

Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code: 492264

Rates, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Service

(Response to Form 481, Line 1210)

Local exchange service rates and charges as specified below are for basic local exchange service, including Tone Dialing Service, and facilities only. The rates for other ancillary services not specifically shown below are presented in Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative's tariff(s) on file with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges quoted below are for a period of one month, payable in advance and provide unlimited flat rate calling within the local exchange calling scope.

Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rates:⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Exchange Name	R-1 Rate	Res. EAS Charge
Antelope Ridge	\$ 26.00	\$ 2.54
Dexter	\$ 15.28	\$ 3.82
Hagerman	\$ 15.28	\$ 3.82
Maljamar	\$ 15.28	\$ -
Tatum	\$ 15.28	\$ -

⁽¹⁾ Above listed fees do not include mandatory taxes, fees and surcharges, including, but not limited to New Mexico Universal Service Fund charges, 9-1-1 fees, and municipal franchise fees.

⁽²⁾ Qualified Lifeline customers are eligible for Lifeline credits or discounts as outlined in the weblink provided.

LIFELINE AND LINKUP BENEFITS PROGRAM

A. DEFINITION

The Federal Lifeline Assistance and Link Up America Programs and the New Mexico Lifeline and Linkup Benefits Program (together, Lifeline Program) provide for credits for eligible low-income customers against the recurring monthly rate of single-line local residential service. The service includes voice grade access to the public switched network, touch calling, a standard white page listing, access to emergency services (911, E-911), access to operator services, access to interexchange services, access to directory assistance, and access to toll restriction service.

B. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS/APPLICATION

1. The Lifeline Program credits are only available to customers who qualify under one or more of the following program-based or income-based eligibility requirements:
 - a. Medicaid program,
 - b. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - c. Food Stamp program,
 - d. Supplemental Security Income program,
 - e. Federal Public Housing Assistance program,
 - f. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF),
 - g. National School Lunch program, or
 - h. Household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines.
2. An applicant for Lifeline Program benefits must self-certify, under penalty of perjury, that his or her household is eligible for public assistance under one or more of the programs listed above, or that his or her household income is at or below 150% of the applicable federal poverty guidelines upon annual publication by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the Federal Register.
3. The term "applicant" as used herein refers to an eligible customer of an eligible telecommunications carrier.
4. The following documents, or any combination of these documents, are acceptable to support certificates based upon income:
 - a) prior year's state, federal or tribal tax returns;
 - b) current year-to-date earnings statement from an employer or three consecutive months of paycheck stubs;
 - c) Social Security Administration statement of benefits;
 - d) Veteran's Administration statement of benefits;
 - e) retirement/pension statement of benefits;
 - f) Unemployment/Workers' Compensation statement of benefits;
 - g) Federal or tribal notice of participation in Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; or

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Chief Financial Officer

(h) divorce decree or child support wage assignment statement.

5. The application form for participation in the Lifeline Program is available at the business offices of the Company [220 W. Broadway, Hobbs, NM 88240], and at the offices of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, Consumer Relations Division [PO Box 1269, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1269]. Each completed application must contain the following information, where applicable:
- a) applicant's name, telephone number and home address;
 - b) the particular public assistance program(s), if applicable, and identification of the ETC that the applicant anticipates will provide service;
 - c) an affirmative statement that the applicant qualifies for lifeline or linkup benefits;
 - d) an affirmative statement under penalty of perjury affirming that the applicant is participating in one of the programs listed above, or a statement under penalty of perjury affirming that the applicant's household income is at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline;
 - e) if the application is based on income criteria, a statement under penalty of perjury that identifies the number of individuals residing in the household and affirms that the documentation presented to support income-based eligibility accurately represents the applicant's household income;
 - f) The following affirmative statement under penalty of perjury that the applicant is not receiving lifeline benefits of any kind on any other telephone or wireless account:

I agree to notify Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. when I no longer participate in any of the above qualifying public assistance programs or when there has been a change in the size or income level of my household. I certify under penalty of perjury the above information and attached documentation are true and that I and no one else is receiving lifeline benefits at this address, on either a telephone or wireless telephone account. and

- g) the applicant's signature.

C. REGULATIONS

1. The Lifeline Program credits will begin with the date the Company confirms that the applicant meets eligibility requirements, or when new service is established for a qualifying customer subject to B.1 through 4 above. The credits will be prorated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the customer's application.
2. Lifeline customers will receive a waiver of the nonrecurring charge for changing their local exchange service to Lifeline, or changing from flat rate service to message rate service, or vice versa, but only one such waiver will be allowed during any 12-month period.
3. The Lifeline Program credits are applicable only to the qualifying customer's principal residence line.
4. At the option of the Company, the Company will verify eligibility of Lifeline customers on an annual basis by confirmation from the state agency charged with the duty of administering one or more of the above programs, by a statistically valid sample of Lifeline

customers, by requiring the customer to obtain a certificate verifying such eligibility, or by other means.

5. A customer is not eligible for the Lifeline Program if the customer is currently receiving Lifeline Program benefits for service provided by another wireline or wireless eligible telecommunications carrier.
6. Recipients of benefits under the Lifeline Program must notify the Company of a change in any condition that would cause the household to no longer qualify for the benefits. If the Company determines that conditions exist which cause a customer to no longer be eligible for the Lifeline Program, the customer will be notified, the credit amounts specified in this Section will be discontinued, and regular tariff rates and charges will apply.
7. The Company may not disconnect the basic service of a Lifeline Program customer for the non-payment of toll charges unless the Company has received a waiver from the Commission allowing disconnection of service for this reason.
8. The Company will restore service for any customer who has had telephone service discontinued for nonpayment of basic service charges, if that customer was not a participant in the Lifeline Program at the time of discontinuance, but qualifies at the time he or she seeks restoration of service. In such a case, the Company will require reasonable payment arrangements allowing up to six months for payment of past due basic service charges.
9. Upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program, a customer will be offered a subscription, at no charge, to toll blocking service, which denies the customer access to the long distance telecommunications network. However, the customer does not have to subscribe to toll blocking service unless it becomes a condition to maintain basic service due to non-payment of toll charges or an outstanding debt to the Company.
10. The Company may not collect a service deposit in order to initiate Lifeline Program service, if the qualifying low-income customer voluntarily elects toll blocking from the Company.
11. The monthly credits for eligible subscribers are set forth in Section E. following. The credits will be applied to the tariffed rates and charges for single-line local residential flat or measured service.

D. LINKUP AMERICA

1. New Mexico residents who qualify for the Lifeline Program also qualify for the Federal Link Up America Program. A 50% discount (up to \$30.00) will be applied on access line nonrecurring charges to connect new service. The discount applies on a single line at the principal place of residence for the applicant.

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

LEACO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE (SAC 492264)

ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY