

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2015**

Company: Beresford Municipal Telephone Company

Address: 101 N. 3rd Street

Beresford, SD 57004

Telephone number: 605/763-2500

Company contact: Todd Hansen, General Manager

Study Area Code: 391649

Lifeline/Tribal 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/ Tribal Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
- X Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.
- X Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. (www.bmtc.net)
- X Company's information posted on USAC website.
- X Other (describe): Lifeline information posted on community bulletin board at Beresford City Hall
-

*Required

COMMUNITY

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Rates and Lifeline Program

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

Single Line Residential Service	\$22.13
Single Line Business Service	\$28.63
Multi Line Business Service	\$32.94

Local resident and business service includes:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Single-party flat-rated local service free of per minute charges
- Dual tone multi-frequency signaling (touch-tone) service
- Access to directory assistance services
- Access to other operator services
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Access to interexchange (long distance) services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline telephone assistance program is available for qualifying low-income subscribers. This program provides a monthly service discount on telephone service. To qualify, a subscriber must participate in at least one of the following programs or have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps program)
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch (NSL) free lunch program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Housing Energy Assistance

Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in BMTC's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunication services, please call BMTC's office at 605/763-2500.

NOTICE OF VACANCY
BERESFORD
CITY COUNCIL
 Beresford, SD 57004
 (605) 763-5024
 Attorneys for the Estate

No. 0904-05) by rezoning certain property located generally at 28147 SD Hwy. 11, Canton, South Dakota from the "I-1" Light Industrial District to the "I-2" General Industrial District and amending the official zoning map.
 hr: Quigley, J \$18.74 per hr; Schlu-
 eter, M \$18.74 per hr; Warnock, S
 \$18.74 per hr; Planning & Zoning:
 Eneboe, E office hours \$16.31 per
 hr and \$40.00 per site inspection fee;
 Gillespie, D \$15/mtg; Albers, R \$50/
 mg; Larson, R \$50/mtg; Anderson,

Brooklyn, Bennett,
 Grace, Jameson, Elena,
 and Anna; and sister
 Marie Hansen of Sioux
 City.
 Funeral services will be
 Monday, Jan. 20, 2014
 Emmanuel Lutheran Church
 Beresford. Visitation will be
 Sunday, Jan. 19 from 4-8PM
 with family present from 6-8
 M.

Farley
 yed were swimming, cheer-
 leading, bowling, watching
 movies, dancing to her favor-
 ite music, going to work and
 giving lots of hugs and hap-
 piness to her friends and fam-
 ily.
 She is survived by her
 parents, Mary & Doug Jensen
 of Beresford; three brothers,
 Zachary (Jessica) Jensen of
 Sioux City, IA, Seth (fiancé
 Shannon Hettinger) Jensen of
 Canton, IA and Dylan Jensen
 of Sioux City, IA; two sisters,
 Melanie King of Tea, SD and
 Holly King of Beresford; ma-
 ternal grandparents, Wayne
 "Dad" (Darlene) Twedt of
 Beresford; six nephews and
 nieces, Rachel, Evan, Aubrey,
 Lymie, Nanette and Miles;
 many aunts, uncles, cousins
 and friends. She was preceded
 in death by her paternal grand-
 parents, Squirt and Rick Jensen
 of Alcester, SD.

Memorial services will
 be held at 10:00 AM Monday, Janu-
 ary 20, 2014 at Wass Funeral
 Home in Beresford.

**Beresford Municipal Telephone
120 E. Main Street
Beresford, SD 57004
763-2500**

Notice to Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Customers

Low Income Assistance Available:

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide a federal telephone assistance program that was developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service for low-income citizens. The **Lifeline** program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

Who is Eligible?

Subscribers must have household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible:

Medicaid	Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Food Stamps	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Federal Housing Assistance	Temporary Aid to Needy Families
National School Lunch Free Lunch Program	

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

2014 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
1	\$15,755	5	\$37,679
2	\$21,236	6	\$43,160
3	\$26,717	7	\$48,641
4	\$32,198	8	\$54,122

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,481 to the annual guideline.

