

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2018**

Company: Beresford Municipal Telephone

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:

- ✓ 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 1st 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. www.bmtc.net
- ✓ Company's information posted on USAC website.
- ✓ Other (describe):

Posted on bulletin board at City Hall

*Required

This misunderstanding can lead to overexertion and a delay in the

for prescribing opioids that also promote non-pharmacologic al-

location at 504 North 16th Street, Beresford.

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	\$25.90
Single Line Business Service	\$29.40
Multi Line Business Service	\$33.14

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. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available. 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)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

Beresford Telephone Company's voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must provide documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs, or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address & share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

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 763-2500.

us through our "groaning which cannot be uttered." His intercession is according to the will of God. He helps us because we often do not know what we ought to pray. And "Christ who died...and...is also risen. Who is even at the right hand of God... also makes intercession for us." (see V.34) So, "we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (see V 28)

Sometimes when we're going through hard times, it doesn't seem like all things are working for our good. But once we're through those battles we can look back and see that we were not abandoned and not destroyed. We are stronger for it.

The popular jingle said, "Weebles Wobble but they don't fall down." This is true because their weighted, wider bottoms ground them and give them an irresistible equilibrium that keeps them centered. In the same way, Christ within me anchors me, and brings me back to the center of God's will by convicting me of my errors, convincing me of His boundless, unconditional love. 2 Cor. 5:14 NKJV says that the love of Christ compels us, so we return. These same things are true for you as well.

When Paul wrote his letter to the Roman church, he had already suffered greatly in his lifetime. Shipwrecks and beatings had left him near death. He'd experienced abandonment of friends, hunger, thirst, lack

not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed..." (2 Cor. 4:8-9 NKJV)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or sword?... Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom. 8:35-39 NKJV)

Although we live in dangerous, uncertain times, we can have peace and joy, knowing that, with God's help we can preserve and withstand whatever comes our way. We must not give in to fear. We can ask God to help us adopt Paul's attitude of confidence that earthly sufferings cannot come close to comparing to the glory waiting for us in heaven.

I challenge you this year to spend more time with the Lord, reading and meditating on His word, putting it into practice in your life. When we draw close to Him, He will draw close, and reveal Himself to us. As we praise and thank Him for His goodness and His love, He will fill us with peace and joy, and keep us balanced in Him.

Pastor Phyllis Bovill
Living Word Fellowship

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January 2017

Beresford Republic 11/19/2017

**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 a monthly benefit on home phone & broadband service to eligible households.

Who is Eligible?

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

Medicaid	Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
Food Stamps	Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	

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).

2017 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
1	\$16,281	5	\$38,853
2	\$21,924	6	\$44,496
3	\$27,567	7	\$50,139
4	\$33,210	8	\$55,782

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,643 to the annual guideline.

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 82 No. 19, January 31, 2017, pp. 8831-8832.

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 provide 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 or your income becomes higher than the chart above, 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 ~
Telephone, Internet & Cable Bundle Service Application

Date: _____ Social Security #: _____ Birth Date: _____

Name _____ (as you want listed in phone book)

Address: _____

Billing Address: (if different) _____

Telephone

Published / Non-Pub \$1.00 / Non-listed \$1.00 900 Block yes / no Wiring Maintenance (\$1/mo.) yes / no
(non-pub: # is not in phone book or directory assistance; non-listed: # is not in phone book but is in D.A.)

Long Distance Co: _____ Phone Rental: _____ CNAM: _____
 (15 letters maximum)

Calling Features:

_____ Call Waiting \$.75 _____ Voice Mail \$2.50
 _____ Caller ID \$3.00 _____ Voice Mail + E \$3.25 email address: _____
 _____ Toll Deny/Allow 800 \$.75 _____ Other _____

Additional authorized contact(s) on account (CPNI): add last 4 digits of SS# of authorized contacts if available

Cable TV

_____ Tier 1	\$ 30.40	_____ Tier 4/HBO & Showtime	\$ 91.65
_____ Tier 2	\$ 60.15	_____ Digital Basic Bundle	\$ 82.65
_____ Tier 3/ST	\$ 75.15	_____ Choose one: _____ Variety or _____ Sports or _____ Encore	
_____ Tier 3/HBO	\$ 79.65	_____ Digital Choice Bundle	\$ 91.15
		_____ Choose one: _____ Sports or _____ Encore	

* Please see Cable Channel Guide for more detailed information.

Pre-Payment: _____ Cable # assigned: _____ (if different from phone #)
(Pre-payment of 1 month of service + \$25 installation fee for analog or \$50 for digital)

**** Tiers 1-4 cable installs do not require in-home technician assistance unless requested. If assistance is needed to scan channels, check jacks, etc., schedule time when customer is available on day of install. ****

**** All digital cable installs require day & time scheduled with customer. ****

Tier 1-4 Install Date: _____ Time: _____ Digital Install Date & Time: _____
 (Time optional) (Time required)

Applicant's signature _____

Cell # _____

----- **Office Use Only** -----

CPNI discussed: _____ Lifeline Info Given: _____ Copy of Driver's License: _____ Deposit received: \$ _____

Phone # assigned: _____ Installation date & time _____ CSR: _____

For New Customers

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 or internet 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.

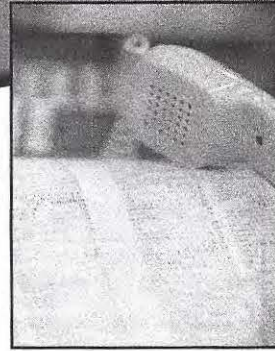
Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

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

Lifeline and Toll Limitation Services - cont'd



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:

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Benefit 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
Supplemental Security Income
Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

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



Companies Near Me

See the [Do I Qualify?](#) page to find out if you qualify for a Lifeline Program discount.

Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

Example: 12345




Note: The search results may not show every company that is near you. A company may still offer Lifeline even if it is not on this list. Please ask the service provider if they offer Lifeline in your area.

Companies near 57004

The order of this list is random and may change next time you search. The results will still be the same.

Showing 1 of 1 companies

 [Print List](#)

Download List:   

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service ▲	State
Beresford Municipal Telephone	605-763-2500	Home Phone	SD

If you want to see more companies, [see the list of companies in SD](#).

Tell Us What You Think

We will continue to update this tool, so please check back often. If you have any comments or find something wrong, please email us at LifelineProgram@usac.org.

More About the Data

The Companies Near Me tool is powered by USAC's [Open Data](#) initiative. This initiative allows the public to explore and analyze information submitted by universal service program participants.

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

**** Low Income Assistance Available for Eligible Telephone & Internet 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 & Internet service for low-income citizens. The Lifeline Program provides a monthly benefit on home phone and broadband service to eligible households. The Lifeline benefit can lower the cost of your monthly phone or internet bill. Only one benefit is available per household; either phone service or Internet, but not both.

Who is Eligible?

To be 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:

Medicaid

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) Section 8

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. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

How do I apply?

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***If you feel you qualify for this program or would like more information,
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