

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2009**

Company: Midstate Telecom, Inc.
Address: 120 E. 1st
PO Box 48
Kimball, SD 57355
Telephone number: 605-778-6221
Company contact: Peggy Reinesch
Study Area Code: 399011

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

SMALL DIRECTORIES ARE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

In response to customer requests Midstate Communications will once again be selling the small directories with only Midstate Communications' customers listed. This book will not be available until April and will be available for sale at our Kimball and our Chamberlain offices.



Important Dates to Remember...

Please mark the following dates, regarding our billing schedule, on your calendar. Bills are mailed the last business day of each month, and payment is due on the 20th of the month. Paying on time saves frustrating calls and unwanted late fees.

- **Last Business Day of Each Month**
Bills mailed out from Midstate's office
- **5th of Each Month**
Disconnect of all accounts with a 30 day balance.
- **20th of Each Month**
Bills are due in either Midstate office by 12:00 p.m.
- **20th of Each Month**
Overdue notices mailed out and late fees will be applied to all delinquent accounts.

**All Midstate bills are due upon receipt. Any bills that have not been received by the 5th of the following month will be disconnected. To be reconnected the bill must be paid in full and will be subject to a down payment and appropriate reconnect fees.*

High School Seniors DON'T MISS OUT!

The Midstate Communications and Midstate Telecom Scholarship deadline of April 1, 2009 is quickly approaching. Midstate will once again be awarding ten (10) \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors within our telephone exchange service areas and one (1) scholarship in the Midstate Telecom service area.

Eligibility for receiving a scholarship includes: the student must be a graduating high school senior in the year the scholarship is presented. The student and the student's parent or legal guardian must reside in and be an active member and telephone subscriber with a Midstate Communications Cooperative or Midstate Telecom exchange.

Applications may be downloaded from Midstate's web page at www.midsatesd.net, or contact your local high school counselors or the Midstate offices.

Once again, applications are due at the Midstate office by April 1, 2009.

Directories to be delivered in April

The 2009 "Central Connections" directories will be delivered to your mailboxes in April. Each customer, business and residential, will be mailed a directory. Additional directories will be available for pick up at numerous locations throughout our exchanges.

The directories are available at the following locations:

Chamberlain	Midstate Telecom Office
Delmont	First State Bank
Fort Thompson	Post Office
Gann Valley	Court House Treasurer's Office
Geddes	First State Bank
Platte	First Fidelity bank, Bank of the West
Kimball	Midstate Communications Office
New Holland	Overweg Feed & Grocery
Pukwana	Brule County Co-op
White Lake	Farmers & Merchant Bank
Stickney	Farmer's State Bank



Lifeline – Monthly Discounts on Your Phone Bill

In these tough economic times everyone is looking for ways to pinch pennies and save a little money. One of the ways that Midstate Communications can help is a government sponsored program called Lifeline/Link-up. This program provides a discount of \$8.25 monthly for local phone service.

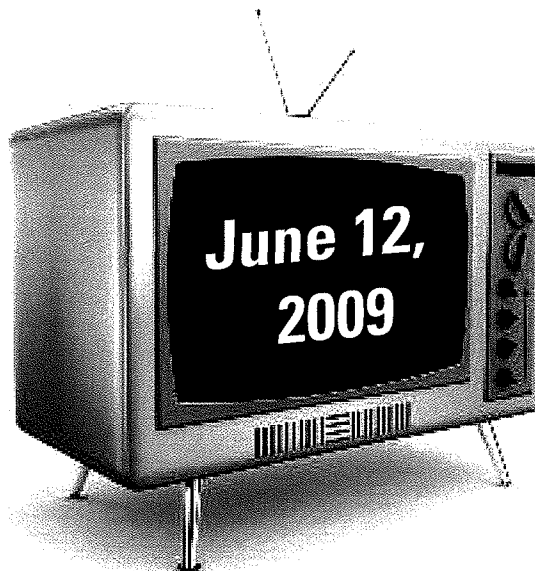


In order to qualify, customers would need to fill out an application and meet the criteria outlined on the form. A Midstate Communications employee would need to see verification that the applicant qualifies for a government assistance program. (The programs that allow qualification are: Medicaid, Food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance, Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance program, Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Head Start, National FREE School Lunch Programs, or household income is below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.)

