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Today's Presenters



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Agenda

- 1. LCS Overview
- 2. Questions

Available for Public Use **LCS Overview**

- The Lifeline Claims System (LCS) is the online filing system that service providers use to receive reimbursement for offering Lifeline-supported services to eligible consumers
- User roles available to file a claim:
 - The 497 Officer can enter data and is authorized to certify the claim
 - A 497 User (sub-account) is a company employee that can enter data, but does not have the authority to certify the claim

LCS OverviewClaims Process

- To enhance program integrity efforts by reducing incorrect/over claims, USAC is updating the Lifeline claims process for NLAD opt-out states (CA, OR, TX) beginning with the December 2020 data month (January 1, 2021 snapshot)
- Beginning with the December 2020 data month:
 - Service providers will use a template pre-populated in LCS with eligible subscribers from their state PUC
 - Service providers may only claim subscribers listed on the template

Claims Process: How to File

When the user opens the claims template, it will be populated with the NLAD opt-out state's subscribers

• The user will then need to populate columns B, C and D (Rate, Reason Code, and Tribal Link Up Charges Waived) with the correct information



 More information about the claims process can be found in the <u>LCS Training: NLAD</u> <u>Opt-Out State Process</u>

Claims Process: How to File

- Service providers will not be able to add or remove subscribers, they can only claim subscribers provided by the state
- If the service provider enrolls certain subscribers in NLAD (CA broadband-only service type or TX cross-border SACs), those subscribers will be included on the templates

Claims Process: How to File

- The template will contain all of the same headers in addition to a new column: "Corrected"
 - This column will be blank, unless the state files a correction after the template is generated the first time
 - If there is a correction to a subscriber's record, that row will contain the day/time the record was updated, in the following format: mm_dd_yyyy_hhmm
- If a state makes a correction to a file:
 - USAC will notify service providers by email that an updated template is available for their review
 - This email will include what service providers will see in LCS if the state made a correction

Claims Process: How to File

- Column B Rate: Service provider enters the correct dollar amount for each subscriber
 - Rates for non-Tribal cannot exceed \$9.25; rates for Tribal cannot exceed \$34.25
 - Enter '0' for subscribers that should be unclaimed; A reason code is required for all unclaimed subscribers
- Column C Reason Code: If a subscriber is not claimed, service providers must enter a reason code
- Column D Tribal Link Up Charges Waived: This is an optional field and service providers can populate it as needed
 - If column D is populated, column P (Tribal Benefit Flag) must be populated with a '1'
 - Tribal Link Up charges waived cannot exceed \$100

Claims Process: How to File

- Column O Service Type: Can be updated if needed (OR and CA only)
 - This field is optional for service providers in TX that do not have the ability to change service type
 - "Service Type" is a required field for OR and CA service providers
 - "Service Type" must be one of the following (not case sensitive):
 - Voice
 - BundledVoice
 - Broadband
 - BundledBroadband
 - BundledVoiceBroadband
 - OR and CA service providers will receive an error if they do not provide the service type column or if there are any subscribers with a blank service type when the claim is uploaded

LCS OverviewRevision Process

- The updated revision process (effective beginning with the December 2020 data month) follows the same steps as the original filing process, with some slight differences:
 - The template will be populated with the most recently submitted data (including rates, reason codes, and Tribal Link Up charges waived)
 - When service providers upload the revisions, they only need to include subscribers whose data is being revised
 - Service providers can no longer add subscribers during the revision process in NLAD opt-out states

Resources



Website

- <u>December 20, 2019 Launch</u> web page: information about each NLAD opt-out state's relationship with the National Verifier
- <u>Lifeline Claims System</u> web page: high-level information about the system
- Claim Reimbursement web page: high-level review of how to file a claim
- <u>Reimbursement FAQs</u> web page: frequently asked questions about how to receive reimbursement and file claims

Resources



Instructions and Guides

- LCS Upload Field Descriptions
- LCS Instructions



Connect with a Program Analyst

• Email: <u>LifelineProgram@usac.org</u>

Questions?

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