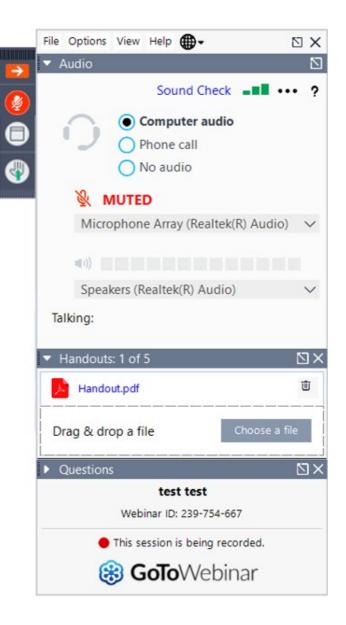


Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded.
- Audio is available through your computer's speakers.
- The audience will remain on mute.
- Enter questions at any time using the "Questions" box.
- If your audio or slides freeze, restart the webinar.
- A copy of the slide deck is in the "Handouts" section of the webinar panel.



Disclaimer

To accommodate all attendees, real-time closed captions will be present during this presentation. We apologize in advance for any transcription errors or distractions. Thank you for your support!

Meet Our Team

Oladotun Adio

Communications Specialist

Linnita Hosten

Senior Communications Specialist

Agenda

- Program Announcements
- Lifeline Program Overview
- National Lifeline Accountability Database
- How to Enroll Subscribers in NLAD
- Service Provider Responsibilities
- Resources

Announcements

Announcements

Updated Minimum Service Standards

- On July 1, 2025, the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) released an <u>Order</u> extending the phase-out of Lifeline support for voice-only service.
- The basic Lifeline support amount of \$5.25 per month remains available to eligible consumers receiving voice-only service through November 30, 2026.
- WCB also paused an increase in Lifeline minimum service standards for mobile broadband for an additional year. The minimum service standard for mobile broadband remains at 4.5 GB per month through November 30, 2026.
- On July 14, 2025, WCB released a <u>Public Notice</u> announcing an increase in fixed broadband usage allowance from 1230 GB to 1280 GB per month starting on December 1, 2025, and that the minimum service standard for mobile voice service will remain at 1000 minutes per month.
 - Service providers providing Lifeline-supported fixed broadband service must notify their Lifeline subscribers of this change.

Lifeline Benefit

The Lifeline program is a federal benefit program that helps low-income households pay for phone or internet service.

Eligible households can receive:

\$9.25 Standard Benefit

Up to \$9.25/month discount for internet or bundled services or up to \$5.25/month for phone service that meets the minimum service standards.

\$34.25 Tribal Benefit

Up to \$34.25/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

\$100 Link Up Benefit

A one-time discount of up to \$100 off the initial setup fees at addresses on qualifying Tribal lands receiving voice service from certain service providers.

\$9.25 Survivor Benefit

A \$9.25/month discount for phone, internet, or bundled services for up to 6 months for <u>survivors of domestic</u> <u>violence and related abuse</u> <u>who qualify</u>.

The Lifeline benefit is limited to one monthly service discount per household.

How to Qualify

There are **three ways** a household can qualify for the **standard Lifeline** benefit:

- Household income at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Participation in certain <u>federal assistance programs</u> such as SNAP, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Housing Assistance, or Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit.
- Participation in certain <u>Tribal assistance programs</u> (only available to households that live on Tribal lands) such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Head Start, Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

How to Apply

Option 1:

Apply Online

- Consumers can visit
 <u>LifelineSupport.org</u> from
 any computer or mobile
 device to complete the
 electronic application and
 upload any required
 documentation.
- Online application instructions are available in 10 languages.

Option 2:

Apply by Mail

- Consumers can fill out a
 <u>Lifeline Application Form</u>
 (<u>Spanish</u>) and then mail the
 application and supporting
 documentation to the Lifeline
 Support Center.
 - PO Box 1000
 Horseheads, NY 14845
- <u>Paper application</u> <u>instructions</u> are available in 10 languages.

Option 3:

Apply with a Participating Company

- Consumers can ask their phone or internet company if they participate in Lifeline or use our <u>online tool</u> to find a participating company near them.
 - Consumers may also be able to apply through a company's website if that option is available.

