in 6 households nationwide, are no longer receiving the full monthly ACP support they have come to rely on over the past two years. An FCC survey revealed that losing the ACP benefit may force up to 77 percent of participating households to change their plan or drop internet service entirely. Some ACP households may be eligible to sign up for the FCC's Lifeline program. While the Lifeline program will not fully replace the ACP benefit, it may help keep ACP households connected.



### What is Lifeline?

Lifeline is an FCC program that helps to lower the cost of internet and/or phone service for qualifying households. The benefits of the Lifeline program include:

- A service discount of up to \$9.25/month, or
- A service discount of up to \$34.25/month if you live on qualifying Tribal lands

### Eligibility for Lifeline includes:

- Household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (this is different than the ACP's 200%).
- Participation in Federal Assistance Programs:
  - Medicaid,
  - SNAP,
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI),
  - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA), including Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8 Vouchers), Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)/Section 202/Section 811, Public Housing, Affordable Housing Programs for American Indians, Alaska Natives or Native Hawaiians
  - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit,

ACP qualifying programs that **do NOT** qualify a household for Lifeline:

- Federal Pell Grant,
- Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools
- Special Supplemental Nutritional Program for Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC)
- A participating provider's existing low-income internet program.

Eligible ACP households that are not already receiving Lifeline will need to complete a Lifeline application to enroll. Households can visit [lifelinesupport.org](https://lifelinesupport.org) to apply for Lifeline and learn more about the program.

**Not all ACP providers participate in the Lifeline program.** You can find participating service providers by visiting the [Companies Near Me Tool](#).