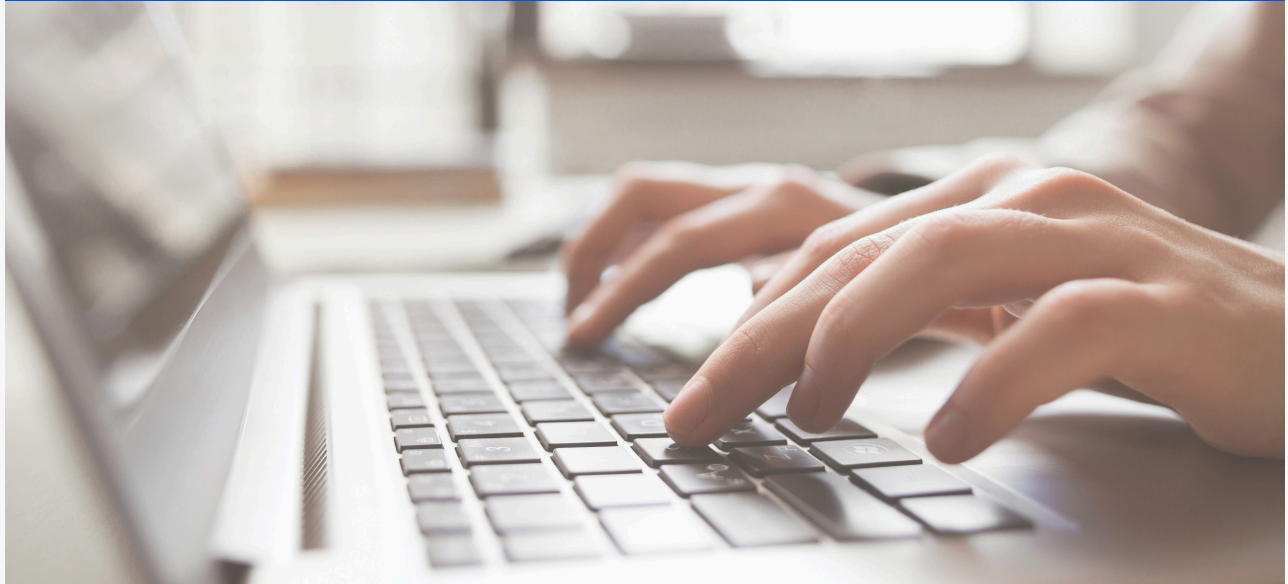


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Lifeline

Lifeline Newsletter - March 2026

March 31, 2026



Lifeline Introduces a Tribal Lands Verification Tool for Consumers

On March 26, 2026, Lifeline launched the [Lifeline Tribal Lands Verification Tool](#) to help consumers check whether their home address is located on qualifying Tribal lands. Consumers who live on qualifying Tribal lands may be eligible to receive an enhanced [Tribal benefit](#) of up to \$34.25 per month towards the cost of internet, phone, or bundled services, as well as a one-time Link Up discount of up to \$100.

This tool is for informational purposes only and does not determine a consumer's eligibility for the Lifeline benefit. Consumers must apply for the Lifeline benefit and have an approved application before enrolling with a phone or internet company to begin receiving the benefit. Consumers who do not live on qualifying Tribal lands may still qualify for the standard Lifeline benefit of up to \$9.25 per month.

Service providers and consumer advocates are encouraged to inform consumers who live on Tribal lands about the availability of the tool. For additional information, refer to our [March 26, 2026](#) bulletin.

Reminder: New NLAD De-Enrollment Codes Effective April 22

On April 22, USAC is updating the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD) de-enrollment codes by adding the following new codes: **deEnrollSubscriberInitiated**, **deEnrollMovedfromServiceArea**, **deEnrollNotEligible**, **deEnrollImproperEnrollment**, and

deEnrollPIIUpdate.

The following codes will be removed: deEnrollLeaving and deEnrollFailedRecertification.

Providers must include both the de-enrollment date and the correct code, ensuring the selected reason accurately reflects why the subscriber is being de-enrolled. Attempts to use removed codes will result in an error message.

For additional details on the new de-enrollment codes, service providers should review Lifeline's [February 19, 2026](#), bulletin announcement.

SAM.gov UEI Requirement

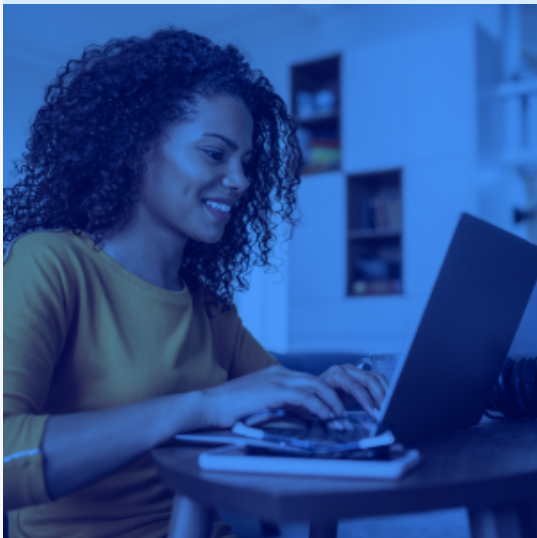
Beginning August 2026, USAC will begin using SAM.gov banking information to remit payment for all Universal Service Fund (USF) invoices. All service providers must have an active SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) on their FCC Form 498 and must have a valid bank account associated with their UEI. When registering in SAM.gov, service providers must use the same Taxpayer ID Number (TIN) that they used when registering for their FCC Registration Number (FCC RN). For more information, see the [SAM.gov UEI Requirement](#) webpage.



Lifeline Program Compliance Reminder: Record Keeping

All Eligible Telecommunication Carriers (ETCs) are required to keep detailed records that demonstrate compliance with all Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and state rules for the Lifeline program and Tribal Link Up per [§ 47 CFR 54.417\(a\)](#).

Records must cover the previous three full calendar years and be made available to the FCC or program administrator upon request. Certain subscriber-related documents, such as eligibility verification, certification, and recertification records outlined in [§54.404 \(b\)\(11\)](#), [54.410\(b\)](#), [54.410 \(c\)](#), [54.410\(d\)](#), and [54.410\(f\)](#), be kept for as long as the customer receives Lifeline service from the carrier, but never for less than three years. This ensures that providers can demonstrate compliance during audits or investigations at any time.



April 2026 Webinar: How to Manage the Lifeline Benefit

Join us on Wednesday, April 8, 2026 for our next Lifeline program webinar where we will provide consumers and consumer advocates with an overview of how existing Lifeline subscribers can manage their Lifeline benefit.

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

[Register](#)

April 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, April 17, 2026

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 at 10 p.m. ET until 3 p.m. ET on Saturday.**

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.

This email was sent to: linnita.hosten@usac.org. Please do not reply to this email.

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