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 79 No. 14, January 22, 2014, pp. 3593-3594

What does the Program Provide?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$9.25 on their basic telephone charges. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

How do I apply?

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you must completely fill out and sign an application form. You must also show proof of program participation or income eligibility. More details on this documentation requirement and application forms are available at our office at: Beresford Municipal Telephone Company, 120 E. Main St., Beresford, SD 57004, and at Beresford City Hall, 101 N. 3rd St., Beresford, SD 57004.

Could I Become Ineligible?

When you no longer are eligible to participate in any of the above assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline. *You are obligated by law to notify Beresford Municipal Telephone Company and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for Lifeline.*

***If you feel you qualify for this program or would like more information,
please call us at 763-2500 or stop in our office at 120 E. Main Street.***

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Lifeline Assistance Application & Certification Form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Billing Address: _____ (if different from above address)

Is this address: Temporary Permanent

Social Security Number (last four digits): _____ Date of Birth: _____

(If you are a member of a Tribal nation and do not have a social security number, you may provide your Tribal identification number.)

Telephone #: _____ # where you can be reached or receive messages: _____

Are you or any member of your household currently receiving Lifeline assistance through any other telephone provider?

Yes No **** Only 1 Lifeline participation allowed per household ****

I am applying for: Lifeline (monthly telephone service discount) Toll Limitation Service (free toll blocking)

I, one or more of my dependents, or someone in my household currently participates in one or more of the following programs:

(Check all that apply.)

- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX/Medical State Supplemental Assistance)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Energy Home Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program

OR My household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

The number of individuals in my household is: _____.

If you do not participate in one or more of the programs listed above, you may qualify for Lifeline 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 Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
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 are required to provide documentation of eligibility.

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-

Letter / Application for new providers

household limitation constitutes a violation of the Federal Communications Commission's rules and will result in your de-enrollment from the program. Lifeline is a non-transferable benefit and you may not transfer your benefit to any other person.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that: * Please read thoroughly before signing *****

- (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 will 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;
- (3) If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company within 30 days;
- (4) If I provided a temporary residential address to the telephone company, I will be required to verify my temporary residential address every 90 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 re-certify 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 acknowledge that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law; and
- (8) The information contained in this application and certification form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- (9) I certify that the individual named on the documentation demonstrating program participation is part of my household.
- (10) I certify that the individual named on the documentation demonstrating program participation does not already receive Lifeline service from another service provider.

Signature

Date

I also give my consent for BMTC to submit my information to the National Lifeline Accountability Database for purposes allowed by law relating to administration of the Lifeline program.

Signature

For more information about Lifeline, see www.PUC.SD.gov/Lifeline

For Office Use Only

Name on documentation demonstrating program participation (if different from name of applicant): _____

Program-Based Eligibility _____ Income-Based Eligibility _____

Type of document reviewed: _____ Award Letter _____ Voucher _____ Benefits card _____ Income Statement

