

525 Western Avenue | PO Box 588 3rookings, SD 57006



415 4th Street | PO Box 588 Brookings, SD 57006

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH ANNUAL **REPORT JULY 1, 2025**

Company:

City of Brookings Municipal Utilities Telephone Department

d/b/a Swiftel Communications

Address:

PO Box 588

525 Western Ave Brookings, SD 57006

Telephone number: 605-692-6325

Company Contact: Laura Julius

Study Area Code:

391650

Lifeline/Tribal Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- ✓ Advertise in media of general distribution. *(See Attachment A- attached advertisements 1 - 3)
- ✓ Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Tribal Link Up within 1st 30 days of service. * (see Attachment B)
- ✓ Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory. (see Attachment C)
- ✓ Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website at https://swiftel.net/phone/ (see Attachment D)
- ✓ Company's information posted on USAC website. (see Attachment E)
- ✓ Other (describe): Posters and brochures placed in offices and other public places where customers who qualify are likely to see them. (See attachment F, 1-2).

*Required

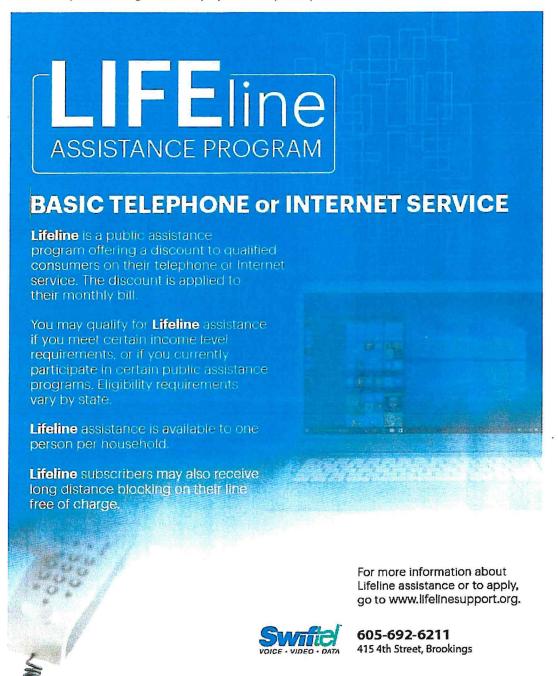
Signed

Laura Julius

Assistant General Manager

ATTACHMENT A.1

This standard advertisement is on display for customers applying for service. This poster is posted in the lobbies of Swiftel Communications and Brookings Municipal Utilities. This brochure is also distributed around the city of Brookings and is displayed in the public places listed on Attachment F.1.



ATTACHMENT A.2

This brochure advertisement is posted on www.swiftel.net website. This brochure is also distributed around the city of Brookings and is displayed in the public places listed on Attachment F.1.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

BASIC TELEPHONE or INTERNET SERVICE

Lifeline is a public assistance program offering a discount to qualified consumers on their telephone or Internet service. monthly bill.

You may qualify for Lifeline assistance if you meet certain income level requirements, or programs. Eligibility requirements vary by state.

Lifeline assistance is available to one person per household.

Lifeline subscribers may also receive long distance blocking



See other side for how to qualify

How to qualify for the Lifeline discount.

- Participation, with supporting documentation, in at least one of the following programs -
 - Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX/Medical, State Supplemental Assistance
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
 - Veteran's Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs
- Qualify by household income level:
 - Income must be at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines based on the number of individuals in your household.
 - You will need to provide documentation to support income eligibility.

Documentation may be:

- Prior year's state/federal/tribal tax return
- · Three consecutive months of income statements or paycheck stubs
- Social Security statement of benefits
- Veteran's Admin statement of benefits
- · Retirement/pension statement of benefits
- Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits
- · A divorce decree, child support award, or other official court document with income information

For more information, or to apply,



please go to www.lifelinesupport.org.



