

Lifeline

Announcing the Lifeline Program's 2022 Tribal Training and Open Forum

February 18, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader,

The Lifeline program is excited to announce that we will be hosting a virtual Tribal training where Tribal Nations can provide feedback about the Universal Service Administrative Company's (USAC) processes. The Lifeline program, which is administered by USAC under the policy guidance of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), offers a monthly discount of up to \$9.25 toward phone, internet or bundled services for eligible consumers and up to \$34.25 for eligible consumers living on <u>Tribal lands</u>.

Additionally, qualifying residents of Tribal lands can receive reimbursement for the full cost of starting service with certain phone or internet companies at their primary residence, up to \$100, through Lifeline's Tribal Link Up benefit.

This year, USAC will continue to host free quarterly Lifeline trainings for Tribal partners (e.g., Tribal governments and government agencies and nonprofits serving Tribal communities) to enhance collaboration with Tribal communities. Lifeline's next Tribal training will feature an overview of the Lifeline program, updates, and an open forum to discuss how the Lifeline program can better serve Tribal communities.

We highly value your feedback and hope your Tribal Nation participates. We are asking you to help by sharing the information outlined below about the Lifeline program and our upcoming training opportunities with your networks of Tribal leaders, staff and organizations.

Lifeline Program's Tribal Training and Open Forum

Lifeline's Q1 Tribal webinar is on **Wednesday, March 16, 2022** from **3 p.m. to 4 p.m. ET**. To attend, fill out the information on the event's <u>registration page</u>.

During this interactive training session, USAC's Lifeline subject matter experts provide attendees with important updates to ensure Tribal partners remain informed and have the tools and information they need to more effectively help eligible Tribal consumers apply for Lifeline service.

This training will focus on an overview of the Lifeline program and include an open forum where attendees can provide feedback to USAC. Potential discussion topics may include but are not limited to the questions listed below based on feedback and participant interest:

- Are you aware of any challenges facing consumers when applying for the Lifeline program's Enhanced Tribal Benefit? If so, what kind?
- Based on the information in this training or a previous experience, how might USAC improve the application and/or manual review process?
- What tools do you need to help raise awareness about the Lifeline program's Enhanced Tribal Benefit or Tribal Trainings?

We look forward to our continued partnership with Tribal communities this year and beyond.

More about Lifeline

Educational resources for Tribal consumers are available on Lifeline's consumer website LifelineSupport.org:

- Review the Lifeline <u>Tribal Toolkit</u> and <u>Tribal Flyer</u>.
- Training videos and more resources are available on the <u>Lifeline Support Community</u> <u>Outreach</u> page.
- Review the presentation of the Tribal Q4 Training: Apply for Lifeline via mail.

Questions or Suggestions?

Contact USAC Tribal Liaison, Kraynal Alfred, at <u>TribalLiaison@usac.org</u> or (202) 572-5733.