If you have any questions on this program and are wondering if you qualify, please call Midstate Communications at 605-778-6221 for more information or to receive an application.

Digital TV Transition

As you have probably seen advertised, all TV stations are being required by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) to broadcast their stations digitally. This is what is being referred to as the "Digital Transition". The date for the digital switch was originally set for February 17, 2009; however, the FCC recently postponed that date to June 12, 2009. This Digital Transition applies only to those who receive the broadcast channels on their TV through an antenna on their roof or rabbit ears on top of their TV. If you have Cable TV with Midstate you will not need to do anything as we have already taken care of the transition for you. If you have questions, go to www.dtv2009.gov.



What is the Main Difference between http & https — It's all about keeping you secure!

HTTP stands for HyperText Transport Protocol, which is just a fancy way of saying it's a protocol (a language, in a manner of speaking) for information to be passed back and forth between web servers and clients. The important thing is the letter S which makes the difference between HTTP and HTTPS. The S stands for "Secure."

If you visit a website or webpage, and look at the address in the web browser, it will likely begin with the following: http://. This means that the website is talking to your browser using the regular 'unsecure' language. In other words, it is possible for someone to "eavesdrop" on your computer's conversation with the website! If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site. This is why you should never ever enter your credit card number in an http website!

But if the web address begins with https:// that basically means your computer is talking to the website in a secure code that no one can eavesdrop on.

You understand why this is so important, right? If a website ever asks you to enter your credit card information, you should automatically look to see if the web address begins with https://. If it doesn't, there's no way you're going to enter sensitive information like a credit card number.

Senior Citizens — Beware of Phone Scam!!



Some of you may have seen on the news or read in the paper about an elderly woman from Mitchell that recently was taken in by a phone call that swindled her out of \$3000. According to the Kelo-land web site, this senior citizen received a call on her home phone that ended up costing her dearly. The young man on the other end said "Hi, Grandma", and she responded by addressing her grandson, Todd, whom she thought was on the other end. He claimed that he was in Canada and had gotten himself into some trouble. He asked her if she could please help him out by wiring some money through a wire transfer to Canada. He told her exactly how to draw the money from her credit card and wire it to him at a Walmart store in Canada.

She did exactly as she was told, thinking she was helping her grandson that she loved out of a tough spot.

She called him a few days later to see if he was safely home from his trip to Canada only to find out that there was no trip to Canada, and that the man that she talked to the day before, the man she wired \$3000 to, was not her grandson. Though this case is under investigation, they have not yet found any way to track the money or get it back. It would seem, at this point, that she has lost \$3000.

Her intention in making this public is to let others know to beware of this. One of the customer service representatives at Midstate Communications took a call at the beginning of February from an elderly woman in one of our exchanges saying that she had just received a similar call. She avoided the scam, but we want our customers to be aware of the scam to protect you from losing money and being taken in by this trick. Law enforcement believes scammers are most likely calling random numbers until they happen to reach a senior citizen.

Midstate Communications has features that can help protect you from scams and telemarketers by placing restrictions on the calls that come into your home, such as Caller Identification, Telemarketer Call screening or Anonymous Caller Rejection. Please call our office for more details at 605-778-6221.

Get High Definition Channels with Midstate's PVR

When you sign up to have a Personal Video Recorder (PVR) installed in your home you will also receive, at NO extra charge, all of Midstate Communications High Definition TV channels. In order to receive these channels in true High definition with crystal clear picture and sound, your TV must be HD capable. We currently have the Outdoor Channel, HGTV and the Food Network in High Definition, just to name a few. Check us out in High Definition – call today to get a PVR installed. You can see our full channel line up at www.midstatesd.net under the Cable TV tab.