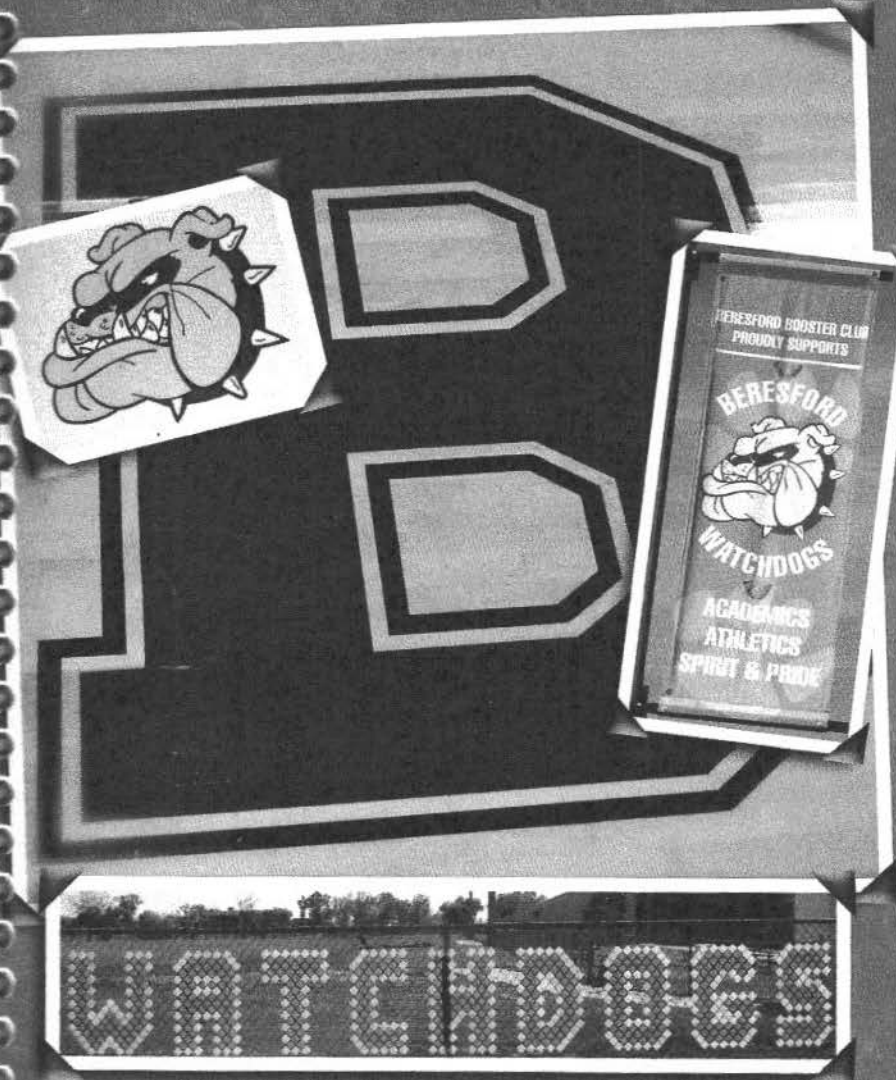
Other _____

Identifying information about documentation: (for example, "blue SNAP card", "letter from State Health & Human Services Agency" or "3 consecutive months of paycheck stubs", etc.) _____

Documentation provided: _____ In person _____ Fax _____ Mail Expiration Date of Document: _____ No exp. date: _____
(DO NOT KEEP DOCUMENTATION. Be sure to return documentation to applicant or destroy copies/faxes)

Date document reviewed: _____ Reviewed by: _____

BERESFORD MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE COMPANY



TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

March 2014

Serving: **763 BERESFORD CITY**

Also Includes Listings For The Following Communities:

**ALCESTER • WORTHING • ALSEN •
CENTERVILLE • 957 BERESFORD RURAL**

Toll Fraud - cont'd

U.S. CODE, TITLE 18 Section 1343

Fraud by Wire. Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of wire, radio, or television communication in interstate or foreign commerce, and writings, signs, signals, pictures, or sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice, shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

HOUSE BILL NO., 639, as passed by the Fifty-Second Session of the Legislature of the State of South Dakota stipulates the following:

1. Any person owning or having control of any pipes, wires, cables, or other facilities for the transmission of gas, oil, electricity, water, communications, or other products or services, which are buried beneath the surface of the ground, including areas within the limits of any political subdivision, shall give written notice thereof to the office of the register of deeds in the county where the facilities are located.
2. The register of deeds of each county where the facilities described are buried shall establish and maintain a uniform file system containing the information furnished by the owner or person having control of these facilities.
3. Any person intending to conduct any digging, grading, leveling, excavating, blasting, or similar activities upon the lands described in the notice shall request the person owning or controlling the facilities to accurately locate them upon the land where they are situated, at least two days per location, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the commencement of the activity.

Lifeline and Toll Limitation Services

Lifeline 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 receive a \$9.25 credit per month.

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.