605-692-6211 415 4th Street, Brookings

ATTACHMENT A.3

Attached are the Lifeline Ads that were published in our local paper, The Town & Country Shopper. The Town & Country Shopper is a free weekly paper delivered to all residents in the Brookings, SD area. This publication is also available to view online at https://www.townandcountryshopper.net.

Advertisement Run Dates:

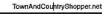
- June 4, 2024 June 18, 2024
- November 5, 2024 November 19, 2024







Web site: www.holylifetabernacle.com



Resilient Communities Brookings County Event Planned

Brookings County residents are invited to attend the next Resilient Communities learning event on May 20th from 10:30am to 1:00pm in the Activity Room at Gracepoint Church located on Orchard Drive.

Participants will hear from Chad Adamson, Brookings Middle School Counselor, will review the SEARCH Institute Survey data from our middle and high school students. There will also be an educational session on the current state of vaping in SD and Brookings.

Sign up for your FREE registration https://brookingsunitedway.org/reevents/ or call 605-692-4979.

SERVICES CONTINUED

FALL LAWN CLEAN UP: Lawn mowing, trimming and debris removal. Call Carter 605-695-



TOTAL EDOVY CONTING







TOWNANDGOUNITYSHOPPELLER

NICK'S

HAMBURGER SHOP

"BUY "EN BY THE BAG"

427 Main Avenue, Brookings
605-692-4324

www.nickshamburgers.com

BLOOKINGS NET

DACOTAH BANK

Here for you.*

Dacotah Bank is Named One of American Banker Magazine's 2024

Best Banks to Work For

In recognition of its dedication to employees and their families, Dacotah Bank tas again been named one of the Best Banks to Work for by American Bankerl Dis marks the seventh consecutive year Decotah Bank has received this knoor and is poul to be rained \$52 on this year's list. In the peas there years, currently have been \$31, 851, and \$83, demonstrating our commitment to excellence. Dacotah Bank strives to be one of the best banks to work for and

ATTACHMENT B

Lifeline Message – Customer's 1st Bill

Manage your Account Online: www.swiftel.net

- View your bill Pay your bill
- Go paperless
- Sign up for Autopay Update Contact Information

Current Invoice Number:

How to Contact Us:

Website: www.swiftel.net Pay-by-Phone: 605-697-8468

Changes to your service?: 605-692-6211 Questions about your bill?: 605-697-8467 Technical Support: 605-696-HELP (4357)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm Email Address: swiftelsales@swiftel-bmu.com

Main Office Location: Swiftel Communications 415 4th St Brookings, SD 57006

Mail Payments to: Swiftel Communications PO Box 588 Brookings, SD 57006

Go Paperless

Ļ	_J ^	would like to go paperiess and	receive my monthly	oill by email.	

Email Address: Signature:

Has your billing or contact information changed? Update your records by providing this new information. New Mailing Address: __ Effective Date:

___ State: _____ Zip: ___ Daytime Contact #: City: Email Address: __ _ Signature: _

Charge Detail

Residential Phone & Internet Residential Phone & Internet Bundled Services (Apr 21 - May 20) Residential Voice (605-697-5220) Phone Features for 605-697-5220 Call Waiting for 605-697-5220 Call Forwarding for 605-697-5220 3-Way Calling for 605-697-5220 Phone Service for 605-697-5220 Residential Internet Internet Speed Internet Speed Residential FiberNet 200/20 Mbps Non-Recurring Charges Residential Phone & Internet (Mar 26 - Apr 20) Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges Brookings City Tax Enhanced 911 Federal Tax

rederal 1ax Federal USF Charge SD Communication Impaired Fund South Dakota State Sales Tax Total for Residential Phone & Internet

If you participate in any of the assistance programs listed below, you may qualify for the Lifeline discount on your Swiftel monthly bill.

- SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pensions, or Survivor's Pension
- Household Income is at or below 135% of Federal **Poverty Guidelines**

If you meet eligiblity requirements and would like to apply, please go to www.checklifeline.org

Lifeline Message – Annual Reminder Message

Charge Detail

Phone & Internet

Phone & Internet
Bundled Services (May 21 - Jun 20)
2221 Teresa Ave Brookings, 5D 57006-4610
Residential Voice (605-697-6817)
Phone Features for 605-697-6817
Caller ID - Call Waiting for 605-697-6817
Call Waiting for 605-697-6817
Call Forwarding for 605-697-6817
Call Forwarding for 605-697-6817
3-Way Calling for 605-697-6817
Phone Service for 605-697-6817
Residential Line Access for 605-697-6817
Residential Internet
Internet Speed Internet Speed
Residential FiberNet 120/20 Mbps Residential FiberNet 120/20 Mb
Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges
Brookings City Tax
Enhanced 911
Federal Tax
Federal USF Charge
SD Communication Impaired Fund
South Dakota State Sales Tax
Tatal For Blovine 8. University

\$

Residential Voice (605-697-6817) 2221 Teresa Ave Brookings, SD 57006-4610

Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges
Brookings City Tax
Federal Tax
Residential Access Recovery Charge
Residential End User
South Dakota State Sales Tax
Total for 605-697-6817

Total for Phone & Internet

Residential TV

2221 Teresa Ave Brookings, SD 57006-4610 Recurring Charges (May 21 - Jun 20) Video Stream (qty 3) TV-Ultimate Residential **DVR Service** 2 Year Contract Sports-Info Tier Residential

Swiftel Communications is authorized to provide the Lifeline assistance program. Lifeline is a public assistance program offering a discount to qualified consumers on their telephone or Internet service. The discount is applied to their monthly bill.

To qualify for Lifeline, the person applying for assistance must have telephone service in their name, and must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs:

- SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pensions, or Survivor's Pension
- Household Income is at or below 135% of Federal **Poverty Guidelines**

What does the Lifeline program provide?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a monthly credit of \$5.25 on their basic home telephone service charges or a monthly credit of \$9.25 for bundled broadband services.

If you meet eligibility requirements and would like to apply, please go to www.checklifeline.org.

If you no longer participate in any of the qualifying programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline. You are obligated by law to notify Swiftel Communications of the change.

Swiftel Communications

Consumer Tips

they have no further responsibility if you continue to make substantially the same

You cannot be charged for a billing review.

The amount still due on your billing account needs to be paid in full. Your local company, or heeds to be paid in fail, four local company, or the long-distance company providing the pay-per-call service, may take action to collect the amount outstanding if you continue to withhold payment once the billing review is

Failure to pay the amount outstanding may subject you to collection action, including being reported to a collection agency or credit bureau. If you continue to dispute any portion of your billing error claim, your telephone company will include it and identify the disputed amount to the collection agency or credit bureau. Your company will attempt to Inform you if your account is turned over for collection and to what agency it will be sent. If the dispute is resolved, that fact will be reported to all who received notice that the account was delinquent.

If your billing entity, or the long-distance company involved, fail to follow the billing and collection procedures prescribed by Section 308.7 of the Federal Trade Commission rule implementing the TDDRA, they are obligated to forfelt any disputed amount, up to \$50 per transaction.

DISCLOSURE UNDER FCC RULE 64.1509(b) The FCC requires the following disclosures to telephone subscribers:

Your local exchange and long-distance service cannot be disconnected or interrupted as a result of your failure to pay charges for interstate pay-per-call services, charges for interstate information services provided pursuant to a presubscription or compatible arrangement, or charges you have disputed for interstate tariffed collect information services.

You can obtain blocking of access to 900# services where it is technically feasible, at no charge, on a one-time basis.

You have a right not to be billed for pay-per-call services offered which are not in compliance with Federal laws and regulations established under Titles II or III of the TDDRA.

Your access to pay-per-call services may be involuntarily blocked for failure to pay legitimate pay-per-call charges.

