## West River Cooperative Telephone Company Lifeline & Link-Up Advertising/Outreach 2015-2016

Each month, Lifeline and Link-Up applications were included in the new member packets. All year long, information and applications are made available at our front desk in our central office and on our website (<a href="http://www.sdplains.com/lifeline-and-link-up/">http://www.sdplains.com/lifeline-and-link-up/</a>). Link to Lifeline information is available on our Facebook page, under the "About" link (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WRCTC">www.facebook.com/WRCTC</a>). All newsletters are provided online at <a href="https://www.wrctc.coop">www.wrctc.coop</a>.

### June 2015

- Provided Lifeline information and applications during Grand Electric's Annual Meeting.
- Article in newsletter about the Lifeline Program.

## September 2015

 Provided information and applications at the Tailgate Parties in Newell, Faith and Buffalo.

## October 2015

- Provided information and applications at the Tailgate Parties in Bison and Lemmon.
- Information and applications were made available at West River Cooperative Telephone's Annual Meeting.

## January 2016

 Information and applications were made available for interested individuals at the Vale Ag Show in Vale, SD.

## March 2016

 Information and applications were made available at the KBJM Farm & Home Show in Lemmon, SD.

### May 2016

- News release was sent out to all local newspapers.
- Lifeline & Link-Up information and applications for Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota and Tribal Lands were sent to all surrounding clinics, health nurses, and assisted living centers if they needed them.

## June 2016

- Lifeline Program information provided in the newsletter.
- Lifeline information and applications available at Grand Electric's Annual Meeting.

## MAY2016 NEWS RELEASE

WEST RIVER COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY
PO BOX 39
BISON, SD 57620
605-244-5213
CONTACT: Rachel Eggebo

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Lifeline: Affordable Telephone Service for Income-Eligible Consumers

### **Background**

Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounts on monthly telephone service for eligible low-income consumers to help ensure they have the opportunities and security that telephone service affords, including being able to connect to jobs, family, and 911 services. Lifeline is supported by the federal Universal Service Fund (USF).

## What Benefits are Available Under the Lifeline Program?

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic monthly local telephone service. An eligible customer will receive a discount of \$9.25 per month. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Lifeline service per household.

Lifeline can also include Toll Limitation Service, which enables a telephone subscriber to limit the amount of long distance calls that can be made from a telephone.

Link Up provides eligible low-income consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireline or wireless telephone for the primary residence. Tribal Lands Link Up also allows consumers to pay the remaining amount that they owe on a deferred schedule, interest-free. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Link Up discount at a primary residence. Eligible consumers may be eligible for Link Up again only after moving to a new primary residence. Link Up support is only offered to carriers who are building out infrastructure on Tribal lands so not all carriers may discount their activation fee. Enhanced benefits are provided to low-income consumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe's reservation.

## How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts?

The Lifeline program is available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. You must be eligible to enroll. To participate in the program, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- · Medicaid;
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP);
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8);
- •Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF);
- •National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program;
- · Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance;
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF);
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR);
- · Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or
- •State assistance programs (if applicable).

When you qualify for any of the above programs, you must complete a Lifeline Assistance Application. For more information, or to find out if you qualify for the programs, call your local telephone company, state Public Utility Commission, or the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-CALL-FCC. You may also visit the "Lifeline Across America" Web site [www.lifeline.gov].

## Schalesky earns American FFA Degree



Carrietta Schalesky receiving her American FFA Degree at the 88th Annual National FFA Convention & Expo.

Carrietta Schalesky. I am the 22 year old daughter of T.W. and Faye Schalesky. I have been an FFA member for the past 6 years. One of the major parts of being an FFA member is having a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). An SAE is a type of project that involves making a profit off of a type of business whether it be livestock, crops, or landscaping. My SAE included starting a purebred Rambouillet sheep flock. I started with a ram lamb and 2 ewe lambs and after 6 years I have developed my heard into 4 rams and 11 ewes. I kept track of all expense records, hours worked, and income that I made through the years.

Throughout all my years as an FFA member I have been working towards accomplishing one of the biggest goals that many FFA members look forward to accomplishing; The American FFA Degree. The American Degree is the highest award that any FFA member can achieve. Less than 1/2% of FFA members achieve their American Degree because of the time commitment, dedication and hard work that is required in order to achieve it. It is the final step in the FFA degree system

that encourages personal growth and achievement towards establishing ones self in the FFA organization and in an agricultural career.

In order to achieve the American FFA Degree I had to achieve the Green Hand Degree my freshman year of high school, the Chapter Degree during my sophomore year, and the State FFA Degree during my senior year of high school. The other requirements involved in the American Degree application involve completing at least 50 hours of community service with 3 different organizations, at least 3 full years of agricultural class offered in high school, and completed the full 6 years of records for the Supervised Agricultural Experience

After becoming a South Dakota State FFA officer for the 2013 -2014 year I wanted to take it one step further in my FFA experience and self-improve on my leadership skills and personal growth. On October 31, 2015 I fi-nally accomplished my goal of achieving the American FFA Degree. I got to walk across the sage at the 88th Annual National FFA Convention and Expo to be congratulated by the National FFA president and advisor to receive my certificate and Golden Kev pendent to be added to my gold degree chain that hangs from my blue corduroy FFA jacket.