Lifeline Systems

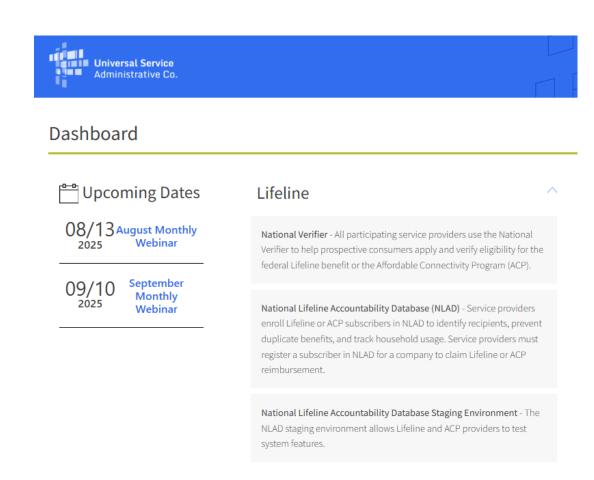
The Lifeline program uses the following four USAC systems to support service providers:

- The **Representative Accountability Database (RAD)** is a registration system that validates the identities of service provider representatives who perform transactions in NLAD and the National Verifier.
- The National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD) is used to enroll Lifeline-eligible consumers and manage existing subscribers' benefits.
- The **National Verifier** is Lifeline's centralized application system that determines whether consumers are eligible for Lifeline.
- The **Lifeline Claims System** is the online filing system that service providers use to receive reimbursements for offering Lifeline-supported services to eligible consumers.

Note: USAC uses a single sign-on dashboard, One Portal, where users can log in to NLAD, the National Verifier, and LCS.

Overview

- NLAD is used to enroll Lifeline-eligible consumers and manage existing subscribers' benefits.
- Once a consumer qualifies for the Lifeline benefit through the National Verifier, their service provider must enroll them using NLAD so that the monthly benefit can be applied to the subscriber's phone or internet service.
- Consumers must be enrolled in NLAD for service providers to claim reimbursements.
- NLAD is used in all states except California*, Oregon, and Texas, which are NLAD <u>opt-out states</u>.



^{*}Broadband-only consumers are enrolled through NLAD in California.

Account Types

- NLAD has four different <u>account types</u>, each with specific functions:
 - 497 Officers are responsible for certifying claims and overseeing the ETC Administrator user role.
 - **ETC Administrators** manage all sub-accounts (Analyst, Operations, and Agent roles) and can perform subscriber transactions, query subscriber data, and view reports.
 - These users can also access the National Verifier to check consumer eligibility.
 - ETC Analysts can perform subscriber transactions, query subscriber data, view reports in NLAD, and use the National Verifier to confirm consumer eligibility.
 - **ETC Operations** users can query data and view reports in NLAD, as well as use the National Verifier to confirm consumer eligibility.
- Users must <u>register for a Representative ID</u> before they can access or perform transactions in NLAD under any of the four account types listed above.

Transaction Types

NLAD users can perform five types of transactions to manage subscribers:

- Verify: Allows providers to pre-validate whether a subscriber transaction would successfully process in NLAD
- **Enroll**: Enrolls new subscribers in Lifeline and adds them to the service provider's NLAD subscriber records
- **Transfer**: Transfers existing Lifeline subscribers from their current service provider in NLAD to allow the transacting provider to provide Lifeline service to the subscriber
- Update: Allows providers to update subscriber information such as contact information
- **De-Enroll**: Removes or de-enrolls subscribers from NLAD who no longer receive the Lifeline benefit

Transaction Types

• The following table highlights the transactions that each account type can perform in NLAD:

	497 Officer	ETC Admin.	ETC Analyst	ETC Operations
Verify		√	√	
Enroll		√	√	
Transfer		✓	✓	
Update		✓	✓	
De-enroll		✓	✓	

Subscriber Management

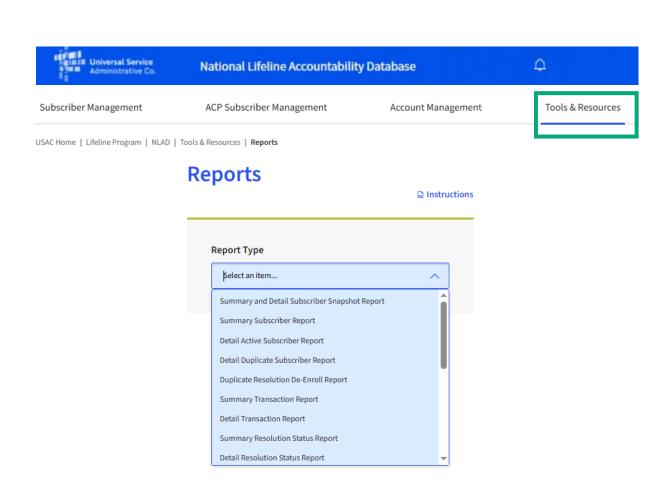
Service providers can manage subscribers in NLAD using the following methods:

- Individual Transactions (Portal): Providers can perform individual transactions for one consumer at a time using the NLAD user interface (UI), which is accessible via One Portal.
- **Bulk Upload**: Providers can add or update many subscribers at once by using a <u>bulk upload template</u> (CSV format file) to perform multiple transactions from a single file upload in NLAD.
- **NLAD API**: Providers can use an Application Programming Interface (API), which connects their billing or customer management system directly to NLAD to perform transactions and automatically pull reports.
 - To use the NLAD API, service providers must have a signed <u>Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA)</u>
 with USAC.

Reports

NLAD provides several reports that service providers can use to monitor and manage their subscribers.

- To navigate to the reports, select
 Tools & Resources and then Reports.
- From the **Reports** workflow, select any available report to review.



The following is a summary of the reports available to NLAD users:

- The Summary and Detail Subscriber Snapshot Report details the total count of active subscribers per Study Area Code (SAC) for a selected data month.
- The **Summary Subscriber Report** lists all active NLAD subscribers within a specified range of dates for the selected SAC(s).
- The Duplicate Subscriber Report lists duplicate records identified and resolved during the duplicate resolution process.
- The Detail Transaction Report lists all subscribers' transactions performed in NLAD.
- The **Resolution Status Report** displays the status of dispute resolutions by highlighting the total number of resolution requests by their status type on each day within a specified range of dates for the selected SACs.
- The **Recertification Report** shows the status of subscribers' eligibility to continue receiving Lifeline after undergoing the annual recertification process.

Reports

- The **Linked Representative Report** contains information on representatives linked to the 497 Officer or ETC Admin's 498 ID/Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN).
 - These reports are only available to 497 Officers and ETC Administrators.
 - The Linked Representatives Report ETC Admin is only available to 497 Officers.
 - The Linked Representatives Report Subaccounts is only available to ETC Administrators.
- The **Address Change Report** provides the status of subscribers undergoing an address resolution after updating their address and lists subscribers who have attempted or successfully changed their address.
- The Continued Eligibility Status Report lists records of subscribers who are currently undergoing or have undergone Continued Eligibility verification within a specified period.

Reports

• The following table highlights the reports that each account type can access in NLAD:

Report	497 Officer	ETC Admin.	ETC Analyst	ETC Operations
Summary and Detail Subscriber Snapshot Report		√	✓	✓
Summary Subscriber Report		✓	✓	✓
Duplicate Subscriber Report		✓	✓	✓
Detail Transaction Report		√	✓	√
Resolution Status Report		√	✓	✓

Reports

The following table highlights the reports that each account type can access in NLAD:

Report	497 Officer	ETC Admin.	ETC Analyst	ETC Operations
Recertification Report		✓	✓	✓
Linked Representative Report	√	✓		
Address Change Report		✓	✓	✓
Continued Eligibility Status Report		✓	✓	✓

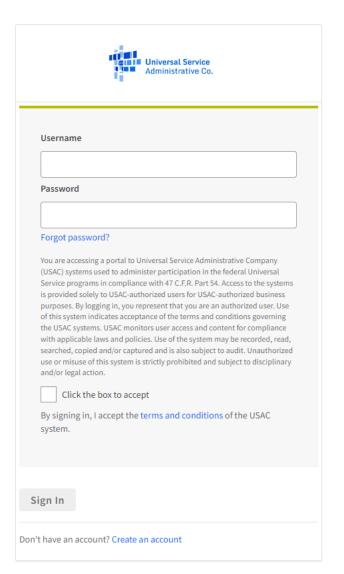
Questions?

