



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2023

NMPRC urges New Mexicans to sign up for discounts on phone, internet service

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) today marked the beginning of Digital Connectivity and Lifeline Awareness Week, September 11-17, to draw attention to two federal programs designed to keep more New Mexicans connected. During this time, NMPRC is promoting both the Lifeline Program, which offers discounts to help residents access to voice or broadband services, and the Affordable Connectivity Program, which offers discounts to help residents access broadband services.

“I urge qualified New Mexicans to take advantage of the Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity programs to help bear the costs of vital communication services that keep us connected,” said Commission Chair Pat O’Connell.

NMPRC regulates telecommunications companies providing intrastate telecommunications services in New Mexico. NMPRC also oversees the administration of a \$30 million per year State Rural Universal Service Fund (SRUSF) that provides millions annually to expand and maintain broadband and voice services in rural areas of the state. The SRUSF also provides a discount of \$3.50 per month on qualifying customer bills in addition to the federal Lifeline Program through the state Low Income Telephone Assistance Program (LITAP).

Under the federal Lifeline program, low-income residents who participate in certain public assistance programs, or qualify based on income, can receive a discount of up to \$9.25 per month off their monthly bill for broadband or bundled phone and broadband service, up to \$5.25 for voice-only service, and up to a total of \$34.25 per month for residents of qualifying Tribal lands. More information on program eligibility and rules can be found at <http://www.lifelinesupport.org>.

In 2021, the Federal Communications Commission implemented the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households up to a \$30 per month discount for broadband services, up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Current Lifeline participants are automatically eligible, but they still need to select a provider and eligible ACP plan to receive the benefit. To get more information on or to apply or download and application for the Affordability Connectivity Program, go to www.getinternet.gov.

If you are a consumer and need to file a complaint against a telecommunications company, [click here](#) to

contact the NMPRC's Consumer Relations Division..

An online version of this press release is available [here](#).

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*The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC)** regulates the utilities, telecommunications, and motor carrier industries to ensure fair and reasonable rates, and to assure reasonable and adequate services to the public as provided by law. The PRC also promotes public safety through the Pipeline Safety Bureau and Transportation Division.*

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