

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 2023**

Company:

Address:

Telephone number:

Company contact:

Study Area Code:

Lifeline/Tribal 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/Tribal Link Up within 1<sup>st</sup> 30 days of service.\* (See attached letter.)

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

Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website.

Company's information posted on USAC website.

Other (describe):

\*Required

# Publisher's Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA )  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF LYMAN )

Connie Penny, of said county and state being duly sworn on her oath says: The Lyman County Herald is a weekly newspaper of general circulation and published in Presho, Lyman County, and State of South Dakota; and has been such newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned; That said newspaper is a legal weekly, that it has a bonafide circulation of more than 200 copies weekly, that it has been published within said County of Lyman more than fifty-two successive weeks next prior to publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned and maintained at the place of publication; That I, the undersigned am editor of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in this affidavit; that the advertisement headed:

Lifeline Notice

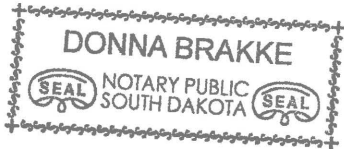
a printed copy of which is hereto attached and published in the said newspaper for 1 consecutive week(s).

The first publication of said notice in said newspaper aforesaid was on Wednesday, the 18 day of Jan A.D., 2023 and that the succeeding publications were severally  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023  
Wednesday, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 2023

and the last publication on Wednesday, the 18 day of Jan, 2023, that the full sum of fees charged for publishing the same, to-wit; the sum of \$ 123.75 insures solely to the editor of The Lyman County Herald. That no agreement or understanding for any division thereof had been made with any other person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whatsoever.

Connie Penny  
Donna Brakke  
Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of Jan, 2023  
My Commission expires DONNA BRAKKE, 2025  
NOTARY PUBLIC - SOUTH DAKOTA  
My Commission Expires  
December 31, 2025



Kennebec realized this was not submitted in 2022 and as soon as it was discovered the ad was placed. Kennebec will advertise again in 2023 to meet the requirement. Procedures have been revised to ensure this does not happen in the future.

## LIFELINE NOTICE KTC, Inc.

Kennebec Telephone Company provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates:

Single Party Residence Service	\$20.00/month
Single Party Business Service	\$25.00/month

Broadband service is available, contact Kennebec Telephone Company for additional information.

Local residence phone service includes:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Kennebec Telephone Company participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or qualifying broadband service per household\* more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Monthly discounts up to \$9.25 are available to qualifying customers.

To be eligible for Lifeline you must be enrolled in one or more of the following assistance programs:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)  
Medicaid

Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)

Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs

Income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty guidelines

A subscriber who lives on federally recognized Tribal lands and is eligible, may receive a monthly discount up to \$34.25. To be eligible the household\* must participate in one of the above-listed qualifying programs or one of the following Tribal specific federal assistance programs:

Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)

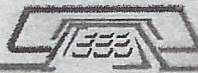
Tribal Head Start

Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance

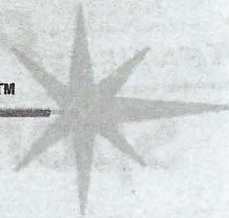
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Customers may apply for discounts on-line at <https://www.checklifeline.org/lifeline> or by contacting Kennebec Telephone at 605-869-2220. Lifeline service is not transferable. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain Lifeline service can be fined, imprisoned or barred from the program.

\*A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.



**KENNEBEC TELEPHONE CO., INC.™**





Date

Name  
Address  
City, State, Zip

Re: Lifeline/Link Up Program

Dear:

Enclosed is an application for Lifeline/Link Up Assistance. If you are eligible, please complete the form and return to us as soon as possible.

If you are not eligible, please sign at the bottom of the form where it states information was provided to you and return it in the enclosed envelope.

If you have any questions, please call 869-2220. Thank you.