EXPERIENCE MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS DIGITAL CABLE TODAY!!!

**YOU'LL BE
BLOWN
AWAY
WITH OUR NEW
HIGH DEFINITION
CHANNELS**



**Midstate
COMMUNICATIONS**

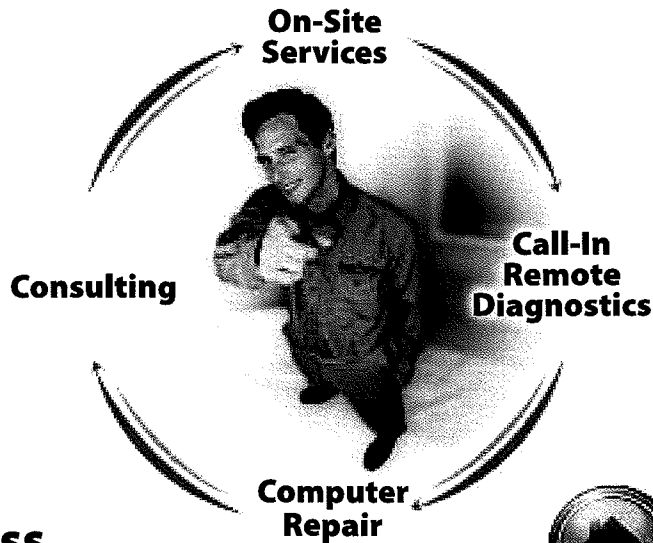
MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS HAS WHAT YOUR LOOKING FOR!!!

- **Over 100 Digital Channels To Choose From!**
- **Record Your Favorite Shows With The NEW Personal Video Recorder Set Top Box!**
- **A NEW Interactive Program Guide!**
- **40 DMX Music Channels**

visit us on the web at www.midstatesd.net

In today's world of computer technology, you depend on fast, reliable services.

Midstate Communications offers a full range of computer solutions to meet your technology needs. Our highly trained staff provides professional, high-quality service at affordable rates in the comfort and convenience of your home or business.



Business Services...

- Server Installataion & Support
- Anti-virus and Internet Security Solutions
- Data Backup & Recovery
- Wireless Networking
- Technology Consulting
- Troubleshooting & Repair
- Remote Managed Services
- Network Design & Management
- Computer Network Security
- Email Server & Mobile Device Support
- Computer Sales & Consulting



Residential Services...

- Anti-Virus & Internet Security Solutions
- Data Backup & Recovery
- Wireless Networking
- Troubleshooting & Repair
- Computer Clean-up & Repair
- Computer Network Security
- Computer Sales & Consulting
- Additional Services



PO Box 48
Kimball, SD 57355
778-6221
www.midstatesd.net



MESSENGER

Volume 15 • Issue 6
June 2008

120 E. First, P.O. Box 48, Kimball, SD 57355 • (605) 778-6221 • Fax: (605) 778-8080

Midstate Cable Television Feature Channel...

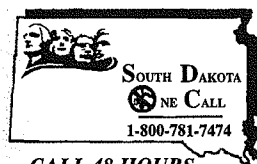
The Weather Channel

As summer approaches so does the severe weather season. You can get all pertinent weather information from The Weather Channel.

Various programs are run throughout the day highlighting current weather conditions across the United States, in addition to original programming.

Throughout time weather has shaped history. NASA, World War II, and historic heroic rescue attempts have all been impacted by the weather. This new series uncovers the most powerful moments in history and the remarkable role played by Mother Nature. When Weather Changed History airs each Sunday night at 8:00 p.m.

Storm Stories features real-life individuals who have stood face-to-face with Nature challenging its wrath. Host Jim Cantore talks with heroic rescuers and survivors who share with him their stories of triumph and tragedy. Storm Stories can be seen Monday-Friday at 1:00 p.m.



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG - IT'S FREE
South Dakota One Call
24 Hours per day
1-800-781-7474
www.sdonecall.com

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2008 Midstate Communication Scholarship Winners!!

