



Via Electronic Comment Filing System

February 24, 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:

On February 12, 2016, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) provided federal Universal Service Lifeline Program data and associated demographic analysis based on review of certain U.S. Census data.<sup>1</sup> Based on follow-up discussion with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff, USAC is providing additional detail on the U.S. Census data regarding household, geographic distribution, and demographic information.

- As reflected in the February 12, 2016 filing, the attached report provides a list of current subscribers organized by sum count as reported in the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD).
- An additional table is provided that shows subsets of households and people by Lifeline eligibility with: (1) no Internet; (2) only dial-up Internet; or (3) only broadband service.
- The February 12, 2016 statewide estimates are modified to include only data from the American Community Survey. (The prior filing included data from other sources, including the Current Population Survey and was located in the “Eligible Households” column). We have also

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<sup>1</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.

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modified the column for dialup to include households and individuals with only a dialup connection and no other internet subscription. (The February 12, 2016 data included anyone who reported a dialup subscription, even if they had another type of internet service).

- As in the February 12, 2016 filing, 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>
- Additional categories of age, metropolitan/non-metropolitan classification, and disability status have been included in this filing. Previously, 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.

In addition, USAC is continuing to review additional information related to the U.S. territories and plans to make this information available on its website at <http://usac.org/li/about/process-overview/program-stats.aspx>.

Please contact me if you have questions concerning this information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michelle Garber  
Vice President, Lifeline Division

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<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.