I am definitely honored to receive the American FFA Degree because it is something I have been working towards my entire FFA career. All of the elements involved in achieving the American Degree have helped me become a better leader, be more knowledgeable about the agricultural way of life, and let me share my passion of agriculture with so many others. I encourage every other FFA member to work towards the American FFA Degree because has helped me become the person and leader I am today.

Lifeline: Affordable telephone service for income-eligible consumers

Background Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounts on monthly telephone service for eligible low-income consumers to help ensure they have the opportunities and security that telephone service affords, including being able to connect to jobs, family, and 911 services. Lifeline is supported by the federal Universal Service Fund (USF).

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Link Up provides eligible low-income consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireline or wireless telephone for the pri-mary residence. Tribal Lands Link Up also allows consumers to pay the remaining amount that they owe on a deferred schedule, interest-free. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Link Up discount at a primary residence. Eligible con-sumers may be eligible for Link Up again only after moving to a new primary residence. Link Up support is only offered to carriers who are building out infrastructure on Tribal lands so not all carmay discount their activation fee. Enhanced benefits

are provided to low-income con-

sumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe's reservation.

How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts? The Lifeline program is available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. You must be eligible to enroll. To participate in the program, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

· Medicaid;

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP):
- ·Supplemental Security Income (SSI):
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8);
- ·Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); ·Temporary Assistance to Needy
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF);
   National School Lunch Pro-
- gram's Free Lunch Program;
  Bureau of Indian Affairs Gen-
- eral Assistance;
  •Tribally-Administered Tempo-
- rary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF);
  •Food Distribution Program on
- Indian Reservations (FDPIR);
   Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or
- ·State assistance programs (if applicable).

When you qualify for any of the above programs, you must complete a Lifeline Assistance Application. For more information, or to find out if you qualify for the programs, call your local telephone company, state Public Utility Commission, or the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-CALL-FCC. You may also visit the "Lifeline Across America" Web site [www.lifeline.gov].



For your Memorial Day BBQ, check out our fine selection of Brats, Burgers & Steaks!

Ask about our in-store special.

Dakota Packing Co.

Hettinger • 701-567-2422

## Dr. Jason M. Hafner Dr. David J. Prosser Grand River Museum



Open for the Season on May I Bring your friends!

Hwy 12 • Lemmon 374-3911



## Cooperative Calling on You

## Office Closed

West River
Cooperative
Telephone
Company's
office will be
closed Friday,
July 3rd for
Independence
Day.



facebook.com/WRCTC

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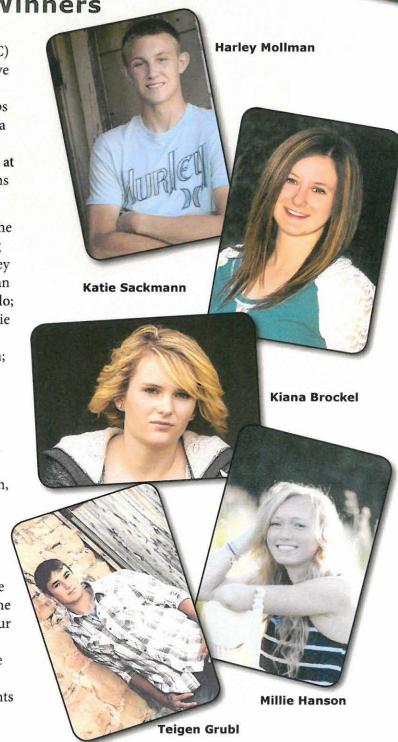
**Scholarship Winners** 

West River Cooperative Telephone Company (WRCTC) and Grand Electric Cooperative teamed together for the 14th year to award \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors from area school districts. Winners have been awarded their certificates at the Academic Awards programs at their respective schools.

Graduating seniors receiving the \$500 scholarships are: Harding County School District - Harley Mollman, son of Craig Mollman and Jennifer Wickstrom, Buffalo; Lemmon School District - Katie Sackmann, daughter of Jeffrey and Carla Sackmann, Lemmon; Bison School District - Kiana Brockel, daughter of Kelvin and Jean Brockel, Shadehill; Faith School District - Teigen Grubl, son of Shane and Launa Grubl, Red Owl and Newell School District - Millie Hanson, daughter of Mike and Michelle Hanson, Nisland.

WRCTC and Grand Electric sponsor this scholarship

program to help serve as an investment in the economic future of our rural area. 456-1835 It is used to recognize and encourage the academic achievements of students.



Congratulations to these outstanding students.

WRCTC and Grand Electric wish you the best of luck!

## **CPNI: What it Means to You**

## What is CPNI?

Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) is data 244-5569 collected by telecommunications carriers. This information includes the time, date, duration and destination number of each call as well as your long distance carrier. It can also include calling features such as VoiceMail or Call Waiting.

### What information is not CPNI?

Information such as your name, address, telephone number and non-telecommunication services including Internet or Cable Television is not considered CPNI.

## How am I protected?

Telecommunication companies must keep your information confidential. When you call in with questions about your telephone account, the FCC made it mandatory that you 866-4426 be "authenticated" prior to discussing details of your account.

## Can I add an authorized user to my account?

In order to add an authorized 375-3171 user to your account, you must contact your telephone company and request an additional user form.

## What if I have more questions?

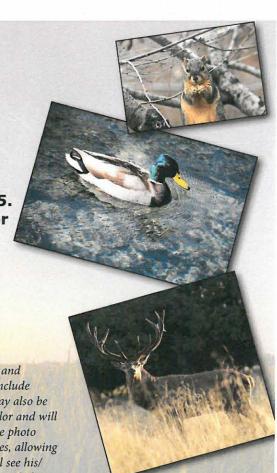
Please contact our office at 777 or 605-244-5213.

## 2016 Directory Photo Contest This year's theme is "WILDLIFE"

Snap a photo capturing our local wildlife and you could win \$100! Deadline to enter is August 14, 2015. Entries may be emailed to westriver@sdplains.com or mailed to WRCTC, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

- 1st Place \$100
- 2nd Place \$50
- 3rd Place \$25

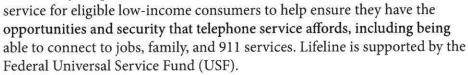
RULES: The photo must be an original taken by a WRCTC member. Wildlife must be alive and unharmed in the photo. Photos must be of local wildlife within WRCTC's service area and include the location where the photo was taken. Each customer may submit TWO photos. Photos may also be submitted on a computer disc or e-mailed as a jpeg or pdf file. The photos must be in full-color and will not be returned to the customer. Submission of the photo releases all right of ownership of the photo and authorizes WRCTC to publish the photo on the directory cover, or use as WRCTC desires, allowing proper acknowledgement to the photographer. The photographer who captures first place will see his/her photo on the front cover of the 2016 directory and will be awarded a \$100 cash prize; second place will receive \$50 and third place will receive \$25. Employees and Directors are not eligible.



# Lifeline: Affordable Telephone Service for Income-Eligible Consumers

## Background

Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounts on monthly telephone 376-3248



## What Benefits are Available Under the Lifeline Program?

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic monthly local telephone service. An eligible customer will receive a discount of \$9.25 per month. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Lifeline service per household. That is, eligible low-income consumers may receive a Lifeline discount on either a wireline or a wireless service, but may not receive a Lifeline discount on both services at the same time. Additionally, only ONE Lifeline service may be obtained per household. "Household" is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address as one economic unit. An "economic unit" is defined as "all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household." Lifeline support is available to eligible low-income consumers living in group living facilities. Lifeline applicants may demonstrate when initially enrolling in the program that any other Lifeline recipients residing at their residential address are part of a separate household.

Lifeline can also include Toll Limitation Service, which enables a telephone subscriber to limit the amount of long distance calls that 257-2718 can be made from a telephone.

Link Up provides eligible low-income consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireline or wireless telephone for the primary residence. Tribal Lands Link Up also allows consumers to pay the remaining amount that they owe on a deferred schedule, interest-free. Federal 972-4573 rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Link Up discount at a primary residence. Eligible consumers may be eligible for Link Up again only after moving to a new primary residence. Link Up support is only offered to carriers who are building out infrastructure on Tribal lands so not all carriers

(continued on page 4)

## Susie Skjoldal Resigns



Customer Service/Marketing Supervisor, Susie Skjoldal, resigned from her position at WRCTC, effective April 22. Susie began her career at Grand on June 17, 1996 as a Secretary which then changed to the title of Customer Service Representative in 2004. She celebrated 15 years in June of 2011 and a few months later in November, was promoted to Customer Service Supervisor, overseeing the Customer Service Representatives.

Susie's kindness and compassion 456-1984 for others and her bubbly personality will be greatly missed at the Cooperative. She was a dedicated employee who balanced her life on their ranch north of Bison with her second home here at the office for nearly 19 years. We wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.

## **New WRCTC Members**

Bison, Meadow, Sorum	
Stateline Construction, LLC	866-4460
Zoller, Laurie	244-5256
Buffalo	
Bowen, Oliver	375-3865
Bruce, David & Cathy	375-3868
Madsen, Trent	375-3180
Marron, Julia	375-3160
Hanson, Cheyenne	797-4654
Schell, Tim (Tenant)	972-4591
Lemmon	
Dauwen, Stefanie	374-4294
Dietz, Meagan	376-4298
Hammer, Joanne	374-4367
Holdsclaw, Leanna	376-4427
Modern Expressions Fabric	374-4431
Newell	
Dunn, Lynn	456-2273
Fehr, Jessica	456-3659
Steffe, Dirl & Vicki	456-3729
Yost, Delwin & Susan	456-3365
Nisland	
Kessel, Quinn	257-2892
Shaykett, Brodie	257-2894
Tope, Milton	257-2893

## HELP is only a phone call away (24/7 Support)

SDPlains Help Desk 888-464-9513 WildBlue Help Desk 888-212-5370

## Find Your Phone Number

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in last month's newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: Larry Strickland, Belle Fourche; Dale Pies, Vale; Jerry Nelson, Buffalo; Wade Hofer, Meadow; Lola Hedstrom, Bison and Kevin Deschamps, Newell. Hidden in this issue are ten new numbers. If you find YOUR number, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$10 will then be deducted off your telephone bill. New connect numbers do not count. **Deadline is June 22, 2015.** 

## Lifeline (continued)

may discount their activation fee. Enhanced benefits are provided to low-income consumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe's reservation.