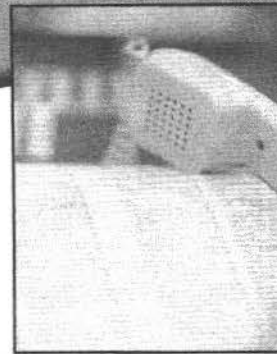
Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

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 and TLS support varies by state. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline 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

Lifeline and Toll Limitation Services - cont'd



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.

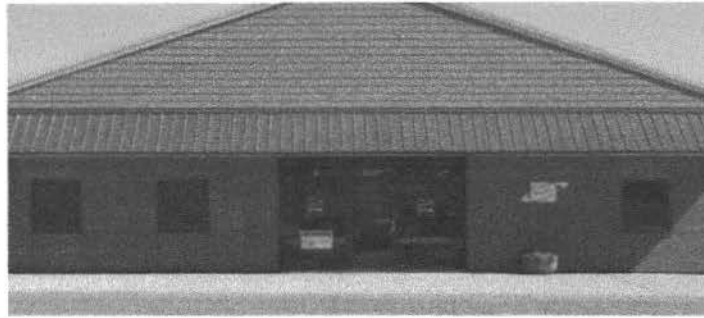
To apply for Lifeline and TLS discounts, please contact Beresford Municipal Telephone Company, 101 N. 3rd, Beresford, SD 57004 or (605)763-2500.

Use Of Telephone For Debt Collection Purposes

The Federal Communications Commission has received information that interstate telephone service is being used for collection of claimed debts in ways that are or may be in violation of applicable tariffs of the telephone companies and criminal statutes. Practices alleged include calling at odd hours of the day or night; repeated calls; calls to friends, neighbors, relatives, employers, and children; calls making a variety of threats; calls asserting falsely that credit ratings will be hurt; calls falsely stating that legal process is about to be served; calls demanding payments for amounts not owed; calls to places of employment; and calls misrepresenting the terms and conditions of existing or proposed contracts. Although many of these calls are placed on a local basis, there is increasing indication that such improper practices also involve use of interstate toll and Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS).

Tariffs of the telephone companies forbid use of the telephone "... for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, if in a manner reasonably to be expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;" or for calls that "... interfere unreasonably with the use of the service by one or more other customers;" or calls for "... unlawful purpose." Upon violation of any of these conditions the telephone company can, by written notice, discontinue service "forthwith." These tariff regulations are filed with this Commission pursuant to Section 203 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 203, and are binding on the telephone company and customer alike. Users of the telephone service are also subject to the enforcement proceedings provided for in Sections 401 and 411 of the Communications Act. In addition to the loss of telephone service for violation of the tariffs, Section 223 of the Communications Act makes it a crime to use the telephone in the District of Columbia or in interstate or foreign communications to make "repeated telephone calls, during which conversation ensues, solely to harass any person at the called number" or to knowingly permit "others to use his telephone" for such purpose. Penalties for violation of Section 223 are a fine up to \$500.00 or six months' imprisonment, or both, 47 U.S.C. 223.

The Commission is concerned that some users of telephone service may be unaware of their obligations to refrain from using the service for abusive or harassing calls. It is also concerned that other users may be willfully and repeatedly violating the provision of the tariffs and the applicable statutes, and that the telephone companies are not adequately enforcing their tariffs. Accordingly, the Commission is issuing this Public Notice in order that the public may be informed of the requirements of law in this area and so that users may be alerted to their legal obligations in the use of the telephone and the penalties for failure to abide thereby.



Beresford Municipal Telephone Company

[Home](#) • [Local Telephone](#) • [Long Distance Telephone](#) • [Internet](#) • [Analog Cable](#) • [Digital Cable](#) • [Bundles](#)

Lifeline

BMTC provides a federal telephone assistance program for low-income citizens. The Lifeline program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone customers who qualify. Subscribers must have a **household** income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines **or** must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible.

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Federal Housing Assistance
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families
- National School Lunch Free Lunch Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$9.25 each month on the basic service portion of the telephone bill. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber.