Once again, Midstate Communications is honored to announce the 2008 Midstate Communications Scholarship winners.

Each year, ten, \$500.00 scholarships are awarded to outstanding graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members of the Midstate Communications cooperative and one scholarship to a student in the Midstate Telecom exchange. Over 50 students applied for the eleven scholarships. Applicants were judged by an impartial committee outside of Midstate Communications on their essay, community activities, school activities and achievement. This marks the tenth year that Midstate has awarded scholarship to students within our serving area. Midstate is proud to offer the program as we are committed to supporting the youth in our service areas.

Hats off to this year's Midstate Communications Scholarship winners and to the entire class of 2008!

Anne Wentworth, Stickney High School
Parent(s): Jim & Jackie Wentworth

Elizabeth Bosworth, White Lake High School
Parent(s): Joe & Becky Bosworth

Emily Nachtigal, Platte-Geddes High School
Parent(s): Sam & Patti Nachtigal

Jordan Hanten, White Lake High School
Parent(s): Joe & Paulena Hanten

Jessica Van Vuren, Dakota Christian High School
Parent(s): Vern & Jan Van Vuren

Avery Tooley, Platte-Geddes High School
Parent(s): William Tooley & Margaret Bobertz

Ashley Veurink, Dakota Christian High School
Parent(s): Brad & Debra Veurink

Logan Holter, Platte-Geddes High School
Parent(s): Jim & Kathy Holter

Christen Backes, Kimball High School
Parent(s): David & Sherri Backes

Midstate Telecom Scholarship Winner:

Jenna Petrak, Chamberlain High School
Parent(s): Mel & Janet Petrak

Alyssa Gough, Kimball High School
Parent(s): Michelle Gough

Director Elections for 2008 Scheduled

In accordance with the bylaws of the cooperative, director elections have been scheduled for three districts. Election notices were sent out to each member in the corresponding district in May's billing along with the location and time the election is to be held.

Any person(s) who qualifies under the cooperative's bylaws may run for the directorships, including incumbent directors.

District Director Elections are scheduled as follows to elect one director from each district:

Date	Exchange	Election Location	Time
July 15	Stickney	Legion Café	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
July 16	New Holland	Overweg Feed & Seed	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
July 17	Kimball	Ponderosa Cafe	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Should there be only one petitioner in any of these districts, the scheduled meeting will be utilized as the annual Telco Days event for each exchange.

Individuals interested in seeking a position on the board of directors can pick up a petition at the Midstate Communications office in Kimball or by calling 778-6221. Petitions must be completed and returned no later than 30 days prior to the district election date stated above for the exchange in which you are filing for a position.

2008 Telco Days Are Coming To Your Community...Plan To Attend!!

It's time for us to pack up the vans and hit the road on our annual Telco Days trip to all of our exchanges to spend a day visiting with you, our customer owners, over a cup of coffee and mouth watering cookies.

Plan to attend this year's Telco Days in your community to sign up for great door prizes and talk with Midstate representatives. Everyone who attends will go home with a gift so stop in and pick up your gift.

Telco days for the months of June will be held in the following communities from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.:

DATE	EXCHANGE	LOCATION
June 4	Academy	Academy Fire Hall
June 5	Gann Valley	Gann Valley Community Center
June 10	Delmont	No Place Steakhouse (11:00 – 1:00 pm.)
June 16	Platte	Dutch Oven Bakery
June 17	Geddes	4th & Main Mini Mall
June 19	White Lake	Jackie's Café

NOTE: The Academy Telco day has been rescheduled to Wednesday, June 4, 2008 due to the Primary Elections.

We hope to see you there!!

Lifeline and Linkup Service Available to Low Income Households

Midstate Communications and Midstate Telecom are authorized to provide federal telephone assistance programs. Two such programs provided by both companies are Lifeline and Link-Up. Both were developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service for low income citizens.

