

Telephone Bill Assistance

LIFELINE is a federal program, funded by telephone users, that helps to make telephone service more affordable. The program provides eligible customers with a **discount** on either traditional (wired) or wireless service.

- Discounts are funded through the Universal Service Fund – All phone users pay into the Fund
- **Eligibility:** Maryland residents who receive TCA, TDAP, SSI, SNAP, PAA, MEAP/ EUSP
- **Discounts for both landline (wired) and wireless lifeline service are available.**
- Only ONE discount is available per household

LINK-UP service is available only for landline (wired) service and provides discounts for installation costs.

More information on Lifeline and Link-up service can be found at: <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/lifeline-and-link-affordable-telephone-service-income-eligible-consumers>.

Landline (Wired) Services: Verizon

Basic: Single telephone line with a maximum of 30 un-timed local calls per month.
Charge: \$0.66 per month
You cannot have any premium services and must pay all applicable federal, state and local taxes. **You will be charged for additional calls.**

OR

Enhanced: Single telephone line with unlimited local calls. Customer may purchase two value-added services and must pay all applicable federal, state, and local taxes.
Charge: \$10.00 per month

Additional features:

- Waiver of Federal Subscriber Line Charges (FSLC)
- Installation discount: Verizon currently waives the installation fee
- No security deposit
- **No extra fee** to process **service change** if customer is no longer eligible for Lifeline Service

For more information or to apply: 1-800-525-0145

Wireless Phone Service:

Discounts are now available from wireless companies that are certified by the Maryland Public Service Commission as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs). However, these companies are not regulated by the MD PSC, and they can change the terms and conditions of their lifeline service offers at any time.