## How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts?

The Lifeline program is 788-2953 available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. You must be eligible to enroll. To participate in the program, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid 374-5314
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Head Start (Tribal lands only if eligible)
- State assistance programs (if applicable)

When you qualify for any of the above programs, you must complete a Lifeline Assistance Application. For more information, please contact our office at 605-244-5213 or 777.



Don't assume you know what's below. Protect yourself and those around you. Call 811 every time.



Cooperative Calling on You

## Office Closed

West River
Cooperative
Telephone
Company's
office will
be closed
Monday,
July 4th for
Independence
Day.



facebook.com/WRCTC

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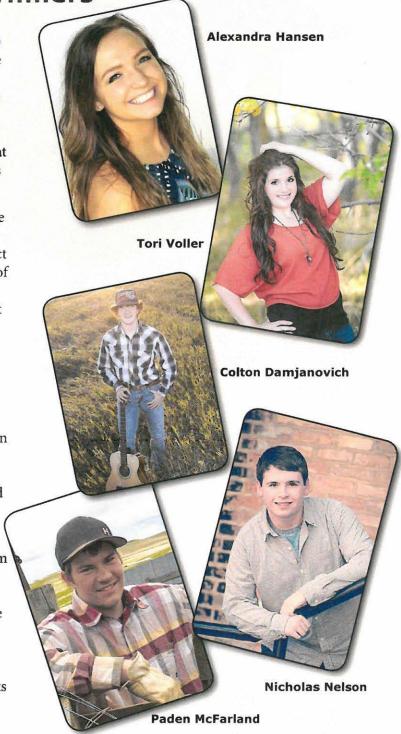
Scholarship Winners

West River Cooperative Telephone Company (WRCTC) and Grand Electric Cooperative teamed together for the 15th year to award \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors from area school districts. Winners have been awarded their certificates at the Academic Awards programs at their respective schools.

Graduating seniors receiving the \$500 scholarships are: Harding County 244-5460 School District - Alexandra Hansen, daughter of Tonja and Kurt Hansen, Camp Crook; Lemmon School District - Colton Damjanovich, son of Gillian and Bart Damjanovich, Lemmon: Bison School District - Tori Voller, daughter of Karen and Allen Voller, Bison; Hettinger School District -Paden McFarland, son of Roxann and Steve McFarland, Hettinger and Newell School District -Nicholas Nelson, son of Lisa and Gary Nelson.

WRCTC and Grand Electric sponsor this scholarship program

to help serve as an 456-2505 investment in the economic future of our rural area. It is used to recognize and encourage the academic achievements of students.



Congratulations to these outstanding students.

WRCTC and Grand Electric wish you the best of luck!

## Is your TV getting enough Fiber?

With West River's FiberVision Digital Video, you and your TV are sure to get your daily dose of fiber!

FiberVision is delivered over the fiber optic lines that carry your Internet and phone services - and now, VIDEO!

Don't ever miss a TV show again because of bad weather. We've got you covered.

- Record up to 6 simultaneous High-Definition streams
- Receive Local Networks in Standard AND High-Definition
- Set up and schedule DVR recordings from anywhere
- Receive 3 Public Broadcasting Stations
- Watch the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on all channels
- Retrieve the Local Weather with a click of a button
- Listen to your Voicemails through your TV
- Watch Midco Sports Networks for local college sports
- Watch Fox Sports, Fox News & the NFL Network!
- View Picture-in-Picture without special TV requirements



For your perfect FiberVision package, please contact our office at

605-244-5236 or 888-411-5651

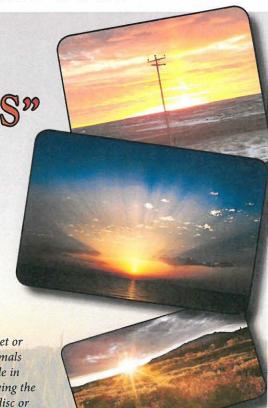
2017 Directory Photo Contest This year's theme is

"SUNSETS & SUNRISES"

Snap a photo capturing one of our beautiful sunsets or sunrises, and you could win \$100! Deadline to enter is August 17, 2016. Entries may be emailed to westriver@sdplains.com or mailed to WRCTC, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

