



Affordable Connectivity Program Enhanced Tribal Benefit Information and Resources

May 27, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader,

The [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) (ACP) is a long-term \$14 billion federal program created through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to help low-income households pay for internet service and connected internet devices. The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), with the oversight of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), is designated as the program administrator. On December 31, 2021, the ACP replaced the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program and began accepting consumer applications.

About the Affordable Connectivity Program

The ACP provides a monthly discount on internet services and a one-time device discount for qualifying low-income households.

If a household is eligible, they can receive:

- Up to a \$30/month discount on internet service and associated equipment rentals (such as modems, routers, hotspot devices, and antennas)
 - **Enhanced Tribal Benefit:** Up to a \$75/month discount on internet service and associated equipment rentals (such as modems, routers, hotspot devices, and antennas) if the household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 from a participating provider for purchase of a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)

Note: Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per [household](#).

ACP Enhanced Tribal Benefit Eligibility

A household qualifies for the ACP Enhanced Tribal Benefit if the following conditions are met:

- The household is located on [qualifying Tribal lands](#), **AND**
- The household income is at or below 200 percent of the [federal poverty guidelines](#) **OR** any member of the household:

- Participates in one of the following Federal programs:
 - Lifeline program,
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance, or Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit
 - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC),
 - Federal Pell Grant in the current award year,
 - Free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, **OR**
- Participates in one of several **Tribal specific programs**:
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance,
 - Tribal Head Start (only households meeting the relevant income qualifying standard),
 - Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF),
 - Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, **OR**
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider’s existing low-income program

ACP Tribal Lands Definition

The ACP uses the same definition of Tribal lands as the Lifeline program. An [internet provider](#) can help determine whether an address is on Tribal lands. For informational purposes, a [nationwide map](#) is available showing Tribal lands eligible for enhanced support.

Tribal consumers can visit the [Enhanced Tribal Benefit](#) webpage for information about participation, Tribal lands, and tips for applying.

Descriptive Addresses Allowed

USAC uses the United States Postal Service’s (USPS’s) Address Matching System (AMS) to automatically verify if an address is on Tribal lands for the Enhanced Tribal Benefit. We understand that USPS’s AMS may not recognize every address and that some buildings may not have addresses assigned by USPS. Therefore, consumers have the option to enter descriptive street addresses when filling out the application. Additionally, although ACP is separate from the Lifeline program, we encourage applicants to use a [guide](#) developed for the Lifeline program to resolve address issues with an ACP application.

Resources

- USAC has outreach materials on the [Community Resources](#) webpage for partners to print and hand out
 - [ACP Outreach Toolkit](#)
 - [Consumer Toolkit](#)
 - [ACP Brochure](#) (digital)
 - [ACP Brochure](#) (print)
 - [ACP Tribal Flyer](#)
 - [Social Media Image Files](#)
- The FCC prepared a [Consumer Toolkit](#) that includes downloadable ACP social media images, fact sheets, and other outreach content and materials that can be customized for consumer awareness campaigns. The following are selected materials:

- Tribal Benefit Radio Public Service Announcement
 - Prepared Audio – [MP3 Clip](#) (30 seconds)
 - A suggested script for you to tailor – [Word Document](#)
- Social Media Posts
 - Suggested language and graphics – [Word Document](#)
 - More social media graphics – [Webpage](#)
- Request a Speaker
 - Tribal Partners can send an email to ACPspeakers@fcc.gov to request a speaker to present at events.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The FCC prepared answers to FAQs about the Enhanced Tribal Benefit. For your convenience, the Tribal specific FAQs are included below:

1. Do individuals have to be Tribal members to qualify for the Enhanced Tribal Benefit?
 - A: No. Anyone living on eligible Tribal lands can receive the enhanced Tribal benefit. They do not need to be a member of a Tribe.
2. How do I know if my household is eligible for the Enhanced Tribal Benefit?
 - A: You can find out more about which areas are eligible Tribal lands by visiting the [ACP Enhanced Tribal Benefit](#) webpage.
3. Can I receive both the Enhanced Tribal Benefit for Lifeline and the up to \$75 ACP Enhanced Tribal benefit each month?
 - A: Yes. An eligible household on Tribal lands can receive both the up to \$34.25 Enhanced Tribal Benefit for Lifeline and the up to \$75 ACP Enhanced Tribal Benefit. The benefits can be applied to the same qualifying service, or separately to a Lifeline service and internet service with the same or different providers as long as the provider is participating in the ACP. For example, an eligible household could have a Lifeline-supported mobile service and a separate home internet service that is supported through the ACP.

More questions and answers can be found on the FCC's [ACP Consumer FAQ](#) page.

Technical Assistance

An applicant can call the ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575 to talk to someone about their eligibility or application status.

Questions or Suggestions?

Contact USAC Tribal Liaison at TribalLiaison@usac.org.