

Low Income Assistance Available

Changes brought about by the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 have resulted in low-income assistance programs. Low-income subscribers may qualify to receive reduced monthly and installation charges for basic telephone service.

What do the programs provide?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit each month on the basic service portion of their telephone bill. The credit applies on the main telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers may also receive blocking of long distance calls on their telephone at no charge.

Link-Up provides eligible subscribers with reduced connection charges for their basic home telephone service. This reduction is 50 percent of the applicable charges or \$30.00, whichever is less. Link-Up also provides for deferred payment of connection charges without interest. It does not cover the cost of wiring inside your home and is limited to one time per home address per subscriber.

The Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) is available for Minnesota residents and is designed to make telephone service accessible to qualifying low-income residential households. Through this program, eligible Minnesota households will receive a monthly discount on their telephone service.

Who is eligible?

Applicants must meet income eligibility requirements. See the reverse side of this form for a list of qualifications. **Telephone service must be in the applicant's name.**

How do I apply?

1. Complete the form on the reverse side of this page.
2. Provide proof that you are eligible. Federal law requires Alliance Communications to verify that you are eligible for the programs. Photocopy any cards or other documentation that proves you qualify. You also may stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office with your completed form and proof of eligibility, and we will make a photocopy of your proof of eligibility for you.

IMPORTANT: Participating in Medicare does NOT qualify you for the programs.

3. Return your proof as soon as possible. Again, you can stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office if that is more convenient for you. You also can mail your form and proof of eligibility to Alliance Communications, PO Box 349, Garretson, SD 57030.

Could I become ineligible?

When you no longer meet income eligibility requirements, you no longer qualify for Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP. You are obligated by law to advise Alliance Communications that you are ineligible.

Where can I get more information?

Contact Alliance Communications by dialing 611 or 1-800-701-4980.

Lifeline, Link-Up and TAP Assistance Application

(Please print)

Name

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Street Address

(Street)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

Mailing Address

if different from above

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

Telephone # if you have service (MUST be in your name): (_____) _____

Number where you can be reached or receive messages: (_____) _____

Please answer the following questions (check appropriate lines):

1. I am applying for:

_____ Lifeline monthly telephone service discount

_____ Link-Up telephone connection charge discount

_____ TAP monthly telephone service discount for Minnesota residents

2. I am currently participating in the following program(s). Check all that apply and attach proof.

_____ National School Lunch Program

_____ Medicaid (Title XIX/Medical, State Supplemental Assist.)

_____ Supplemental Security Income

_____ Temporary Assistance for Needy Family or Minn. Family

_____ Low-Income Home Energy

Investment Program

_____ Federal Public Housing Assistance

_____ Food Stamps

If you do not receive benefits from any of the programs listed above BUT have an income at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Guidelines, you still can qualify. Please attach one of the following documents if you didn't check any items above:

_____ Last year's state, federal or tribal tax return

_____ Three consecutive months of the most recent
paycheck stub

_____ Veterans Administration benefits statement

_____ Unemployment or workmen's comp. statement

_____ Child support document

_____ Current annual income statement from employer

_____ Social Security benefits statement

_____ Retirement or pension benefits statement

_____ Divorce decree

_____ Other

I agree to notify Alliance Communications when I no longer participate in any of the above qualifying public assistance programs. I certify under the penalty of perjury that the above information is true. I have read the information on this application and understand I must meet the above qualifications to receive Lifeline, Link-Up and TAP assistance on my primary residential line.

Signature

Social Security No.

Date