- 1st Place \$100
- 2nd Place \$50
- 3rd Place \$25

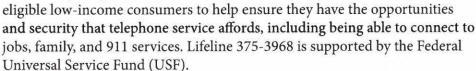
RULES: The photo must be an original taken by a WRCTC member. Photos must be of a sunset or sunrise within WRCTC's service area and include the location where the photo was taken. Animals or people may be included in the photos; however, if the person or people are highly recognizable in the photo and it is chosen as a winner, a picture permission form must be signed prior to receiving the prize. Each customer may submit TWO photos. Photos may also be submitted on a computer disc or e-mailed as a jpeg or pdf file. The photos must be in full-color and will not be returned to the customer. Submission of the photo releases all right of ownership of the photo and authorizes WRCTC to publish the photo on the directory cover, or use as WRCTC desires, allowing proper acknowledgement to the photographer. The photographer who captures first place will see his/her photo on the front cover of the 2017 directory and will be awarded a \$100 cash prize; second place will receive \$50 and third place will receive \$25. Employees and Directors are not eligible.



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Lifeline can also include Toll 376-5981 Limitation Service, which enables a telephone subscriber to limit the amount of long distance calls that can be made from a telephone.

Link Up provides eligible low-income consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up 375-3659 to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireline or wireless telephone for the primary residence. Tribal Lands Link Up also allows consumers to pay the remaining amount that they owe on a deferred schedule, interest-free. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Link Up discount at a primary residence. Eligible consumers may be eligible for Link Up again only after moving to a new primary residence. Link Up support is only offered to carriers who are building out infrastructure on Tribal lands so not all carriers

(continued on page 4)

## Local Service Rate and ARC to Increase

In November 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) made a ruling that over the next few years they were going to move more of the network cost to those who own the 456-1027 network. To do this, they have set benchmarks for local service rates and have implemented an Access Recovery Charge (ARC) that we are required to charge our members if we want to retain our USF funding. On July 1, 2016, the local telephone service rate will increase by \$2.00 per month. This increase will affect ActPak bundling prices as well.

The Access Recovery Charge enables WRCTC to recover a limited portion of revenues lost due to FCC mandated reductions in intercarrier payments. Effective July 1, 2016, residential members will see their ARC increase by \$0.50 per month. Multi-line business customers will not see an increase. Therefore, the ARC for residential members and single-line businesses will increase from \$2.00 per month to \$2.50 per month, and the ARC for multi-line businesses will stay at \$3.00 per month. This will be 797-4489 the fifth step of the six step increase. The last increase in this process will be in July 2017.

West River Cooperative Telephone Company is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

## **New WRCTC Members**

Bison, Meadow, Sorum	
Anderson, Anna Marie	866-4728
Anderson Tenant	788-2250
Enright, Travis & Brooke	788-2997
Hendrickson, Layton	244-5116
Lorius, Shiloh	788-2447
Buffalo	
	275 2201
Lanning, Don	375-3391
Sabo, Waylon	375-3676
Wilson, Derick & Tanya	375-3749
Lammon	
Lemmon	274 4401
Lien, Terry & Corie	374-4491
O'Donnell, Stacy	374-4487
Richardson, John K.	376-4494
Scoops Ice Cream Shop	374-4365
Spangler, Melissa	374-1064
Nisland	
Crago, Kim	257-2831

## SECURE PAY

Make a payment on your bill over the phone using a debit/credit card or check.

Available 24/7!

844-252-5267

## HELP is only a phone call away (24/7 Support)

SDPlains Help Desk 888-464-9513 WildBlue Help Desk 888-212-5370

## Find Your Phone #

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in last month's newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: Greta Wall, Redig; Zac Thompson, Lemmon; Kelly Parks, Nisland; Nellie Moore, Lemmon;

\$10 bill credit

Owen Haas, Lemmon and Elsie Bartels, Newell. Hidden in this issue are ten new numbers. If you find YOUR number, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$10 will then be deducted off your telephone bill. New connect numbers do not count. **Deadline is June 22, 2016.** 

## Lifeline (continued)

may discount their activation fee. Enhanced benefits are provided to low-income consumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe's reservation.

## How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts?

The Lifeline program is available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. You 456-2591 must be eligible to enroll. To participate in the program, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- · Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met)
- State assistance programs (if applicable)

When you qualify for any of the above programs, you must complete a Lifeline Assistance Application. For more information, please contact our office at 605-244-5213 or 777.



## Not Using Your SDPlains Email?

If you are an sdplains Internet customer and you are using something other than

sdplains for email such as Yahoo! Mail or Hotmail, please contact our office with a 374-3397 current email address where we can send you important notifications as well as our e-newsletter. **This will not affect your WRCTC Internet connection**.

Please email us at <u>westriver@sdplains.com</u> or give us a call at 605-244-5213 or 777 so we can update our records.

