

You should know...



North Dakota Public Service Commission

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North Dakota Public
Service Commission

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Link Up & Lifeline

*If you can't afford telephone services--Link Up and Lifeline can help eligible people who live on **TRIBAL LANDS**. You could receive basic local telephone service for \$1.00 per month plus mandated charges and taxes. The programs also offer assistance with telephone service hook up costs.*

LINK UP:

-  Assists with initial hook up charges for primary telephone service (\$100 maximum).
-  Telephone company may set up a payment plan on the balance and waive interest.
-  Contact your local telephone company to find out if you qualify for hook up service without a deposit.

LIFELINE:

-  Provides primary local telephone service for \$1.00 a month (plus mandated charges and taxes) for eligible persons.
-  Applies only to primary local telephone service in the home.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

-  Residents of tribal lands whose income is equal or less than 195% of the federal poverty guidelines; **OR**
-  Residents of tribal lands participating in at least one of the following programs: BIA General Assistance, Food Distribution Program, Food Stamps benefit recipient, Head Start or Early Head Start (only those meeting its income qualifying standard), Heating Assistance, Medicaid, National School Free Lunch Program, WIC, SSI, TANF or the North Dakota Healthy Steps-Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP).

HOW TO OBTAIN THE TELEPHONE SERVICES:

-  You may self certify at your local telephone office that you qualify for one of the above programs; **OR**
-  When you qualify for any programs administered through your county social services office, you will *automatically* receive a Qualifying Certificate within a month by mail. Provide the Qualifying Certificate to your local telephone company and do the necessary paperwork; **OR**
-  When you qualify for any programs administered by tribal offices, the tribal program administrator can provide verification of eligibility to the telephone company. Contact the telephone company to do the necessary paperwork.

HOW LONG WILL THESE BENEFITS CONTINUE:

-  As long as you continue to meet the eligibility requirements previously mentioned.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

-  For more information on Link Up and Lifeline, please **contact your local telephone company**.

NOTE:

-  **If you have been disconnected for non-payment of telephone bills, these programs are available to you if you bring your local bill current. You may be required to pay a reconnect fee.**