

**RENEWAL OF COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY,
AND
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

Verification of Eligibility of Lifeline Program Subscribers

The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, provides that a matching agreement shall remain in effect only for such period, not to exceed eighteen (18) months, as the Data Integrity Board of the agency determines is appropriate.

Within three (3) months prior to the expiration of such an agreement, the Data Integrity Board of the agency may, without additional review, renew the matching agreement for a current, ongoing matching program for not more than one (1) year if: (i) such program will be conducted without any change; and (ii) each party to the agreement certifies to the board in writing that the program has been conducted in compliance with the agreement. 5 U.S.C. § 552a(o)(2)(D).

The following meets the conditions for renewal.

- I. TITLE OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM:** Computer Matching Agreement between Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (PDHS) and Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- II. RECIPIENT AGENCIES:** FCC and USAC
- III. SOURCE AGENCY:** PDHS
- IV. PURPOSE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM:**

The purpose of this matching agreement is to provide the FCC's Lifeline program, as administered by USAC, with information about whether an individual participates in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Medicaid. Since participation in such programs makes individuals eligible for the Lifeline program, 47 C.F.R. § 54.409(a)(2), the automated matching undertaken through this agreement is a cost-effective and efficient way to verify that an individual may receive the benefits of the Lifeline program.

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the FCC to establish federal universal support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program for low-income consumers. 47 U.S.C. § 254(b). The FCC has appointed USAC as the permanent Administrator of the federal Universal Service Fund support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program. 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.701-717.

PDHS is responsible for the oversight and supervision of SNAP and Medicaid eligibility under 62 P.S. § 201 and 403. PDHS maintains the case records and confidential personally identifiable information (PII) of individual applicants and recipients for SNAP and Medicaid.

V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT:

The current effective period of the matching agreement is April 7, 2021 through October 6, 2022.

VI. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE RENEWAL OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT:

Upon execution of the certification by the parties and approval of the Data Integrity Board of the FCC, the effective period is renewed for the period of October 7, 2022 through October 6, 2023.

VII. AGENCY CERTIFICATION:

As designated representatives of the agencies participating in the matching program, we certify that: (i) the matching program will be conducted without change; and (ii) the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the current agreement.

A. Source Agency

B. Recipient Agencies

Inez Titus

Inez Titus
Deputy Secretary
Department of Human Services
Office of Income Maintenance

Pamela Hughet

Vice President, Lifeline
Universal Service Administrative Company

August 22, 2022

Date

Date

Mark Stephens

Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Date

VIII. DATA INTEGRITY BOARD APPROVAL

On behalf of the Data Integrity Board of the Federal Communications Commission, respectfully, I approve the renewal of the current agreement.

Elliot S. Tarloff
Chairperson, Data Integrity Board
Federal Communications Commission

Date