## **Lifeline Assistance Application and Certification Form**

(Please Print or Type)

Company Name:	West River Cooperative Te	lephone Company	SPIN:	143002255	
Last Name:		_First Name:		Middle	Initial:
Residential Address (Do not use a P.O.	s: Box address.)	City:	Sta	te:	ZIP:
Is your residential a	address a permanent address?	Yes 🔲	No 🔲		
Billing Address:(If different from re.	sidential address.)	City:	Sta	ate:	ZIP:
Social Security Num not have a social se	mber (last four digits): curity number, you may provid	de your Tribal iden	(If you are a n tification number.)	nember of a T	Tribal nation and d
Date of Birth:	2				
Telephone Number:		(if existing ser	vice)		
Telephone number v	where you can be reached or re	eceive messages:			
	Lifeline assistance thr			Yes _	No 🔲
I, one or more of my (Check all that apply	y dependents, or my household y.) MUST INCLUDE A CC	I currently participa	tes in one or more o	f the followi ENT.	ng programs:
Supplement Supplement Federal Pub Low-Income Temporary National Sci	al Nutrition Assistance Progra al Nutrition Assistance Progra al Security Income (SSI) lic Housing Assistance (Section e Energy Home Assistance Pro Assistance to Needy Families of hool Lunch Program's Free Lusehold income is at or below 1 lid is:	m (SNAP, formerly on 8) ogram (LIHEAP) (TANF) unch Program	known as Food Sta		r of individuals in
Name of eligible per	rson if different than the applic	cant	Relationship t	o applicant_	
	pate in one or more of the prog eed 135% of the Federal Pove			Lifeline if ye	our household

2015 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in 135% Guideline (Annual) Number in 135% Guideline (Annual)						
Residence		Residence	Co., One to State 20. Also, Maint August When Stat.			
1	\$15,889	5	\$38,353			
2	\$21,505	6	\$43,969			
3	\$27,121	7	\$49,585			
4	\$32,737	8	\$55,201			

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,616 to the annual guideline.

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 80 No. 14, January 22, 2015, pp. 3236-3237

## **Important Information**

You will be required to provide documentation of eligibility before receiving Lifeline service.

Lifeline is a federal government assistance benefit and willfully making false statements to obtain the benefit can result in fines, imprisonment, de-enrollment, or being barred from the program.

Only one Lifeline service is available per household. A household is defined, for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address as one economic unit. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household. A household may include related and unrelated persons. A household is not permitted to receive Lifeline benefits from multiple providers. Violation of the one-per-household limitation constitutes a violation of the Federal Communications Commission's rules and will result in your de-enrollment from the program, and possible prosecution by the United States government. Lifeline is a non-transferable benefit and you may not transfer your benefit to any other person.

## I certify, under penalty of perjury, that (initial each statement):

(1) I meet the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, provided in 47 C.F.R. § 44.409. I have provided documentation of eligibility;
(2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for eceiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I am receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;
(3) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;
(4) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not lready receiving a Lifeline service;
(5) I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my ailure to re-certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits ursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.405(e)(4);
(6) I give West River Telephone Company permission to give my name, telephone number, and address to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) or its agent to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline enefit. If USAC finds that my household receives more than one Lifeline benefit, USAC will notify the telephone ompanies, and I will have to select one service and I will be de-enrolled from the other.
the Lifeline applicant/subscriber, acknowledge that WRCTC will transmit to the federal administrator of the National ifeline Accountability Database the above-referenced information about the Lifeline account and/or service for inclusion to the Database to detect and prevent fraudulent or duplicative receipt of benefits from the Lifeline program, and hereby consent to transmission of the information for purposes allowed by law relating to administration of the Lifeline program.
y signing below, I attest that the information contained in this application and certification form is true and correct to the est of my knowledge and that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.
ignature Date

Provide the completed Lifeline Assistance Application and Certification Form and proof of eligibility to West River

Cooperative Telephone Company, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

## Tribal Lifeline & Link Up Assistance Application and Certification Form

(Please Print or Type)

Company Name: West River Cooperative Telephone Company		SPIN: 143002255
Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Initial:
	City:	
(Do not use a P.O. Box address.) Is your residential address a perma	nent address?  Yes  No  City:	
(If different from residential addre	es )	State. Zii .
The state of the s	digits): If you are a mem	ther of a Tribal nation and do not have a
	rovide your Tribal identification number:	
	Telephone Number:	
	be reached or receive messages:	
	ne assistance through any other telephone prov	
and areas that fall outside the bour Communications Commission as Tommunications Commission as Tommunications Commission as Tommunications Commission as Tommunications Communications as Tommunications and I am applying as an individual living I, one or more of my dependents, of Check all that apply.) Must include I applying Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX/N Supplemental Security Include I applying I	federally-recognized Indian tribe's reservation and aries of existing Tribal lands but have been tribal lands for the purpose of receiving Tribal and on "tribal lands": Yes \[ \sqrt{No} \] No \[ \sqrt{No} \] we have been tribal lands for the purpose of receiving Tribal and on "tribal lands": Yes \[ \sqrt{No} \] No \[ \sqrt{No} \] we have been tribal lands. Yes \[ \sqrt{No} \] No \[ \sqrt{No} \] we have a copy of at least one document and a copy of at least o	designated by the Federal I Lifeline and Tribal Link Up support.  or more of the following programs: t.  Food Stamps)
Name of eligible person if different	than the applicant	
Relationship to applicant	***	

If you do not participate in one or more of the programs listed above, you may qualify for Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up if your household income does not exceed 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see table below).