Contact your local telephone company's business office with questions about pay-per-call charges or to request a 900# block

LIFELINE/LINK-UP DISCOUNT INFORMATION Swiftel Communications customers who qualify may be eligible for monthly telephone service

Participation in one or more of the following assistance programs qualifies you for the Lifeline and /or Link-Up discount:

SNAP (Food Stamps), Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, Medicald, Veteran's or Survivors Pension, or if your household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty

To apply or get more information, go to www.checklifeline.org or www.lifelinesupporting.org or. call 1-800-234-9473

TELEPHONE SERVICES FOR HEARING & SPEECH IMPAIRED USA RELAY S.D.

711 or Toll Free 1-800-877-1113

Questions or Additional Information

Toll Free 1-800-642-6410

COMMUNICATION SERVICE FOR THE DEAF

If you require assistance using the telephone system due to a hearing or speech impairment, or need to communicate with someone who has such an Impairment, contact Communication Service for the Deaf. They are equipped with TDDs (Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf) and provide service. For information on Voice Carry-Over and Hearing Carry-Over services, call 1-800-642-6410. To contact and use the USA Relay for call processing, call 711 or 1-800-877-1113.

Brookings Police and Fire (911) as well as the Brookings County Sheriff's Office (rural 911) are equipped to handle Emergency and Non-Emergency Calls with TDDs

HOW TO HANDLE ANNOYANCE CALLS

It is against the law in the state of South Dakota to make an obscene, harassing or threatening telephone call. When you receive such a call, follow these suggestions:

- When answering your telephone, say "hello" twice. If no answer, HANG UP
- 2. Do not give information until you are absolutely certain you know who is speaking.
- 3. Instruct children not to give any information to strangers over the phone.
- Hang up when you hear something off-color or obscene. Never reveal you are alone. 5. When annovance calls persist, contact your
- local law enforcement agency. 6. Calls of a threatening nature should be reported to the local law enforcement
- agency immediately. 7. Customer-Originated Trace is another available service.

CUSTOMER ORIGINATED TRACE

When you are serious about prosecuting an offender, Call Trace lets you automatically trace an obscene or threatening phone call and delivers the number to local law enforcement. If the caller has violated South Dakota Codified Law 49-31-31 and you decide to prosecute, the police may use the trace as evidence.

Note: Every time you complete a call trace, you will be charged, whether or not you follow up with authorities. The traced number will be delivered ONLY to law enforcement.

- 1. Automatically available on every line at no charge, unless you use it
- If you receive a call that you would like

 - Hang up.
 Dial *57 (Rotary 1157).
 - You will hear an announcement: You have accessed the Call Trace Feature. Cost for a successful trace is \$4.00.
 - To discontinue the trace, hang up.
- 3. To continue the trace, dial 1. You will hear an announcement telling you that your trace has been successful and to call local law enforcement for further assistance

UNLAWFUL WIRETAPPING MAY BE SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION

Under federal and state laws, it is a crime for any person to wiretap or otherwise intercept a telephone call without the consent of one o both parties actually participating in the call. When proceeding under court orders, authorized law enforcement officers can take part in interception without the consent of either party. The penalty for illegal wiretapping is imprisonment and/or a fine

USE OF TELEPHONE FOR DEBT

COLLECTION PURPOSES

The Federal Communications Commission regulates the use of interstate telephone service for the collection of claimed debts. Disallowed practices 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. Tariffs of the telephone companies forbid use of the telephone for a call or calls 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 for calls for "unlawful purpose". Upon violation of any of these conditions, the telephone company can, by written notice, discontinue service immediately. These tariff regulations are filed with this Commission rsuant to Section 203 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 203, and are binding on the telephone company and customer alike. (Rules & regulations referenced in this directory are subject to change. For the most current information, contact the FCC at 1-800-CALL-FCC or http://www.fcc.gov; OR SD PUC Office of Consumer Affairs, 1-800-332-1782 or http://www.state.sd.us/puc)

"Do Not Call" SIGN-UP

South Dakota consumers may sign up to stop most telemarketing calls. The sign-up is free and consumers have two ways to register their home telephone and personal cell phone numbers

- 1. Call 1-868-382-1222 from the home or personal cell phone you wish to be registered; or
- 2. Register via Internet at www.donotcall.gov for wireline and/or wireless phones.

