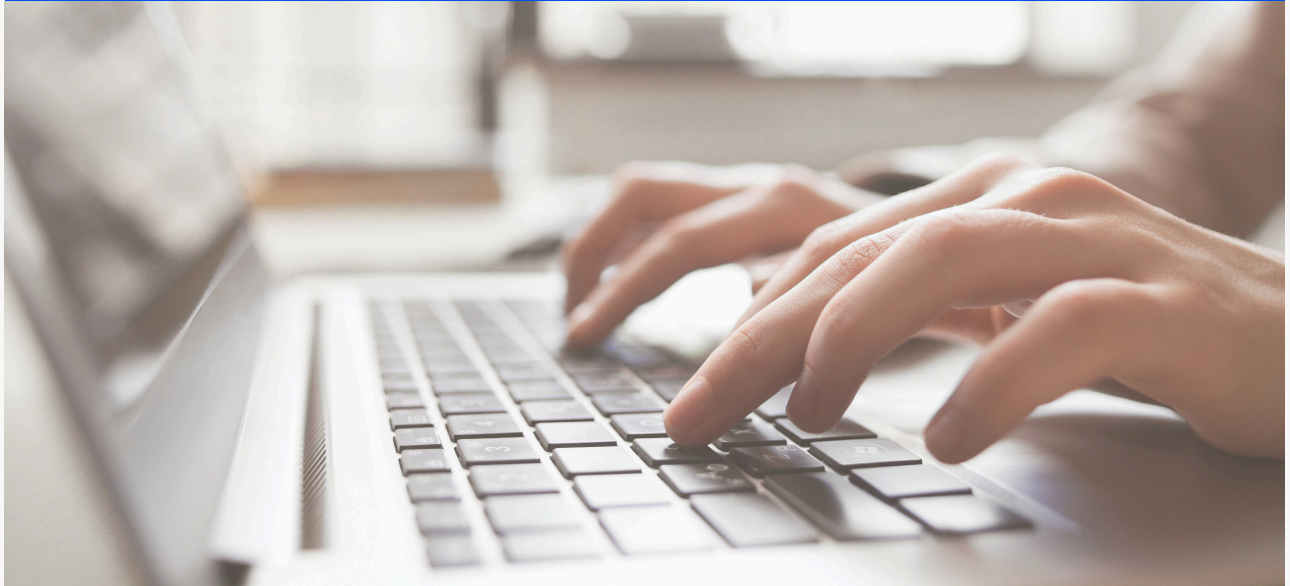




Lifeline

Lifeline Newsletter - May 2026

May 28th, 2026



Relief to Lifeline Participants Affected by Sinlaku Weather Events Ends on June 11

On April 23, 2026, the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released an [Order](#), followed by an [Erratum](#) on April 27, that temporarily waives providers' non-usage, de-enrollment for non-usage, and recertification requirements under the Lifeline rules for subscribers residing in the Affected Disaster Areas in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The waiver period under this Order runs through June 11, 2026. For additional information see our [April 28, 2026](#), bulletin.

Reminder: FCC Form 481 Filing Window Closes July 1

The 2026 annual FCC Form 481 filing window will close on July 1, 2026. The FCC Form 481 collects financial and operations information. Eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) participating in the High Cost and/or Lifeline programs must annually file the FCC Form 481 in accordance with [47 C.F.R. § 54.313](#) (High Cost) and [47 C.F.R. § 54.422](#) (Lifeline/High Cost and Lifeline-only).

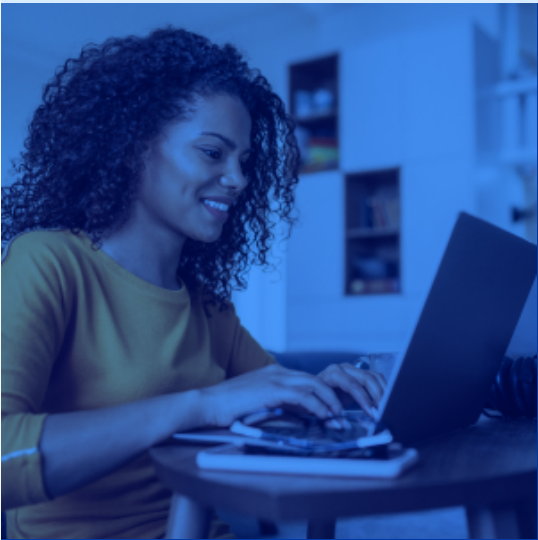
For the 2026 filing, all ETCs participating in Lifeline must file and certify the FCC Form 481, even if the provider is not seeking Lifeline support.



Lifeline Program Compliance Reminder: Obtaining Consumer Consent

Service providers must obtain consumer consent prior to enrolling or transferring a Lifeline subscriber in the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD) ([47 CFR § 54.404\(b\)\(9\)](#)). Providers must retain documentation to demonstrate the consumer's consent, intent to apply their Lifeline benefit to the service received from the new service provider.

Prior to obtaining consent, the provider must describe to the consumer (using clear, easily understood language) the specific information being submitted, that the information is being submitted to the administrator of the Lifeline program, and that failure to provide consent will result in the consumer being denied the Lifeline service. Consent is required every time an enrollment (including a subscriber transfer) is initiated. Providers may not rely on older consent given for a previous enrollment.



June 2026 Webinar: Navigating USAC Systems

Join us on **Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 3 p.m. ET** for our next Lifeline program webinar to learn how service providers can utilize various USAC systems to interact with the Lifeline program.

[Register](#) for the June 2026 monthly webinar. Recordings of previous webinars are available on our [Webinars page](#).

[Register](#)



June Maintenance Schedule

As part of continual system improvements, USAC conducts regular system maintenance. Scheduled maintenance dates are available on the [National Lifeline Accountability Database \(NLAD\) Maintenance Schedule](#) and the [National Verifier Maintenance Schedule](#) pages.

System Maintenance

National Verifier, National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD), Lifeline Claims System (LCS), and Representative Accountability Database (RAD) will be unavailable due to scheduled monthly maintenance from **Friday, June 26, 2026, at 10 p.m. until 3 a.m. ET on Saturday, June 27, 2026.**

Need Help? Contact Us!

For questions about Lifeline, including technical issues and program resources or rules, email LifelineProgram@usac.org. Review all appropriate program contacts on USAC's Lifeline [Contact Us](#) webpage.

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