2015 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in	135% Guideline (Annual)			
Residence		Residence	Fig. scales (boson constituente constituente de la figura in authoritation de la constituente de la constitu	
1	\$15,889	5	\$38,353	
2	\$21,505	6	\$43,969	
3	\$27,121	7	\$49,585	
4	\$32,737	8	\$55.201	

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,616 to the annual guideline.

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 80 No. 14, January 22, 2015, pp. 3236-3237

## **Important Information**

You will be required to provide documentation of eligibility before receiving Lifeline service.

Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up are federal government assistance benefits and willfully making false statements to obtain the benefits can result in fines, imprisonment, de-enrollment, or being barred from the programs.

Only one Lifeline service is available per household. A household is defined, for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address as one economic unit. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household. A household may include related and unrelated persons. A household is not permitted to receive Lifeline benefits from multiple providers. Violation of the one-per-household limitation constitutes a violation of the Federal Communications Commission's rules and will result in your de-enrollment from the program, and possible prosecution from the United States government. Lifeline is a non-transferable benefit and you may not transfer your benefit to any other person.

## I certify, under penalty of perjury, that (initial each statement):

(1) I meet the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, provided in 47 C.F.R. § 54.409. I provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receivin Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C. 54.400(e);  (4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;  (5) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;  (6) I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my failure to certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F. 54.405(e)(4);  (7) I give West River Telephone Company permission to give my name, telephone number, and address to the University Service Administrative Company (USAC) or its agent to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline benefit. If USA finds that my household receives more than one Lifeline benefit, USAC will notify the telephone companies, and I will have to one service and I will be de-enrolled from the other.  By signing below, I attest that the information contained in this application and certification form is true and correct to the best knowledge and that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.	Signature	Date
provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receivin Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C. 54.400(e);  (4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;  (5) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;  (6) I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my failure to certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F. 54.405(e)(4);  (7) I give West River Telephone Company permission to give my name, telephone number, and address to the Universe Service Administrative Company (USAC) or its agent to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline benefit. If USA finds that my household receives more than one Lifeline benefit, USAC will notify the telephone companies, and I will have to one service and I will be de-enrolled from the other.	By signing below, I attest that the information contained knowledge and that providing false or fraudulent inform	d in this application and certification form is true and correct to the best of meation to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.
provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C. 54.400(e);  (4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;  (5) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;  (6) I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my failure to certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F. 54.405(e)(4);	Service Administrative Company (USAC) or its agent t finds that my household receives more than one Lifeline one service and I will be de-enrolled from the other.	to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline benefit. If USAC e benefit, USAC will notify the telephone companies, and I will have to select
provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C. 54.400(e);  (4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;  (5) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;	certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-er 54.405(e)(4);	prollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §
provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C. 54.400(e);	(5) My household will receive only one Lifeline receiving a Lifeline service;	service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already
provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;  (2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;  (3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C.	(4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that	t new address to the telephone company within 30 days;
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provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;	Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the in receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another me	ncome-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I am
	provided documentation of eligibility if required to do	so;

Provide the completed Lifeline and Tribal Link Up Application and Certification Form and <u>proof of eligibility</u> to West River Cooperative Telephone Company, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

## **Lifeline Assistance Application and Certification Form**

(Please Print or Type)

Company Name:	West River Cooperative Tele	ephone Company	S	PIN: 143002	255
Last Name:		First Name:		Mic	ddle Initial:
Residential Addres (Do not use a P.O.	s: Box address.)	City:	<u> </u>	_ State:	ZIP:
Is your residential	address a permanent address?	Yes 🔲	No 🔲		
Billing Address:(If different from re	esidential address.)	City:		State:	ZIP:
Social Security Nu not have a social se	mber (last four digits):ecurity number, you may provide	e your Tribal ident	(If you ar ification numb	e a member o er.)	of a Tribal nation and d
Date of Birth:					
Telephone Number	<u> </u>	(if existing serv	rice)		
Telephone number	where you can be reached or rec	ceive messages:			
Are you currently r	eceiving Lifeline assistance thro	ough any other tele	phone provide	r? Yes <b>_</b> [	□ No □
I am applying for:	Lifeline (monthly tel	lephone service dis	count)		
	y dependents, or my household ly.) MUST INCLUDE A CO				lowing programs:
Supplemen Supplemen Federal Pul Low-Incom Temporary National So	e.g. Title XIX/Medical State Suptal Nutrition Assistance Programmatal Security Income (SSI) blic Housing Assistance (Section Energy Home Assistance Program's Free Lunch Program's Free Lunched Income is at or below 13 old is:	n (SNAP, formerly n 8) gram (LIHEAP) TANF) nch Program	known as Foo	•	umber of individuals in
Name of eligible pe	erson if different than the applica	ant	Relation	ship to applic	ant
	ipate in one or more of the prog ceed 135% of the Federal Pover			fy for Lifeline	e if your household

2016 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in	135% Guideline (Annual)
Residence		Residence	
1	\$16,038	5	\$38,394
2	\$21,627	6	\$43,983
3	\$27,216	7	\$49,586
4	\$32,805	8	\$55,202

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,616 to the annual guideline.

