



November 1, 2019

Ms. Amy Green
Secretary of the Commission
Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604-4027

Dear Ms. Green:

United Telephone Companies of Kansas d/b/a CenturyLink has enclosed for filing the following revisions to its General Exchange Tariff:

Section 13 First Revised Sheet 36.1
 Second Revised Sheet 36.2
 First Revised Sheet 36.3

This filing includes Lifeline revisions compliant with the Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 16-38, In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization (WC Docket No. 11-42), Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support (WC Docket No. 09-197) and Connect America Fund (WC Docket No. 10-90) adopted on March 31, 2016 and released April 27, 2016. Specifically, the proposed revisions reflect the phased-in reductions in the Federal Lifeline credit that will begin on December 1, 2019 when the credit is applied towards a qualifying voice service. The reduction in the basic Federal Lifeline credit will result in an offsetting increase in the additional Tribal Lifeline credit, with no change in the maximum Tribal Lifeline credit amount. This filing also adds clarifying language regarding qualifying services.

In compliance with existing rules, we make this filing on thirty days advance notification, and anticipate a December 1, 2019 effective date. If you have any questions regarding this filing, you may contact me at (913) 353-7070.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Christina L. Chushuk".

Christina L. Chushuk

cc: John Idoux, CenturyLink

KS 19-11

CHRISTINA L. CHUSHUK
Tariff Manager
Chris.Chushuk@centurylink.com
600 New Century Pkwy
New Century, KS, 66031
voice: (913) 353-7070

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

17. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Pursuant to FCC order 15-71, adopted June 18, 2015, the Company no longer provides Lifeline discounted service to resellers as of August 15, 2016.

(D)
|
(D)

A. Federal Lifeline Program

1. Description

The Federal Lifeline Program assists qualified low-income applicants with reductions in their monthly Local Exchange Service rate. The assistance applies to a single telephone line or broadband service, **or a bundle of broadband and single telephone line service** at the applicant's principal place of residence.

(T)

2. Eligibility Requirements

To receive assistance an applicant must demonstrate an annual household income at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or must demonstrate participation by the applicant, applicant's dependent(s) or a member of applicant's household ^[1] in one of the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension Benefit and Survivors Pension

^[1] A household is defined, for purposes of administering this program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

17. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Continued)

A. Federal Lifeline Program (Continued)

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Effective October 23, 2019, an applicant may request Lifeline assistance directly through the on-line consumer portal of the National Lifeline Verifier. Applicants may also mail a completed paper application, Household Worksheet, and proof of eligibility to the Lifeline Support Center. Applicants may contact the Company to request that paper copies of the application and Household Worksheet be mailed to them or may obtain the required forms from the following website: <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/ls/nv/default.aspx>.
- b. The Federal Lifeline Program credit may be applied to any qualifying residential Local Exchange Service provided by the Company (including Packaged Services).
- c. Customers are limited to one credit per household, which may be applied towards a qualifying wireline service, **a qualifying** broadband service or a **qualifying** bundled voice and data service package. Customers are not eligible to receive a credit from the Company if they receive a Federal Lifeline Program credit for a service provided by another Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or Lifeline Broadband Provider. (T)
- d. The Federal Lifeline Program credit will be pro-rated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the customer's application.
- e. Applicants must provide proof of eligibility and be deemed eligible for participation before monthly credits begin. Credits will only be issued on a go-forward basis.
- f. Nonrecurring charges will not apply when establishing this program on existing service.
- g. Partial payments made by Lifeline customers will be applied first towards local service charges. (T)
- h. **The discount shall be applied first to the subscriber line charge, and then to the monthly service rate for Lifeline eligible services.** (N)
- i. **At no time shall the total Lifeline discount exceed the sum of the subscriber line charge and the monthly service rate, excluding applicable taxes, fees, and other surcharges.**
- j. **All Lifeline recipients will be required to recertify their eligibility every year.** (N)

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

17. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Continued)

A. Federal Lifeline Program (Continued)

3. Terms and Conditions

- k. Toll Restriction (also known as Toll Blocking) is available to Lifeline customers upon request at no charge. No service deposit will be required for applicants who voluntarily elect toll restriction with the initiation of Lifeline service. (T)

Any Lifeline customer who has a past due balance in toll message charges will be automatically restricted from access to toll services until the outstanding balance is paid. The customer will not be charged for the toll restriction placed on the account. The Restoration Charge applies to Lifeline customers whose message toll service has been restricted for nonpayment.

If a Lifeline customer is toll restricted for a second occurrence, the Company may, at its discretion, place the Lifeline customer on a permanent toll restriction. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection or re-establishment of local service will not be denied if the service was previously suspended or disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.

- l. Customers residing on federally recognized Tribal Lands who receive the Federal Lifeline Program credit also qualify for an additional monthly credit. See Tribal Lands Lifeline Program in Section 17.C following. (T)

4. Monthly Credit

	<u>Credit Amount</u>	
Federal Lifeline Program Credit, per month		(T)
• Qualifying voice-only service		(N)
- Prior to December 1, 2019	\$9.25	(T)
- Effective December 1, 2019	7.25	(N)
- Effective December 1, 2020	5.25	
• Qualifying Broadband or bundled service	9.25	(N)