

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

Company: SSTelecom, Inc d/b/a ITC

Address: PO Box 920

Clear Lake, SD 57226

Telephone number: 605.874.2181

Company contact: Margery Stava

Study Area Code: 399013

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

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

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

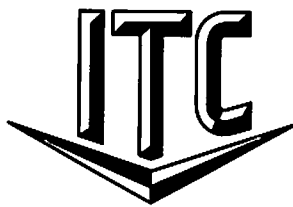
 Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.

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

 X Company's information posted on USAC website.

 Other (describe): _____

*Required



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

What type of discount is available?

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

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

Link Up reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50% discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.

Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

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

How do I know whether I am eligible?

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

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

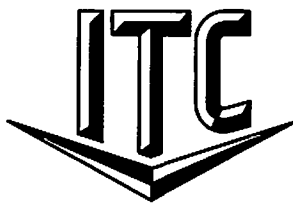
In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline. (See attached table.)

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

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

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

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



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

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

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Telephone # _____ Member # _____

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

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

ITC Info

Link-up and Lifeline Program

Assistance for telephone service is available to low income customers. There are two federal programs that are provided by ITC. The "Lifeline" and "Link-up" programs were established to address concerns about affordability of telephone service and to provide assistance for low income citizens.

The Link-up program allows eligible subscribers to receive a reduced connection charge for their basic home telephone service. This program reduction is 50% of the activation charges with the maximum benefit of \$30.00. Link-up does not cover the cost of wiring inside your home.

The Lifeline program is a government program that provides discounts on your monthly local telephone bill to low income members who qualify. This program allows for a monthly credit on the basic service portion of the participant's phone bill. Lifeline can only be used for the main telephone line in a household. The name of the phone bill must match the name of the participant who is eligible for this program. You are eligible for Lifeline if you participate in any of the following programs: Medicaid, Food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance.

These are federal government programs with each state having its own guidelines to qualify. Check with your local telephone company for specific details to qualify. There is also additional Lifeline and Link-up assistance to qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. If you are interested in finding out more about the Lifeline and Link-up programs please contact ITC at 438-6000.

Remit Top Portion of Bill with Payment

☒ When sending payment to ITC, customers should return the TOP portion of the bill that says, "PLEASE TEAR ALONG PERFORATION AND REMIT WITH PAYMENT."

Important Dates

Bills are mailed on the last working day of each month, and payment is due on the 19th of that month, unless otherwise indicated on the "Due Date" portion of your statement. Prompt payment is required. NO PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED.

May 30	Bills mailed from Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company d/b/a ITC
June 19	Payment due
June 19	Final notices mailed
July 10	Disconnect Day

Monthly Newsletter Inside!



Current occupant or:

PRSRRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 MILBANK, SD
 PERMIT NO. 1
 ZIP CODE 57252

401 South Main Street
 PO Box 630
 Milbank, SD 57252