The Lifeline program provides a \$8.25 monthly credit on the basic phone service portion of the participant's telephone bill. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers may also receive free long distance blocking on their telephone line at no charge.

Link-Up provides eligible subscribers with reduced connection charges for their basic home telephone service. This reduction is 50% of the applicable charges or \$30 or 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.

Applicants are eligible if they participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs and can show proof of participation: Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), National School Lunch (NSL) Free Lunch Program, Food Stamps, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance, or income is at or below (135%) of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Additional Lifeline and Link-Up support is available to those qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) can verify whether or not a specific location meets the Enhanced Tribal Lifeline/Link-Up designation. Enhanced Tribal Lifeline and Link-Up provides for expanded eligibility opportunities and additional telephone service discounts. In addition to the previously cited programs for those individuals residing on Tribal Lands, participation in any of the following meets the eligibility standard: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance; Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Head Start Programs (under income qualifying eligibility provisions only). If you are on Lifeline or Link-Up and are no longer eligible for any of these low-income programs you are obligated by law to notify Midstate Communications or Midstate Telecom of your ineligibility.

Contact the Midstate Communications office in Kimball at 778-6221 or the Midstate Telecom office in Chamberlain at 234-8000, for more information or application forms.

Digital Television Transmission Notice

After February 17, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players and similar products.

The DTV transition will have no effect on your access to Multi-Channel Video Programming Distributor (MVPD) service. Analog sets not connected to an MVPD service may need additional equipment (i.e. converter box) or may have to be replaced. If you currently subscribe to Midstate Cable Television service your current television sets will continue to operate properly.

Information about the DTV transition is available from www.DTV.gov or by calling Midstate Communications at 778-6221 or online at www.midstatesd.net, and from www.dtv2009.gov or 1-888-DTV-2009 for information about subsidized coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes.

Save a Penny...Use Auto Bank Deduct or E-statement from Midstate Communications

With the recent increase in the price of a stamp from \$.41 to \$.42 there is not a better time to make the switch to Auto Bank Deduct or E-statement from Midstate Communications.

With Auto Bank Deduct you will never have to worry about another late fee, or making sure your bill is mailed into our office on time. You simply choose either the 4th, 10th or 19th of each month and your payment will automatically be drawn from either your checking, savings or credit card. Your payments will be made on time each month with no hassles along with saving you \$.42 each month.

For those customers who subscribe to Midstate's free E-statement you not only receive your monthly Midstate bill online you can also pay your bill online. With E-statement you can make either a one-time payment online or set it up where it will automatically withdraw and pay your monthly bill for you every month.

Midstate gives you two easy ways to pay your monthly bill and two easy ways to save you money each month. If you would like more information or would like to subscribe to either Auto Bank Deduct or E-statement, contact one of our Customer Service Representatives at 778-6221 or 234-8000.

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS-Cont'd

Customer-Provided Equipment

Customer-provided equipment may not be attached to or connected with telephone facilities unless (1) it is registered or otherwise approved by the Federal Communications Commission (2) it meets the conditions set forth in the company's tariffs, and (3) advance notification is given to the telephone company, by the customer, of the type of equipment to be connected and the type of telephone company facility required to make the connections. These rules and tariffs are designed to meet the convenience of the customer and at the same time protect the telephone network against any possible hazards to customers and company employees.

The telephone companies will not maintain and may not be able to repair customer-provided equipment. A service charge may apply if the telephone company visits the premises of the customer and the service difficulty or trouble is found to have been caused by the customer-provided equipment or facilities.

If you have any questions concerning the use of customer-provided equipment, please contact your Business Office.

Public Utilities Commission (PUC)

If the problem cannot be solved to your satisfaction, you may refer your complaint to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) at 500 East Capitol Ave, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070 or telephone 605-773-3201 or toll free 1-800-332-1782.

Taxes

Federal law requires a 3 percent excise tax on telephone rental and long distance charges. These taxes are billed to all telephone users not specifically exempt by law. All taxes collected are remitted to the proper federal and state agencies.

