



Via Electronic Comment Filing System

February 12, 2016

Ryan Palmer  
Chief, Telecommunications Access Policy Division  
Wireline Competition Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Lifeline Program, Docket No. 11-42  
USAC Data on the federal Universal Service Lifeline Program

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Pursuant to a request from Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is providing federal Universal Service Lifeline Program data and associated demographic analysis based on review of certain U.S. Census data.<sup>1</sup> The data points relate to current Lifeline Program participation and an analysis of U.S. Census data regarding household, geographic distribution, and demographic information.

- In the attached (Appendix A) a list of current subscribers is organized by sum count as reported in the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD).
- U.S. Census data were categorized into total eligible population based on certain characteristics including income and enrollment in Lifeline Program eligible income-based government assistance programs.<sup>2</sup>
- Other variables were used to determine household and person characteristics, including the presence of children under age 18, access to and type of internet available, race, ethnicity, and Veteran status.

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<sup>1</sup> USAC plans to post a Microsoft Excel formatted version of the data files on its website at <http://usac.org/li/about/process-overview/program-stats.aspx>.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census data is based on the American Community Survey (ACS) results, available at, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>. The ACS is an ongoing statistical survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau that is sent to over 3 million households every year. It gathers information previously contained only in the long form of the decennial census, such as ancestry, educational attainment, income, language proficiency, migration, disability, employment, and housing characteristics.

Ryan Palmer  
Chief, Telecommunications Access Policy Division  
Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC  
February 12, 2015  
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Please contact me if you have questions concerning this information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michelle Garber  
Vice President, Lifeline Division