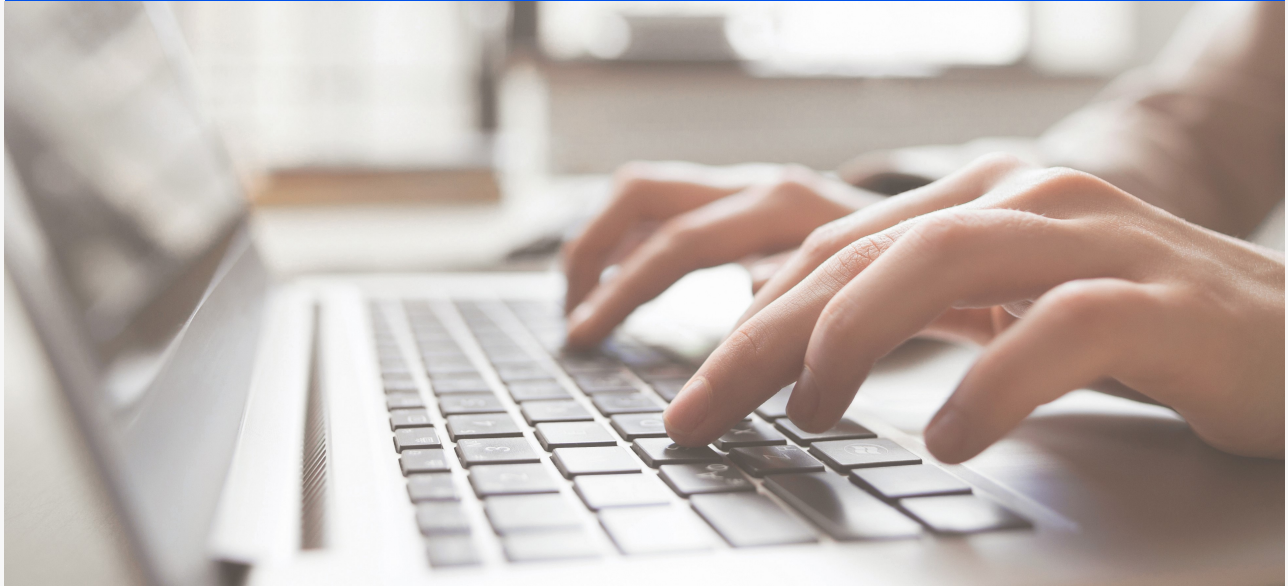




Lifeline

Lifeline Newsletter - August 2026

August 27th, 2026



Relief to Lifeline Participants Affected by Bavi Weather Events Expires August 31, 2026

Last On July 8, 2026, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released an [Order](#) that temporarily waives the non-usage, de-enrollment for non-usage, recertification, and de-enrollment for failure to recertify requirements under the Lifeline rules for participants located in the areas affected by Super Typhoon Bavi and its immediate aftermath in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (“Affected Disaster Areas”). **The waiver period under this Order runs through August 31, 2026.**

USAC Postponed Transition to SAM.gov Banking Information

USAC postponed the August 10 transition to SAM.gov banking information to perform additional testing and validation for a smooth stakeholder transition.

Once a new transition date is determined, USAC will share that information.

August invoices will continue to be paid using USAC's current process and the banking information included on the FCC Form 498. USAC will provide update in September.



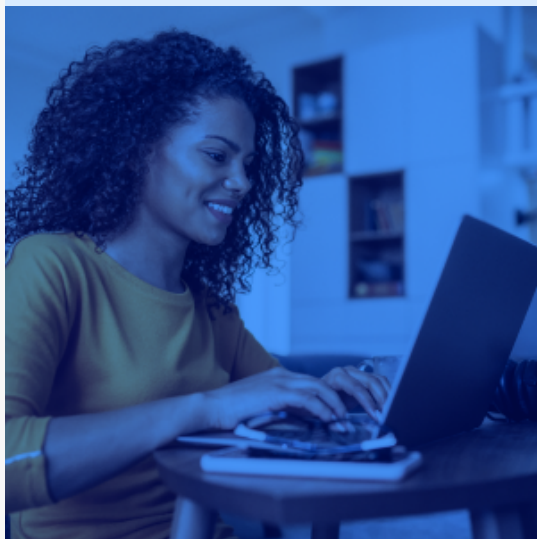
Lifeline Program Compliance Reminder: Ensuring Consumer Access Through Outreach and Advertising

All eligible telecommunication carriers (ETCs) are required to make Lifeline services available to those who meet program qualifications. The service must be publicized in a way reasonably designed to reach the communities most likely to qualify for the benefit (per FCC rule [47 C.F.R. § 54.405\(b\)](#)).

In all outreach, advertising, and enrollment materials, ETCs must clearly state that Lifeline is a government assistance program. ETCs must notify consumers that the service is non-transferable and is limited to one discount per household and eligible consumers. Providers must also identify themselves by name in all materials describing the Lifeline service.

Service providers should utilize outreach materials and methods designed to reach eligible households that do not currently receive service. For example, service providers may:

- Post notices at public transportation stops and agencies, shelters, and community resource centers
- Run public service announcements
- Provide information booths at central locations
- Provide outreach materials in braille



September 2026 Webinar: Lifeline Program Compliance

Join us on **Wednesday, September 09, 2026 at 3 p.m. ET** for our next Lifeline program webinar. The Lifeline team will provide an overview of common audit findings and strategies for preventing them. Lifeline team members will also discuss key FCC rules that govern the Lifeline program to help ensure compliance with program requirements.

[Register](#) for the September 2026 monthly webinar. Recordings of previous webinars are available on our [Webinars](#) page.

[Register](#)



September Maintenance Schedule

As part of continual system improvements, USAC conducts regular system maintenance. Scheduled maintenance dates are available on the [National Lifeline Accountability Database \(NLAD\) Maintenance Schedule](#) and the [National Verifier Maintenance Schedule](#) pages.

System Maintenance

National Verifier, National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD), Lifeline Claims System (LCS), and Representative Accountability Database (RAD) will be unavailable due to scheduled monthly maintenance from **Friday, September 18, 2026, at 10 p.m. until 3 a.m. ET on Saturday, September 19, 2026.**

Need Help? Contact Us!

For questions about Lifeline, including technical issues and program resources or rules, email LifelineProgram@usac.org. Review all appropriate program contacts on USAC's Lifeline [Contact Us](#) webpage.

USAC | 700 12th Street NW, Suite 900 | Washington, DC 20005
www.usac.org | © 1997- 2026 USAC | All Rights Reserved | [USAC Privacy Policy](#)