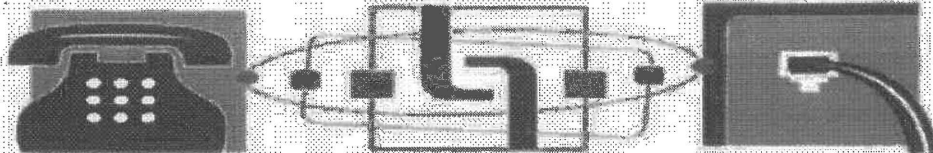
Regards,

Crystal Brakke  
Marketing Assistant/CSR

Enclosures

# Lifeline

connect for less



*Smart Choice*  
Public Utilities Commission

## LIFELINE PROGRAM

Staying connected to family, friends and businesses is an important part of life. Having access to affordable communications services for your home makes staying connected easier. You may qualify for Lifeline, a special program that helps reduce the cost of telephone and broadband services so you can connect for less.

The Lifeline discount for eligible subscribers is up to \$9.25 per month for qualifying monthly broadband or bundled services that meet the broadband minimum service standards. If a service meeting the broadband requirements is not available or an eligible subscriber elects to not include broadband as part of their service, a discount of up to \$5.25 per month is also available for qualifying telephone-only service. Subscribers may receive a discount on either a wireline or wireless service, but may not receive a discount on both at the same time. FCC rules prohibit more than one Lifeline service per household. Residents of tribal lands, see Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up.

Eligible consumers may also be able to sign up for free toll blocking or toll limitation service that either blocks or limits long-distance calls from your phone.

The Lifeline program has eligibility requirements. You may qualify if you, one or more of your dependents, or your household participates in any of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Or, if your household income is no more than

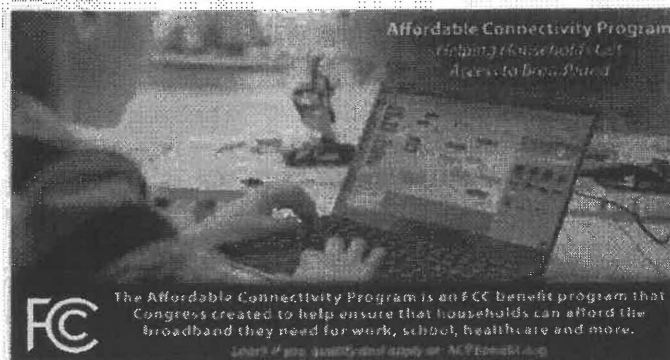
135 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines.

To apply for Lifeline, use the [Lifeline National Verifier](#) to enter your information, create an account and see if you qualify. If you are not able or do not wish to complete an application online, a print application option is also available. Please keep in mind that applying with a paper application can take longer than the online alternative. You will be required to provide documentation to prove eligibility regardless of application method.

## AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

The Federal Communications Commission's has implemented a new, long-term program to help ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) provides a monthly discount on internet services for eligible households and a one-time discount on the purchase of a laptop, desktop computer or tablet. Applicants must meet certain requirements to be eligible for this program

The links to both the Lifeline National Verifier and the Affordable Connectivity Program are available on the Kennebec Telephone Co, Inc. website. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call our office at 605-869-2220.



**Emergency Numbers:**

**911**

**Kennebec Ambulance - 605-869-0911**

**Presho Ambulance - 605-895-0911**

**Sheriff - 605-869-2267**

**Lower Brule Fire - 605-473-5444**

**Kennebec Fire Department - 605-869-2222**

**Presho Fire Department - 605-895-2422**

**Poison Control - 800-221-1222**

**After Hours/ Emergency Numbers:**

**Kennebec Telephone Company After Hours.....605-869-2424**

**West Central Electric After Hours.....800-242-9232**

**West River Lyman/ Jones Rural Water.....605-381-0639**

**Cherry/Todd Electric.....605-856-4416**

**Rosebud Electric.....888-464-9304**

**Other Important Numbers:**

**411– Directory Assistance**

**511– Road Condition Information**

**711- Hearing impaired**

**811- South Dakota One Call**

**Anyone digging in South Dakota is required to call the South Dakota One Call System 48 hours prior to starting. If the landowner or farmer is doing the excavation work, he is responsible for calling the System. If he has contracted with an excavator to do the digging (tree planting, backhoe excavation, digging Post holes, etc.) then the excavator is responsible for calling the System.**

**Kennebec Telephone Company Inc.** is a telecommunications company that provides basic & enhanced services with its service area.

**Basic services** are offered at the following rates:

- \* Single Party Residence Service \$20./month
- \* Single Party Residence/Ag Service \$20./month
- \* Single Party Res/Business Service :\$20./month
- \* Single Party Business Service \$25./month

**Local residence & business services include:** Voice grade access to the public telephone network Flat-rated local exchange service free of per minute charges. Access to directory assistance service. Access to other operator services Access to 911 emergency services. Access to interexchange (long distance) service Dual tone multi-frequency signaling (touch tone) service

**Lifeline**  
connect for less



**South Dakota**  
Public Utilities Commission

Staying connected to family, friends and businesses is an important part of life. Having access to affordable communications services for your home makes staying connected easier. You may qualify for Lifeline, a special program that helps reduce the cost of telephone and broadband services so you can connect for less. The Lifeline discount for eligible subscribers is up to \$9.25 per month for qualifying monthly broadband or bundled services that meet the broadband minimum service standards. If a service meeting the broadband requirements is not available or an eligible subscriber elects to not include broadband as part of their service, a discount of up to \$5.25 per month is also available for qualifying telephone-only service. Subscribers may receive a discount on either a wireline or wireless service, but may not receive a discount on both at the same time. FCC rules prohibit more than one Lifeline service per household. Residents of tribal lands, see [Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up](#).

Eligible consumers may also be able to sign up for free toll blocking or toll limitation service that either blocks or limits long-distance calls from your phone.

**The Lifeline program has eligibility requirements. You may qualify if you, one or more of your dependents, or your household participates in any of the following programs:**

- \* Medicaid
- \* Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps)
- \* Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- \* Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- \* Or, if your household income is no more than 135 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines (see table below).
- \* You may be asked to provide proof of your [eligibility](#).

2022 Health & Human Services Poverty			
Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
5	\$18,347	5	\$43,835
6	\$24,719	6	\$50,207
7	\$31,091	7	\$56,579
8	\$37,463	8	\$62,951

*Federal Register, Vol. 87, No. 14, January 21, 2022, pp 3315-3316 (Applicable to the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia only.)*

To apply for Lifeline, use the [Lifeline National Verifier](#) to enter your information, create an account and see if you qualify. If you are not able or do not wish to complete an application online, a [print application](#) option is also available. Please keep in mind that applying with a paper application can take longer than the online alternative. You will be required to provide documentation to prove eligibility regardless of application method.

- \* **Important Information**
- \* Lifeline is a government assistance program and the service is non-transferable.
- \* Not all telephone providers in South Dakota offer the Lifeline discount.
- \* Only one Lifeline benefit is permitted per household. Federal rules prohibit subscribers from receiving more than one Lifeline service. If a subscriber or his or her household currently has more than one Lifeline-discounted service, they must de-enroll from other Lifeline services immediately or be subject to penalties. A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals living 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.
- \* While Lifeline support is limited to one line per household, support is also available to eligible low-income subscribers living in group living facilities. Lifeline applicants may be asked to complete a one-per-household worksheet, which asks questions about your household to determine if there is more than one household at your address. For help determining who is a member of your household, check out the Lifeline Eligibility Pre-Screening tool available at <https://www.lifelinesupport.org> and click on "Learn more about qualifying"
- \* Every year, USAC will check to confirm you still qualify for the Lifeline program. If they are unable to verify your qualification, you will receive a letter in the mail and may also receive reminders by mail or pre-recorded messages on your phone. If you are asked to re-certify, you must do so within 60 days, or you'll lose your Lifeline benefits.
- \* If your Lifeline service is free, use it at least once every 30 days. If you don't, you will get a 15-day notice to use it or it will get turned off.
- \* If you change your address, no longer qualify for Lifeline, or more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you must notify your company within 30 days.

**Affordable Connectivity Program**

The Federal Communications Commission's has implemented a new, long-term program to help ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) provides a monthly discount on internet services for eligible households and a one-time discount on the purchase of a laptop, desktop computer or tablet. Applicants must meet certain requirements to be eligible for this program  
Rev. 6/29/22