Consumers can register just once to be covered by both the national and state Do Not Call lists. South Dakotans can register complaints with the PUC at 1-800-332-1782.



ATTACHMENT D

Lifeline information found on our website: https://swiftel.net/phone/



Click for 'Do Not Call' registration to block unwanted calls

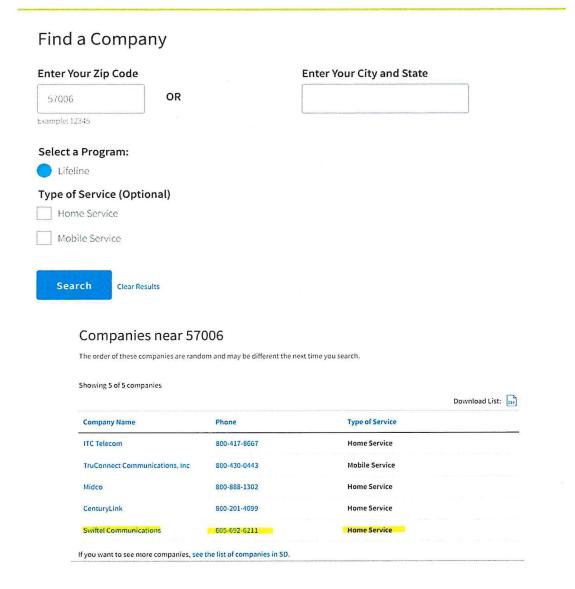
ATTACHMENT E

Company/s information posted on the USAC website

Companies Near Me

This tool can help you find companies in your area that offer Lifeline, which can reduce the cost of your phone or internet service by providing a monthly discount.

If you previously received the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) benefit, you should check to see if you qualify for Lifeline. Due to a lack of additional funding from Congress, the ACP stopped accepting new applications as of February 7, 2024. The last fully funded month of the ACP was April 2024, and the program has ended for now.



More About the Data

- Search results are based on program enrollment and information provided by the companies.
- The search results may include a company listed in your area that may not provide service to your address.
- Also, the search results might not show every company that is near you. A company may still offer Lifeline service even if it is not on the list. Please contact the company to confirm if they offer Lifeline service for your address.



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June 2025

RE: LIFELINE OUTREACH - Attachment F.1

For wireline service areas

Types of public places we display posters and brochures promoting the Lifeline discount:

- Nursing homes
- Senior Living Centers
- SD Social Services offices
- Women's shelters
- Food Pantry
- Apartment Rental Offices
- Apartment Management Companies
- Country Welfare offices
- Additional locations not listed here

ATTACHMENT F.2

Lifeline information located on our service application:

Swiftel Communications is required to provide this information to all new customers.

LIFELINE DISCOUNT FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE IS AVAILABLE - DO YOU QUALIFY?

Swiftel Communications is authorized to provide the Lifeline telephone discount program to our customers. The program was developed in response to concerns about the affordability of service for low-income citizens. Participants in the following programs qualify for a monthly discount on their Swiftel bill.

Medicaid

- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- + SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- · SSI Supplemental Security Income
- · Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Pension

OR - if household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

If you qualify, ask sales representative how to apply for this discount.

How many need true HD? NFL RedZone (entire season) \$65.00

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all terms and conditions of this contract and assume all responsibility of any charges as of the connect date. Responsibility will continue until term of service is met or service is terminated. An early termination fee will be applied to the account if length of service not fulfilled. I acknowledge that I was informed of the Swiftel's Lifeline discount availability. I received the Swiftel's Acceptable Use Policy.