

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2022**

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 1st 30 days of service.* (See attached letter.)

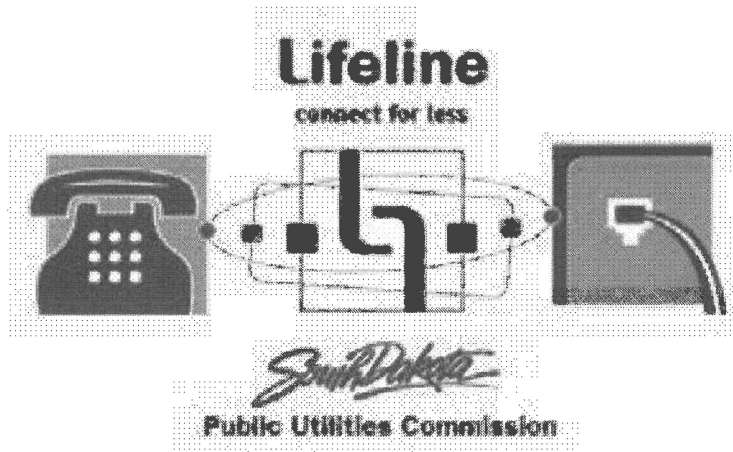
Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.

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

Company's information posted on USAC website.

Other (describe):

*Required



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

Lifeline helps eligible consumers save up to \$5.25 on their monthly phone bill. Subscribers may receive a discount on either a wireline or wireless service, but may not receive a discount on both at the same time. The program is limited to one line per household. 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

Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
1	\$17,388	5	\$41,904
2	\$23,517	6	\$48,033
3	\$29,645	7	\$54,162
4	\$35,775	8	\$60,291

For each additional person after 8, add \$6,129 to the annual guideline.

percent of the federal poverty income guidelines (see table below).

You may be asked to provide proof of your eligibility. Federal Register, Vol. 86, No. 19, February 1, 2021, pp 7732-7734

(Applicable to the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia only.)

You can find a link to the Lifeline application on the Kennebec Telephone Co. website.

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.
- Lifeline is available on only one line per household. 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.
- The Lifeline discount cannot be applied to past due telephone bills.
- Customers must remain with their company for at least 60 days for voice service and at least one year for internet service (some exceptions apply).
- Once you are on Lifeline, you may be required to re-certify your continued eligibility for Lifeline at any time. If you do not re-certify within 60 days, you'll lose your Lifeline discount.
- 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.
- It can take up to two months for the discount to show up on your bill as a credit. You must pay the bill until that time.
- 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.

Rev. 02/17/21

<https://puc.sd.gov/lifeline/>

**Beginning October 24, 2021, you must dial 10 digits
(area code + telephone number) for all local calls.**

On and after this date, local calls dialed with only 7 digits may not be completed, and a recording will inform you that your call cannot be completed as dialed. You must hang up and dial again using the area code and the 7-digit number.

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.

CUSTOMER ALERTS



**NATIONAL
DO NOT CALL
REGISTRY**

To cut down on telemarketing sales calls, you can write to Telephone Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association of America, Box 9014, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014. Ask to have your name removed from telemarketing lists. This will reduce, but not eliminate, solicitations. You may also call 1-888-382-1222 or visit www.donotcall.gov, to have your name placed on the Do-Not-Call List. Or call our office to have Telemarketing Call Screening added to your line.

A "PIC FREEZE" will help protect you from being changed to another long distance carrier without your authorization. You may request a "PIC FREEZE" from Kennebec Telephone Co. Inc. When a "PIC FREEZE" has been processed for you, you must have this "PIC FREEZE" removed by KTCI when you decide to change long distance carriers. Please notify KTCI & your long distance carrier whenever you are canceling &/or changing from one long distance carrier to another. Failure to do so may result in higher rates, since, in all likelihood, you will not be placed on the particular calling plan that you desire. If you have questions regarding a "PIC FREEZE" please feel free to call our office at 869-2220.

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

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT PROCESS

Persons dissatisfied with telephone company procedures or Policies relative to billing, establishment of credit, refusal of service, or disconnection of service, may appeal to the **Public Utilities Commission, Capitol Building 1st Floor, 500 East Capitol Ave. Pierre, South Dakota, 57501, 1-800-332-1782 (Toll Free).** For Interstate consumer issues you may contact the **Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th ST, SW, Washington, DC 20554, 1-888-225-5322 (Toll Free), 1-888-8365-5322 TTY (Toll Free)**

Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs are available for qualifying subscribers. These programs provide a monthly service discount on telephone and broadband services. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the **Lifeline Program**. To Qualify for **Lifeline**, subscribers must either have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- *Medicaid
- *Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- *Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- *Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit

A subscriber living on **Tribal lands** and is eligible for **Tribal Linkup** and **Tribal Lifeline**. They may also qualify for **Lifeline** by participation in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs:

- *BIA General Assistance
- *Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- *Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met
- *Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty

Guidelines.

KTCI's voice and bundled broadband services are **Lifeline**-supported services. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the **Lifeline Program**. **Lifeline** applicants must present 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. A household is defined for the purposes of the **Lifeline** program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and 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, imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The services described above are offered to all customers in KTCI's service area. If you have any questions regarding our service, please call our office at 869-2220. You are also welcome to visit our business office at 220 S Main Street in Kennebec, SD.

This notice is Posted in accordance with South Dakota Public Utilities commission order IC97-092 and pursuant to 47 United State Section 214 € and 47 Code of Federal Regulations Sections.



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

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

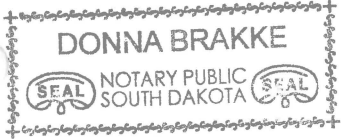
a printed copy of which is hereto attached and published in the said newspaper for 1 consecutive week(s).

The first publication of said notice in said newspaper aforesaid was on Wednesday, the 15 day of Dec A.D., 2021 and that the succeeding publications were severally
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021
Wednesday, the _____ day of _____ A.D., 2021

and the last publication on Wednesday, the 15 day of Dec, 2021, that the full sum of fees charged for publishing the same, to-wit; the sum of \$ 112.50 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 30 day of Dec, 2021
My Commission expires _____ DONNA BRAKKE _____, 20____
NOTARY PUBLIC - SOUTH DAKOTA
My Commission Expires
December 31, 2025



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 Survivor's 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.™