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 81 No. 15, January 25, 2016, pp. 4036-4037

## **Important Information**

You will be required to provide documentation of eligibility before receiving Lifeline service.

Lifeline is a federal government assistance benefit and willfully making false statements to obtain the benefit can result in fines, imprisonment, de-enrollment, or being barred from the program.

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## I certify, under penalty of perjury, that (initial each statement):

Signature	Date
	ned in this application and certification form is true and correct to the idulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.
Lifeline Accountability Database the above-reference into the Database to detect and prevent fraudulent or of	WRCTC will transmit to the federal administrator of the National and information about the Lifeline account and/or service for inclusion duplicative receipt of benefits from the Lifeline program, and hereby es allowed by law relating to administration of the Lifeline program.
Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)	rmission to give my name, telephone number, and address to the or its agent to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline nore than one Lifeline benefit, USAC will notify the telephone will be de-enrolled from the other.
	certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits
(4) My household will receive only one Lifeling already receiving a Lifeline service;	e service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not
(3) If I move to a new address, I will provide the	nat new address to the telephone company within 30 days;
receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longe	within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving ne benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a g to do so;
(1) I meet the income-based or program-based 54.409. I have provided documentation of eligibility;	eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, provided in 47 C.F.R. §

Provide the completed Lifeline Assistance Application and Certification Form and proof of eligibility to West River Cooperative Telephone Company, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

## Tribal Lifeline & Link Up Assistance Application and Certification Form

(Please Print or Type)

Company Name: West River Cooperative Telephone Company			SPIN: 14	SPIN: 143002255	
Last N	Name:		First Name:		
Resid	ential Address	:	City:	State:	ZIP:
(Do no	ot use a P.O.	Box address.)			
Is you	r residential a	ddress a permanent addre	ss? Yes 🔲 No 🔼	1	
Billin	g Address:		City:	State:	ZIP:
(If diff	ferent from re.	sidential address.)			
Social	Security Nur	nber (last four digits):	If you are a me	mber of a Tribal natio	n and do not have a
			r Tribal identification number:		
Date of	of Birth:		Telephone Number:		_ (if existing service
			or receive messages:		
Are yo	ou currently re	ceiving Lifeline assistanc	e through any other telephone pro	ovider? Yes 🔲	No 🔲
"Trib and an Comm	Tribal Link U  al lands" are reas that fall of tunications Co  pplying as an  or more of my k all that appl  Medicaid (e Supplement Federal Pub Supplement Low-Incom Temporary National Sc Bureau of It Head Start ( Food Distril  OR My hou	individual living on "tribal dependents, or my house of the boundaries of elements of the boundaries o	charge discount)  recognized Indian tribe's reservate existing Tribal lands but have been for the purpose of receiving Tribal lands": Yes  No  when the purpose of receiving Tribal lands": Yes  No  when the purpose of receiving Tribal lands": Yes  when the lands are least one document the Supplemental Assistance)  section 8)  regram (SNAP, formerly known and the Program (LIHEAP)  selicities (TANF) or Tribal TANF  the Lunch Program istance  ria are met)	an designated by the Froat Lifeline and Tribal cor more of the follownt.  The Front Stamps of the follownt.	Tederal Link Up support.  ving programs:
Name	of eligible per	son if different than the a	pplicant		<u>-</u>
D al -4'	onshin to anni	inant			

If you do not participate in one or more of the programs listed above, you may qualify for Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up if your household income does not exceed 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see table below).

2016 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in	135% Guideline (Annual)	
Residence		Residence		
1	\$16,038	5	\$38,394	
2	\$21,627	6	\$43,983	
3	\$27,216	7	\$49,586	
4	\$32,805	8	\$55,202	

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## I certify, under penalty of perjury, that (initial each statement):

(1) I meet the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, provided in 47 C.F.R. § 54.409. I have provided documentation of eligibility if required to do so;
(2) I understand that I must notify the carrier within 30 days if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I am receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit and that I may be penalized for failing to do so;
(3) If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C.F.R § 54.400(e);
(4) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;
(5) My household will receive only one Lifeline service and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;
(6) I acknowledge that I may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time, and my failure to recertify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.405(e)(4);
(7) I give West River Telephone Company permission to give my name, telephone number, and address to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) or its agent to confirm that my household only receives one Lifeline benefit. If USAC finds that my household receives more than one Lifeline benefit, USAC will notify the telephone companies, and I will have to select one service and I will be de-enrolled from the other.
By signing below, I attest that the information contained in this application and certification form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law.
Signature Date

Provide the completed Lifeline and Tribal Link Up Application and Certification Form and <u>proof of eligibility</u> to West River Cooperative Telephone Company, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.