

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2008**

Company: Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc

Address: PO Box 920
Clear Lake, SD 57226

Telephone number: 605.874.2181

Company contact: Margery Stava

Study Area Code: 391654

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)

- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)

- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.

- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.
(www.companywebsiteaddress.com)

- Company's information posted on USAC website.

- Other (describe): _____

*Required

Interstate Telecommunications
Cooperative, Inc.
312 4th Street West
P.O. Box 920
Clear Lake, South Dakota 57226

INTERSTATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, INC.



Phone: 605.874.2181
1.800.417.8667
Fax: 605.874.2014
E-Mail: info@itc-web.com
www.itc-web.com

Lifeline, Link Up, and Toll Limitation Service support provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. **Note:** Telecommunications carriers cannot charge a Lifeline customer federal USF fees on the local service portion of their telephone bill.

What type of discount is available?

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$8.25 per month in discounts.

Eligible residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands can receive up to an additional \$25 in Lifeline support, but must pay at least \$1 for basic monthly service.

Link Up reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50% discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200. Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

Toll Limitation Service (TLS) support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring large long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost.

How do I know whether I am eligible?

Eligibility for Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support *varies by state*. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support if they meet the eligibility criteria established by their state. In states that do not provide state support, an individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline. (See attached table.)

Residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands qualify if they participate in any of the programs listed above, have a household income that is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines, or participate in one of these programs:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance
- Head Start (income eligible)
- Tribal TANF

How do I apply to receive Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support discounts?

To apply for Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS discounts please contact ITC at any of our office locations or call 800.417.8767.

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SELF-CERTIFICATION FOR LIFELINE/LINK UP APPLICANTS QUALIFYING UNDER INCOME -BASED CRITERION

I, _____, certify under penalty of perjury that I qualify for Lifeline/Link Up assistance based on my household income that is at below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. I further certify under penalty of perjury that there are _____ members in my household and that the supporting income documentation presented to my telecommunications provider accurately represents the annual income of all members of my household.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Telephone # _____ Member # _____

2008 Estimated Income Requirements for a Household At or Below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States & DC
1	\$14,040
2	\$18,900
3	\$23,760
4	\$28,620
5	\$33,480
6	\$38,340
7	\$43,200
8	\$48,060
For each additional person, add	\$ 4,860

N:\forms lifeline & linkup income doc

Former ITC Director Will Be Missed

On April 22, Maynard Whitmyre passed away at his home near Webster, South Dakota. He was 75 years old. Services were held at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Bristol, SD on April 26, 2008.

Maynard was born on September 10, 1932 in Webster, SD. Maynard and his wife Dolores were currently living on a farm near Webster. They operated Whitmyre Tours and farmed and raised cattle with their son.

Maynard was very active in his community. He was an active member of the Butler Lutheran Church. He also served on many boards and participated in many organizations. Maynard served on the ITC Board of Directors from 1999 until 2003. He enjoyed "being a part of a fast-growing telecommunications industry and representing the member owners of ITC." He was a great asset to the Board and will be greatly missed.



Happy
Father's
Day!

ITC congratulates Marg Stava, ITC's Customer Service Supervisor, on winning the Employee of the Year award given by the Clear Lake Community Club. Marg has worked at ITC for 45 years and is an active

Congrats!



member of the community. She is a dedicated employee and a very deserving person to win this award. Congratulations Marg!



ITC employees and their families participated in the March of Dimes Walk to Save Babies in Brookings, South Dakota on April 12th. Pictured above is all the ITC "Walker" Bees! Starting on left: Mike Hubbard, Holly McGrath, Matt Stormo, Bill Renneker, Jody Feucht, Jeff Rogers, Kathy Weitala, Dara Weitala, Brady & Jennifer Short-Gladis, Jared Kruse, and Rick Bauer. Others not pictured include: Brad & Terena Mathis and Mary Hubbard.

Lifeline and Link-up Programs

The Lifeline and Link-up Programs are two federal telephone assistance programs that ITC is authorized to provide. These programs are available to assist with the affordability of telephone service to low-income citizens.

The Lifeline program provides reduced monthly charges to subscribers who qualify. This program provides a monthly credit on the basic service portion of the participant's phone bill. The credit applies to the main home telephone line.

The Link-up program allows eligible subscribers to receive a reduced connection charge for their basic home telephone service. This program reduction is 50% of the activation charges with the maximum benefit of \$30.00. This program also provides deferred payment of connection charges without interest. Link-up does not cover the cost of wiring in the home.

To be eligible for these programs the telephone service must be in the applicant's name. The applicant must also participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs: Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Housing Assistance, Low Income Home Energy Assistance, Temporary Assistance of Needy Families, National Free School Lunch Program, Income Below 135% of Federal Poverty Guidelines, Minnesota Family Investment Program (MN customers only).

These are federal government programs; each state has its own qualifying guidelines. Check with your local telephone company for specific details to qualify. There is also additional Lifeline and Link-up assistance to qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. If you would like to find out more about these programs call ITC at 1-800-417-8667.

Upcoming District Elections

Just a reminder - if you are in Districts One, Three, Five, and Six, there will be openings for ITC Board of Directors. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Todd Morris at ITC. Also, businesses should make sure to fill out the voter designations form at least 10 days before voting begins.

- June 13 - Petitions are due to the ITC Headquarters office in Clear Lake.
- June 23 - Ballots and candidate biographies will be mailed out to districts with candidates running for a director position.
- July 14 - Ballots are due to ITC.

Happy
4th of July!
ITC offices will be
closed on July 4th
for the holiday.