



Tribal Users Gain Access to National Verifier

October 14, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader,

The Lifeline program offers a monthly discount of up to \$9.25 toward phone or Internet services for eligible consumers and up to \$34.25 for those living on [Tribal lands](#). Additionally, 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.

Consumers may apply for Lifeline by submitting an [online application](#) through the National Verifier, mailing in a [paper application](#) to the Lifeline Support Center, or working with a participating [Lifeline company](#) to begin the application process.

We are excited to announce that we are extending National Verifier access to Tribal partners (e.g., Tribal governments and government agencies and nonprofits serving Tribal communities) interested in helping consumers in their communities apply for Lifeline. Particularly during this time of national crisis, many consumers may be applying for Lifeline for the first time.

Those that may receive a National Verifier account include Tribal Nation entities and their agents, as well as social service agencies and other third parties approved by USAC. Please share this invitation with your Tribal agencies who may be interested in this opportunity.

With a National Verifier account you can:

- Help consumers submit online applications
- Upload consumer documentation to resolve application errors
- Track the status of applications

Request Access

If you are interested in requesting access to the National Verifier, you will need to:

- Fill out the new [Tribal Access Request Form](#); select “Tribal-NV” as the user type.
- Register for a representative ID in the [Representative Accountability Database \(RAD\)](#); Tribal users will be required to have a representative ID associated with their Tribal-NV account to submit applications to the National Verifier
- All users must review and agree to the RAD and National Verifier Terms and Conditions, under the Access Agreement section of the [Account Types](#) page.
- Send the completed access request form and representative ID to LifelineProgram@usac.org with the subject line “Tribal User Access Request.”

Users who request access to the National Verifier should attend the Tribal Partner Access to the National Verifier webinar on **Thursday, October 28th from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. ET**. To attend, fill out the information on the event’s [registration page](#).

Thank you for your continued collaboration and efforts to support the Lifeline program.

More about Lifeline

Consumers qualify for Lifeline if their income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines or if they participate in government assistance programs, such as SNAP or Medicaid. Consumers living on Tribal lands may also qualify through participation in Tribal assistance programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Tribal Head Start, and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

[Lifeline’s Tribal Toolkit](#) includes informational material about the program, and samples of an online article, public service announcements, and social media posts that may be used by Tribal entities to market Lifeline in their areas. Use this content as a template or post the information directly as is--Tribes are encouraged to translate the information to their communities’ indigenous languages to share more widely. A [Lifeline Tribal Flyer](#) is also available for consumers, which provides information on the Lifeline benefit, eligibility criteria, and how to apply.

About USAC

USAC is an independent not-for-profit company designated by the FCC to administer the Universal Service Fund (USF) through four programs focused on increasing broadband deployment and adoption among low-income and underserved populations and locations. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress and the FCC created three new, temporary programs and designated USAC as the administrator. Visit the [USAC Tribal Nations page](#) for more information.

Questions or Suggestions?

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