

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2017**

Company: RT Communications, Inc.

Address: 130 South 9th Street

Worland, WY 82401

Telephone number: 307-347-7000

Company contact: Stacie Byrd

Study Area Code: 512251

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 within 1st 30 days of service.* (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.rtcom.net)
- X Company's information posted on USAC website.
- X Other (describe): Lifeline Public Notice Overlay on 6/1/17 bill

*Required

Newsletter Journal
dated March 24, 2016

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM
RT COMMUNICATIONS**

**NEED HELP PAYING
FOR YOUR PHONE
BILL?**

Many low-income families qualify for assistance with phone charges, but don't realize that this help is available. Lifeline provides qualified customers with a \$9.25 monthly discount. Additional discounts are available for individuals that live on a federally recognized reservation or trust land.

Participation in Medicaid, SNAP (formerly called food stamps), LIAP (low income energy assistance program), TANF (temporary assistance for needy families), FPHA (federal public housing assistance program), National School Lunch Program, SSI (supplemental security income) can qualify you for Lifeline.

Even if you do not participate in any of the above programs, you may still qualify for Lifeline based on your household income level. Contact your local phone company for application forms and income guidelines.

The name on the phone bill must match the name of the family member participating in the eligible program. The program is limited to one benefit per household and the benefit is non-transferable.

Lifeline is a Government benefit program and anyone who willfully makes false statements in order to obtain a benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

For more information:

Call the Federal Communications
Commission (FCC) at
1-888-CALLFCC

or
Go to www.fcc.gov/lifeline



1-800-647-9841

or

(307) 347-7020

COMMUNICATIONS

**Happy
Easter!**



The News Letter
Journal office will be
closing at noon on
Friday, March 25.

nlj
NEWS LETTER JOURNAL



2016

Dear South Dakota Customers:

Many low-income families qualify for assistance with phone charges, but don't realize that this help is available. Lifeline provides qualified customers with a \$9.25 monthly discount.

To be eligible for Lifeline using the program-based eligibility option, a customer must be on Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Section 8 (FPHA), Veteran's Pension & Survivor Benefit, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Even if you do not participate in any of the above programs, you may still qualify for Lifeline based on your household income level. You may contact RT Communications for application forms and income guidelines.

The name on the phone bill must match the name of the family member participating in the eligible program. The program is limited to one benefit per household and the benefit is non-transferable.

Lifeline is a government benefit program and anyone who willfully makes false statements in order to obtain a benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

For more information, or to find out if you qualify for the Lifeline, call RT Communications at 1-800-647-9841, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commissions at 1-800-332-1782, or the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-CALL-FCC. You may visit the "Lifeline Across America" website at www.lifeline.gov

MONTHLY CHARGES (Cont'd)

For RT Communications customers all bills are payable at the RT Communications Office located at 130 S 9th St, Worland, WY 82401 or by mail at the same address. Payment may also be made by credit card, direct deposit or e-billing by calling 1-800-647-9841.

Failure to receive a bill does not exempt the customer from payment of their account. The customer is held responsible for all exchange service furnished at their request and all long distance charges furnished at their premises, including long distance messages received at their premises where the charges have been reversed. Most long distance charges will be billed directly by the carrier.

USE OF RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONES FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES

Residence telephones are installed with the understanding that they will be used for normal, social and domestic purposes. A residence telephone will be changed to business service if it is used primarily or substantially for business purposes, or if the residence telephone number is advertised in connection with the sale of products or services.

DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Range/RT Communications automatically provides a free directory listing, which includes your name and telephone number listed alphabetically in the white pages of the Range/RT Communications directory and with local directory assistance. You may also include your directory address if you wish. For a fee, you can add other listings for your residence or business, or you may also request your number to be non-published or non-listed. Non-published numbers are not in the telephone directory or in directory assistance. Non-listed numbers are in directory assistance, but not in the telephone directory. While every effort is made to keep the listings as accurate as possible, an occasional error may occur. Range/RT Communications and the publisher of this directory do not assume liability for damages arising from errors or omissions.