Allowance For Failure Of Service

The Telephone Companies do not guarantee uninterrupted working of its lines or equipment. In case service is interrupted otherwise than by the negligence or willful act of the subscriber,

an adjustment will, upon application by a subscriber, be made in the amount of charges for such service, equipment, and facilities furnished as are rendered useless or inoperative. Any adjustment shall apply only to the period the interruption continues beyond 24 hours after notice of the interruption is received by the Telephone Companies. No other liability shall in any case attach to the Telephone Companies.

Billing And Payment For Service

If you desire assistance or explanation regarding your bill, please call the Business Office.

National Do Not Call Registry

The federal government created the National Do Not Call Registry to make it easier and more efficient for you to stop getting most telemarketing sales calls you don't want. You can register online at www.donotcall.gov if you have an active e-mail address, or you can call toll-free, 1-888-382-1222 (TTY 1-866-290-4236), from the number you wish to register. Registration is free and your number will stay in the registry for five years, until it is disconnected, or until you delete it from the registry. After five years, you may renew your registration.

If you receive telemarketing calls after you have registered your telephone number and it has been in the registry for three months, you can file a complaint at www.donotcall.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222 (TTY 1-866-290-4236). You will have to know the company's name or phone number to file a "do not call" complaint.

Annoying, Obscene, And Threatening Calls

If you get an annoying, obscene, or threatening call, hang up immediately. See page 30 for instructions on using Customer Originated Trace. Threatening calls should be reported immediately to the police. Obscene or harassing calls are prohibited by federal and state laws. A person who makes or permits such calls to be made over a telephone under his control may be fined or imprisoned, or both.

Telephone Assistance Programs

Low Income Assistance Available to Telephone Subscribers

Santel Communications and Midstate Communications are authorized to offer Lifeline and Link-up to our customers. Lifeline and Link-up are federal telephone assistance programs. To be eligible for either of these programs, the applicant must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs: Free Reduced School Lunch Program, Food Stamps, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or meet poverty level income guidelines.

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$8.25 each month on the basic service portion of their telephone bill. The discount applies on the main home 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 line at no charge.

Link-Up provides eligible subscribers with reduced installation charges for their basic home telephone service. The reduction is 50% of the applicable charges or \$30, whichever is less. It does not cover the cost of wiring inside the home and is limited to one time per home address per subscriber.

Tribal Lifeline/Link-Up

The Tribal Lifeline program provides a reduction in monthly charges to telephone customers who live on tribal lands and are currently receiving benefits from a qualifying public assistance program.

The Tribal Link-Up program provides a reduction in connection charges to telephone customers who live on tribal lands and are currently receiving benefits from a qualifying public assistance program.

For more information, call Midstate Customer Service at: 605-778-6221, 605-234-8000, or 1-888-214-1431
Email: midstate@midstatesd.net

OR

Santel Communications Customer Service at: 1-888-978-7777, 605-796-4411, or 777 from any Santel Exchange
Email: info@santel.net

For more information, you may also contact: www.lifelinesupport.org

NOTE: All rules & regulations in effect at time of printing are subject to change without notice.



.....**Midstate Communications - Your Best Connection!**

Lifeline / Linkup Assistance

Lifeline

Provides reduced monthly charges to telephone subscribers who qualify. Qualifying customers can receive basic phone service for as low as \$1.00 per month.

Items covered by the \$1.00 Lifeline portion of the program include basic one-party telephone service equipped with touch-tone and toll restriction (if requested). Not covered are second lines, leased equipment, long distance calls, 911 surcharge, the CIF or hearing impaired fund, taxes and optional calling features like Call Waiting and Caller ID.

To find out if you're eligible, see [below](#). To apply, click [here](#).

Linkup

Provides reduced connection charges to telephone subscribers who qualify. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone subscriber.

The reduction is up to \$100 (50% of the first \$60 and 100% of charges between \$60 and \$130).

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.

