

Application for Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance Based on Household Income

The Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance programs are available to *low-income, residential households*.

Link-Up reduces the first installation fee by 50% up to \$30.

Lifeline reduces the local basic telephone service charge by \$13.50 monthly

Lifeline/Link-Up is only available for one telephone line per address.

To qualify under income guidelines, your household income must be no greater than **150%** of the federal poverty guidelines. **Documentation showing your household income *must* accompany this application.**

Name (please print): Last four digits of Social Security Number: _____	Name as it appears on phone bill (please print): Telephone Number (number must be in the name of the person requesting service): () _____ Name of your telephone company: _____ Are you applying for Link-Up? _____ <i>You must contact your company for the correct process to request Link-Up.</i> If you are <u>not</u> a customer of AT&T Florida, CenturyLink or Verizon, please contact your telephone company to apply for Lifeline/Link-Up.
Home Address (number and street): _____ Apt./Lot/Unit/Room #(circle one): _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Mailing Address (if different from home address): _____	How many people live in your household? Total Number: _____ Number of children under age of 18: _____
What is your total monthly/yearly household income? \$ _____ (monthly / yearly) <i>(Please see back for income guideline chart)</i> Number of people receiving income: _____	<p style="text-align: center;">Failure to provide the following documents will delay your approval for Lifeline:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Application <u>completed</u> and signed <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of total household income (<i>See back for examples</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Recent copy of phone bill

Please read the following statement carefully before signing.

I certify under penalty of law that I am the applicant for the Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance program requested above. I agree to notify the telephone company when I am no longer eligible for this assistance program. The information provided above and its attachments are true and correct.

Applicant Signature (must match name on phone bill)

Please return this form to:

**Office of Public Counsel
 c/o The Florida Legislature
 111 West Madison St. Rm. 812
 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400
 Fax: (850) 487-6419**

To verify receipt of a fax or if you have any questions, please call our toll free number at 1-800-540-7039.

Income Guideline Chart
150% of the Poverty Level

Number of People / in Household	Total Household Income
(monthly)	(yearly)
1	\$1,354 \$16,245
2	\$1,821 \$21,855
3	\$2,289 \$27,465
4	\$2,756 \$33,075
5	\$3,224 \$38,685
6	\$3,691 \$44,295
7	\$4,159 \$49,905
8	\$4,626 \$55,515

*For families with more than 8 persons, add **\$5,610** for each additional person to the yearly amount.

**Examples of Proof of Household Income
and Supporting Documents**

- Social Security Statement of Benefits
- U.S. Income Tax Return
- W-2 Wage and Tax Statements
- Veteran’s Administration Statement of Benefits
- Unemployment Statement of Benefits
- Bank Statement that shows the income of the household
- Workmen’s Compensation Statement of Benefits
- Divorce or Child Support Decree
- 3 Consecutive Pay Stubs (**current**)
- If your household has **\$0 income**, please write a statement about your circumstances.

****Send copies only. DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS.**

WHAT IS IT?

- **LIFELINE** is a public assistance program that reduces the monthly telephone bill by at least \$13.50. (The reduction is in the form of a credit and is deducted from the basic service charge).
- **LINK-UP** is a public assistance program that reduces the cost of the telephone installation fee by 50% up to the amount of \$30. **YOU MUST CONTACT YOUR TELEPHONE COMPANY TO REQUEST LINK-UP.** (The reduction is in the form of a credit and is deducted from the first installation fee.)
- **LIFELINE/LINK-UP** is available for one telephone line per household. Phone service must be registered in the name of the applicant. (**Cell phone users and subscribers to companies other than AT&T Florida, CenturyLink or Verizon must contact their service provider to apply for the program.**)

Notice: If you have a discounted calling plan or calling package with your telephone company, it is possible that your telephone company will not allow you to take advantage of the Lifeline/Link-up reduction in your monthly charges.

Check with your local company to determine the kind of service you currently have and if it prevents your household from receiving the Lifeline/Link-Up discount. **You may terminate your calling plan or package without penalty in order to take advantage of the Lifeline reduction in the basic service charge.**

PLEASE NOTE: Safelink cell phone customers may not participate in Lifeline on their home telephone unless they cancel participation with Safelink.

Who is eligible?

- **Low income households.** Income is determined by the federal poverty guidelines which are based on the number of people in the household and the total amount of money received by **each member** in the household.
- **Households participating in the following public assistance programs must contact their local telephone company to request an application for Lifeline/Link-Up;** Food Stamps, Medicaid, Federal Housing Assistance Section 8, Supplemental Security Income, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), National School Lunch Program (NSL) or the Bureau of Indian Affairs Programs.