ALLOWANCE FOR FAILURE OF SERVICE

Range/RT Communications does not guarantee uninterrupted working of its facilities. In case service is interrupted other than by negligence or willful act of the consumer, an adjustment will, upon written request of the customer, be made in the amount of the charges for such of the service, equipment and facilities furnished by Range/RT Communications as rendered useless or inoperative. Any adjustment shall apply only to the period the interruption continues beyond (48) continuous hours, after Range/RT Communications receives notice of the interruption. No other liability shall in any case attach to Range/RT Communications.

ERROR ON YOUR BILL

If you have a question regarding your bill, call Range Customer Service Representatives at 1-800-927-2643 or RT Communications Customer Service at 1-800-647-9841. Explain the possible error to the representative. If the error cannot be resolved, please pay the undisputed charges on time so you will maintain a good payment record while the problem is being investigated.

PAYING YOUR BILL ON TIME TO AVOID DISCONNECTION

If your payments are not received by the due date, or you do not meet your mutually agreed upon payment arrangement date, your telephone service may be disconnected. (Returned checks constitute non-payment).

TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

Lifeline is the FCC's program to help make communications services more affordable for low-income consumers. Lifeline discounts can be applied to voice and broadband service. Only eligible consumers may enroll. Participation in Medicaid, SNAP (formerly called food stamps), FPHA (federal public housing assistance program), SSI (supplemental security income) or Veteran's Pension & Survivor Benefit can qualify you for Lifeline. Even if you do not participate in any of the

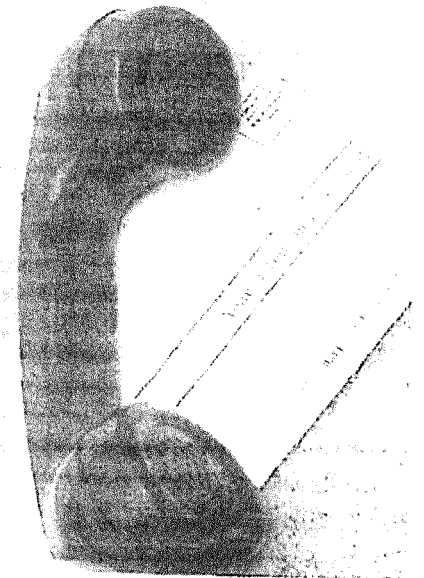
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TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) (Cont'd)

above programs, you may still qualify for Lifeline based on your household income level. Montana residents can contact your local Montana Department of Family Services (DFS) for application forms and income guidelines. Additional benefits and eligibility options are available to customers residing on Tribal lands.

All Wyoming residents must contact their local telephone company for applications forms and income guidelines. RT Communications can be reached at 1-800-647-9841 and Range Telephone can be reached at 1-800-927-2643.

The name on the phone bill must match the name of the family member participating in the eligible program. The program is limited to one benefit per household and the benefit is non-transferable. If you're located in Montana, your local DFS can assist you with approval forms and eligibility guidelines. Lifeline is a government benefit program and anyone who willfully makes false statements in order to obtain a benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or barred from the program.



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6/1/17 Bill Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) approved the Application of RT Communications, Inc. (RT or Company) to make price schedule revisions concerning its Federal Lifeline Program service offerings, to comply with the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) *Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration*, FCC 16-38 (2016 Lifeline Modernization Order). By Order dated April 27, 2016, the FCC amended its Federal Lifeline Program rules to, among other things, allow Lifeline providers to receive Lifeline support for standalone mobile or fixed broadband services. This amendment provides federal support for qualifying low-income households for either one landline or one broadband line. The FCC Order also amended the Lifeline program eligibility criteria. Low-income households who qualify for and receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"), Federal Public Housing Assistance ("FPHA"), and now the Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit are eligible for enrollment in the Lifeline program. The FCC Order removed from eligibility for Lifeline program benefits recipients of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LHEAP") benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("TANF") benefits, and National School Lunch Program ("NSLP") benefits. The FCC did not modify income-based eligibility guidelines currently based on an annual household income at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the current set of Tribal-specific eligibility programs.

RT revised its price schedule to read: "The Lifeline discount is only available to residential customers who meet income or program-based eligibility requirements established by the FCC and subject to the rates, terms and conditions established by the FCC. Customers can obtain further details about the program, and a Lifeline application, from the Company."

This is not a complete description of the approved price schedule. You may review the price schedule during regular business hours at the Company's business office(s) or the Commission's offices located at the Hansen Building, 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Dated: May 3, 2017.

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