Those qualifying for Enhanced Lifeline Program will also qualify for the Link-Up Program which provides reduced connection charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

To find out if you're eligible, see [below](#). To apply, click [here](#).

Eligibility

Applicants must live on tribal lands and participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to qualify:

- Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- BIA General Assistance Programs
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Head Start (Meeting Income Test)
- National School Lunch Program
- Income-Based Criterion (income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines)

**** Participating members and members of the qualified member's household MUST:**

- 1). Be in good standing as a member of the Midstate Communications Cooperative.
- 2). Be current in all payments to Midstate Communications. Customers will be approved on an individual basis upon receipt of properly filed forms.

“Tribal Land” for purposes of the Enhanced Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Programs includes the BIA definitions of “reservation.” The term “reservation” means any federally recognized Indian Tribe’s reservation, Pueblo, or Colony, and Indian Allotments.

Click [here](#) to apply



120 E. First, P.O. Box 48, Kimball, SD 57355 • (605) 778-6221 • Fax: (605) 778-8080 • [Email](#)
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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of South Dakota

ss MAY 22 2009

County of Brule

EQUINE SERVICES, INC.

Debi Ruiz of said county, being, first duly sworn, on oath, says: That she is the publisher of *Central Dakota Times*, a weekly newspaper, published in the City of Chamberlain, in said County of Brule, and State of South Dakota; that she has full and personal knowledge of the facts herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper as defined in SDCL 17-2-2.1 through 17-2-2.4 inclusive; that said newspaper has been published within the said County of Brule and State of South Dakota, for at least one year next prior to the first publication of the attached public notice, and that the Lifeline, Link Up and Toll Limitation Service

a printed copy of which, taken from the paper in which the same was published, and which is hereto attached and made a part of this affidavit, was published in said newspaper for one successive week(s) to wit:

May 20, 2009, _____, 20____;
_____, 20____; _____, 20____;
_____, 20____; _____, 20____;

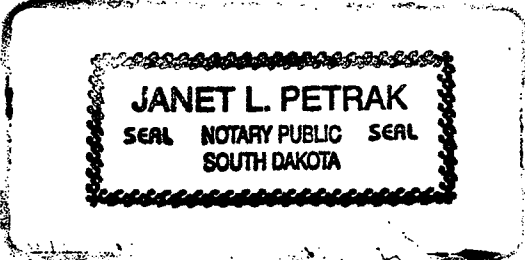
That the full amount of the fee charged for the publication of the attached public notice inures to the sole benefit of the publisher or publishers; that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof has been made with any other person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever; that the fees charged for the publication thereof are:

\$121-

Signed: Debi Ruiz

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of May, 2009

Janet L. Petrak
Notary Public in and for the County of Brule,
South Dakota



My commission expires June 5, 2010.



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 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 guidelines.

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 Midstate Telecom, 200 Paul Gust Road, Chamberlain, SD 57325 or by phone at 605-234-8000.

Important Notice Regarding the DTV Transition

After February 7, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players and similar products.

Information about the DTV transition is available from www.DTV.gov and from www.dtv2009.gov or 1-888-DTV-2009 for information about subsidized coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes.

5/22/2009

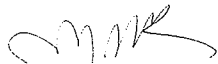
Send To Address

Dear Customer:

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) requires that we notify our customers on an annual basis of the Lifeline Link-up Assistance program. We have enclosed the paperwork explaining eligibility for this program as well as the application. Please review this information and if you qualify for the assistance please complete the application and return it to us with the documentation of the program you are participating in. Examples of documentation would be a copy of the food stamp EBT card if you qualify for food stamps, a copy of the Medicaid card in your name or a copy of the fuel assistance letter if you qualify for the Home Energy Assistance program. Each program has a document of proof that we would need to see as verification that you are eligible.

If you have questions about Lifeline or Link-up, the application form or your telephone service, please contact us at 778-6221 or 234-8000 for more information.

Sincerely,
MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.



Mark D. Benton
General Manager

MDB/jt

Enclosures