RENEWAL OF COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY,
AND
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Verification of Eligibility of Lifeline Program Subscribers

The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, provides that a matching agreement shall remain in effect only for such period, not to exceed eighteen (18) months, as the Data Integrity Board of the agency determines is appropriate.

Within three (3) months prior to the expiration of such an agreement, the Data Integrity Board of the agency may, without additional review, renew the matching agreement for a current, ongoing matching program for not more than one year if: (1) such program will be conducted without any change; and (2) each party to the agreement certifies to the board in writing that the program has been conducted in compliance with the agreement. 5 U.S.C. § 552a(o)(2)(C) and (D).

The following meets the conditions for renewal.

I. TITLE OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM: Verification of Eligibility of Lifeline Program Subscribers

II. RECIPIENT AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)

III. SOURCE AGENCY: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (PDHS)

IV. PURPOSE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM

The purpose of this matching agreement is to provide the FCC’s Lifeline program, as administered by USAC, with information about whether an individual participates in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Medicaid. Since participation in such programs makes individuals eligible for the Lifeline program, 47 C.F.R. § 54.409(a)(2), the automated matching undertaken through this agreement is a cost-effective and efficient way to verify that an individual may receive the benefits of the Lifeline program.

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the FCC to establish federal universal support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program for low-income consumers. 47 U.S.C. § 254(b). The FCC has appointed USAC as the permanent Administrator of the federal USF support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program. 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.701-717.

The PDHS is responsible for the oversight and supervision of SNAP and Medicaid under 62 P.S. § 201 and 403, and the PDHS maintains the case records and confidential personally identifiable information (PII) of individual applicants and recipients for SNAP and Medicaid and will not release any information from a recipient’s case record beyond the binary yes/no response described in section IV(B) of the Agreement.
V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

The current effective period of the matching agreement is November 14, 2018 through April 15, 2020.

VI. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE RENEWAL OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

Upon execution of the certification by the parties and approval of the Data Integrity Board of the Federal Communications Commission, the effective period is renewed for the period of April 16, 2020 through April 16, 2021.

VII. INCORPORATION OF PRIOR COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT

The specific provisions in the prior Computer Matching Agreement are incorporated into this agreement only to the extent they do not conflict with the express provisions of this renewal agreement.

VIII. AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As designated representatives of the agencies participating in the matching program, we certify that:
(1) the matching program will be conducted without change and
(2) the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the current agreement.

A. Source Agency

Lisa Watson
Deputy Secretary for Income Maintenance
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
2/20/20

B. Recipient Agency

Michelle Garber
Vice President, Lifeline
Universal Service Administrative Company
2/27/2020

Mark Stephens
Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission
4/2/2020
IX. DATA INTEGRITY BOARD APPROVAL

On behalf of the Data Integrity Board of the Federal Communications Commission, respectfully, I approve the renewal of the current agreement.

This renewal agreement shall remain in effect from April 16, 2020 through April 16, 2021.

Michael Carlson
Chairperson, Data Integrity Board
Federal Communications Commission

4/2/20202

Date