Toll Limitation Service allows eligible Lifeline customers who wish to avoid incurring long distance fees to choose toll blocking at no cost.

If a customer qualifies due to income requirements, documentation is required prior to installation. Acceptable forms of documentation include:

- >Prior year tax return
- >Paycheck stubs (must be 3 consecutive months within current calendar year)
- >Social Security Statement of Benefits
- >Veterans Administration Statement of Benefits
- >Retirement/Pension Statement of Benefits
- >Unemployment/Workman's Compensation Statement of Benefits
- >Divorce Decree, child support, or other official document

For more information on the Lifeline program, please
call us at 763-2500.

To contact Beresford Municipal Telephone, please call, fax, e-mail, or stop by our office:

120 E. Main Street

Beresford, SD 57004

Phone: 605/763-2500 or 605/763-2008

Fax: 605/763-7112

E-mail: phone@bmtc.net

[What is Lifeline?](#) | [Companies in My State](#)

COMPANIES IN MY STATE

South Dakota

[Back to map](#)

Clicking on the header label of each column will sort the table by that column.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Service Type</u>
Northern Valley Communications	888-919-8145	Wireline
James Valley Wireless	800-556-6525	Wireless
AT&T Mobility	800-377-9450	Wireless
City of Brookings Telephone Fund		Wireless
Northern Valley Communications	888-919-8945	Wireless
Budget Mobile	888-777-4007	Wireless
ITC Telecom	800-417-8667	Home Phone
Swiftel Communications	605-692-6211	Home Phone
Alliance Communications	800-701-4978	Home Phone
CenturyLink (formerly Qwest)	800-244-1111	Home Phone
C.R.S.T. Telephone Authority	605-964-2600	Home Phone
Golden West Telecommunications	866-279-2161	Home Phone
James Valley Telecommunications	800-556-6525	Home Phone
Kennebec Telephone Company	605-869-2220	Home Phone
Jefferson Telephone Company	712-271-4000	Home Phone
Midstate Communications	605-778-6221	Home Phone
PrairieWave Community Telephone	877-633-4567	Home Phone
PrairieWave Black Hills	605-721-2000	Home Phone
Santel Communications	888-978-7777	Home Phone
RC Communications, Inc.	800-256-6854	Home Phone
Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association	800-256-6854	Home Phone
TrioTel Communications, Inc.	800-242-1925	Home Phone
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Phone
Venture Communications	800-824-7282	Home Phone
West River Telecom	800-748-7220	Home Phone
Beresford Municipal Telephone	605-763-2500	Home Phone
City of Fairth Municipal Telephone Company	605-967-2261	Home Phone
Mt. Rushmore Telephone Company	605-666-4411	Home Phone

NOTICE

TO ALL BERESFORD MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE COMPANY CUSTOMERS

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide two federal telephone assistance programs that were developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service for low income citizens.

- The Lifeline program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone subscribers who qualify
- The Link Up program provides reduced connection charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Subscribers must have household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible:

Medicaid	Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Food Stamps	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Federal Housing Assistance	Temporary Aid to Needy Families
National School Lunch free lunch program	

WHAT DO THE PROGRAMS PROVIDE?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a waiver of the \$6.50 monthly Subscriber Line Charge and an additional credit of \$1.75 each month on the basic service portion of the telephone bill. The waiver and credit apply on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling 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 percent of applicable charges or \$30.00, whichever is less. Link Up also provides for deferred payment of connection charges without interest. It does not cover the cost of wiring inside the home and is limited to one time per home address per subscriber.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you must completely fill out and sign an application form. In addition, if you qualify because your household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, documentation is required. More details on this documentation requirement and application forms are available at our office at: Beresford Municipal Telephone Company; 101 North 3rd Street; Beresford, SD 57004.

COULD I BECOME INELIGIBLE?

When you no longer are eligible to participate in any of the above assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline or Link Up. You are obligated by law to notify Beresford Municipal Telephone Company and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for Lifeline and Link Up.