

ACP Newsletter - March 2024

March 28, 2024

Reminder: ACP Claims <u>Deadline is April 1</u> for All Data Months Prior to February 2024

All ACP claims for data months September 2023 - January 2024 must be submitted and certified no later than 11:59 p.m. ET on April 1, 2024.

Providers are strongly encouraged to submit all remaining claims and revisions as soon as possible to facilitate the efficient wind-down of the ACP. Reimbursement claims submitted after the deadline **will not be processed**, however, downward revisions will continue to be accepted.

Service providers can refer to the table below for an outline of data months and corresponding filing deadlines:

Data Month	Filing Deadline
September 2023	4/1/2024
October 2023	4/1/2024
November 2023	4/1/2024
December 2023	4/1/2024
January 2024	4/1/2024
February 2024	5/1/2024
March 2024	6/3/2024
April 2024 (Last Fully Funded Month)	7/1/2024
May 2024 (Partial Claims Available)	8/1/2024

For more information on the April 1 deadline, please refer to USAC's bulletin published on March 13.

FCC Announces April as the Last Fully Funded Month of the ACP

On March 4, 2024, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a <u>public</u> <u>notice</u> announcing the last fully funded month of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is April 2024, triggering notification responsibilities for providers. The FCC also announced that, absent additional funding from Congress, the program can only provide a partial reimbursement for May 2024, and ACP service providers have the option to claim and pass on that partial reimbursement amount to enrolled households.

Service Provider Outreach Responsibilities <u>Service providers must send at least three notices to consumers about upcoming program changes, in writing, and in a manner that is accessible to people with disabilities.</u>

The first notice was due by January 25, 2024, the second notice was due by March 19, 2024. The **third notice** must coincide with the last bill or billing cycle in which the full ACP benefit is applied and communicate the following:

- That the ACP is ending
- The impact on the consumers' bill
- The date of the last bill that the consumer will receive the ACP benefit on
- That the consumer may change their service or opt-out of continuing service after the end of the ACP

FCC Releases Public Notice for May 2024 Estimated Reimbursements

On March 19, the FCC released a <u>public notice</u> announcing the estimated ranges for May 2024 partial reimbursements. Service providers are highly encouraged to review the public notice if they are planning to seek reimbursement in May.

The FCC will release an additional public notice in April with the finalized maximum reimbursement figures for May.

Below are the **estimated** reimbursement ranges for each ACP benefit type:

Benefit Type	Statutory Maximum	Estimated Maximum Reimbursement Range for May 2024
Non-Tribal Service Benefit	\$30 per month	\$7 - \$16

Tribal Lands Service Benefit	\$75 per month	\$18 - \$39
ACP Connected Device Benefit	\$100 per device	\$24 - \$53

Further information on May service month reimbursements will be available a er the September 2023 – January 2024 claims window on April 1, 2024, is closed.

If service providers decide to pass through benefits to ACP households in May 2024, they are not limited by the partial reimbursement figures announced by the FCC and can offer a discount larger than the estimated reimbursement. However, service providers will not be reimbursed beyond the final partial reimbursement figures that the FCC will announce in April.

The public notice directed providers to fill out a survey indicating their intent to claim reimbursement for benefits passed through in May 2024. On March 19, USAC sent 497 Officers the survey in a separate bulletin, which included instructions on how to complete it. Service providers have two weeks to complete the survey (no later than April 2).

For additional information on partial reimbursements, refer to USAC's bulletin released on March 19.



April Maintenance Schedule

As part of continual system improvements, USAC conducts regular system maintenance. Scheduled maintenance dates are available on the <u>National Lifeline Accountability</u>

<u>Database (NLAD) Maintenance Schedule</u> and the <u>National Verifier (NV) Maintenance</u>

<u>Schedule</u> pages.

System Maintenance

April 19

NV, NV Carrier API, NLAD, Lifeline Claims System (LCS), Representative Accountability Database (RAD), and the Affordable Connectivity Claims System (ACCS) will be unavailable due to scheduled monthly maintenance from Friday, April 19 at 10:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m. ET on Saturday, April 20.

Need Help? Contact Us!

For questions about the Affordable Connectivity Program, service providers can visit <u>USAC.org</u>, and consumers should visit <u>AffordableConnectivity.gov</u>. For general program support, service providers should email <u>ACProgram@usac.org</u> and consumers should email <u>ACPSupport@usac.org</u>. Both providers and consumers may also call the ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575 for assistance.

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