

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.31 Lifeline

A3.31.1 Description of Service

- A. The Lifeline program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service for qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the Kentucky Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- B. Lifeline is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- C. Federal baseline support of **\$8.20** is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to the subscriber. An additional \$3.50 credit is provided by the Company. Supplemental federal support of \$1.75, matching one half of the Company contribution, will also be passed along to the Lifeline subscriber. The total Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in Kentucky is **\$13.45**. The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes the access line, the Subscriber Line Charge and local usage. (C)

A3.31.2 Regulations

- A. General
 1. Customers eligible under the Lifeline program are also eligible for connection assistance under the Link-Up program.
 2. One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only. The named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the low income assistance programs identified in I. (T)
 3. A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residence customers. Since the Lifeline credit is applicable to the primary residential connection only, it may not be applied to a multiple line package local service offering.
 4. Toll blocking, if elected, will be provided at no charge to the Lifeline subscriber.
 5. The deposit requirement is not applicable to a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required. When applicable, advance payments will not exceed the connection and local service charges for one month.
 6. Lifeline service is exempt from the Installment Billing Service Fee.
 7. The Federal Universal Service Charge will not be billed to Lifeline customers.
 8. A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of regulated toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local calls in accordance with A2. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of regulated tolls. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges. (T)
 9. The non-discounted federal Lifeline credit amount will be passed along to resellers ordering local service at the prescribed resale discount from this Tariff, for their eligible end users. Any additional credit to the end user will be the responsibility of the reseller. Eligible carriers, as defined by the FCC, are required to establish their own Lifeline programs.
- B. Eligibility
 1. To be eligible for a Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any one of the following low income assistance programs.
 - a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - b. Food Stamps
 - c. Medicaid
 - d. Federal public housing
 - e. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - f. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
 - g. National School Lunch's free lunch program (NSL)
 2. All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.31 Lifeline (Cont'd)

A3.31.2 Regulations (Cont'd)

C. Certification

1. Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company at the time of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company. If the customer requests installation prior to the Company's receipt of proof of eligibility, the requested service will be provided without the Lifeline credit. When eligibility documentation is provided subsequent to installation, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis.
2. The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
3. When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.
4. Resellers providing Lifeline service from this tariff are responsible for determining proof of eligibility prior to requesting the service. As set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 417(a) and (b), a reseller must provide a certification, upon request, to BellSouth that it is complying with all FCC and applicable State requirements governing Lifeline/Link-Up programs, including certification and verification procedures. Resellers are required to retain the required documentation for three (3) years and be able to produce the documentation to the Commission or its Administrator to demonstrate that they are providing discounted services only to qualified low-income customers as outlined in B.1. and B.2. Disclosure requirements described in 2., are applicable to resellers of Lifeline service. (T)

A3.31.3 Rates and Charges

A. General

1. Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
2. Service Charges in Section A4. are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
3. Link-Up connection assistance in Section A4. may be available for installing or relocating Lifeline service.
4. The Secondary Service Charge in Section A4. is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline service.

B. The Lifeline credit passed through to the customer consists of

- (1) Federal Credit, one per Lifeline

	Monthly Credit	USOC	
(a) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	\$9.95	ASGFS	(C)
(b) Food Stamps	9.95	ASGFC	(C)
(c) Medicaid	9.95	ASGS1	(C)
(d) Federal public housing	9.95	ASGFP	(C)
(e) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Plan (LIHEAP)	9.95	ASGFL	(C)
(f) Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	9.95	ASGFA	(C)
(g) National School Lunch's free lunch program (NSL)	9.95	ASGFN	(C)

- (2) Company credit

(a) One per Lifeline service	3.50	CRA
------------------------------	-------------	------------