How to Enroll Subscribers

One Portal

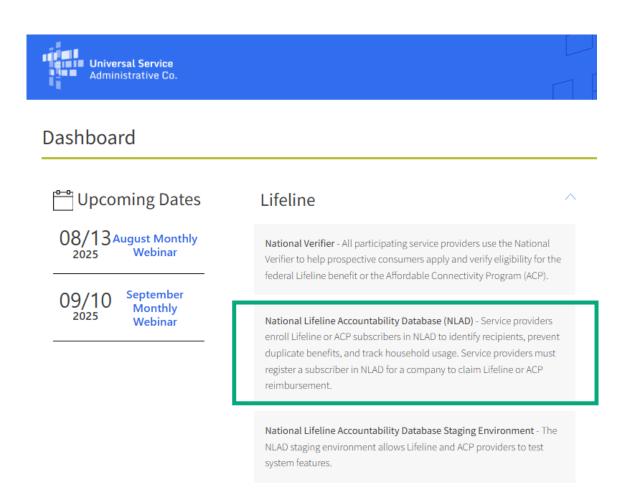
Sign In to One Portal

 Access NLAD through USAC's single signon platform, <u>One Portal</u>.



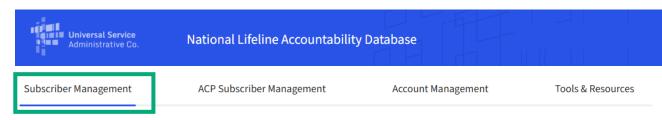
Select NLAD

• Once logged in, select **NLAD**.



NLAD Home Page

- Select Subscriber
 Management to view the types of transactions your user role can perform.
- Select Enroll Subscriber to continue.



USAC Home | Lifeline Program | NLAD | Subscriber Management

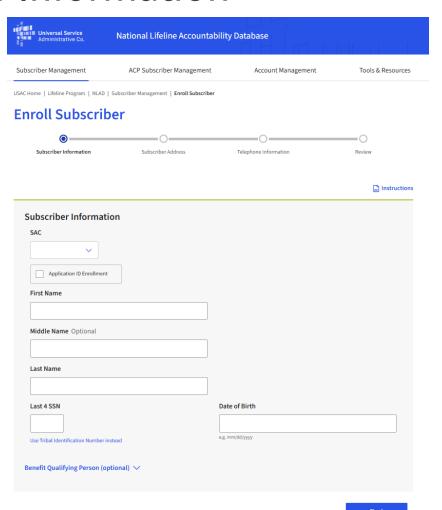
Subscriber Management

Welcome to NLAD Subscriber Management. Here you can enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll a subscriber and ensure your records are up to date. For assistance, please refer to the Instructions guide on each of the pages

- Enroll Subscriber Enroll a qualified subscriber in the Lifeline Program. Also used to verify a subscriber's eligibility and enrollment status.
- Transfer Lifeline Benefit Transfer a qualified subscriber's benefit to your company.
- Update Subscriber Update an existing subscriber's NLAD record.
- Upload Subscriber File Perform batch transactions. Enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll more than one subscriber at a time.
- De-Enroll Subscriber Remove a subscriber who no longer receives a Lifeline benefit.
- Lookup Subscriber Verify whether or not a consumer already receives the Lifeline benefit.
- Subscriber Information Lookup Review a subscriber record using phone number or subscriber ID to search.
- Submit Resolution Request Submit a resolution request for a transaction rejected in the legacy workflow.
- Upload Continued Eligibility File Upload a subscriber file to initiate Continued Eligibility process.
- Extend Window End Dates Upload a file to update End Date field.
- Detail Subscriber Lookup Review a subscriber's enrollment details using personal information to search.
- Lifeline Recertification Upload a subscriber file to initiate the Lifeline Recertification Process.
- Set Daily Lifeline Recertification Volumes Set daily number of Lifeline recertification requests to be sent to NV.
- Bulk Transfers and Re-enrollments Perform bulk transfers or re-enrollments that bypasses eligibility validations.

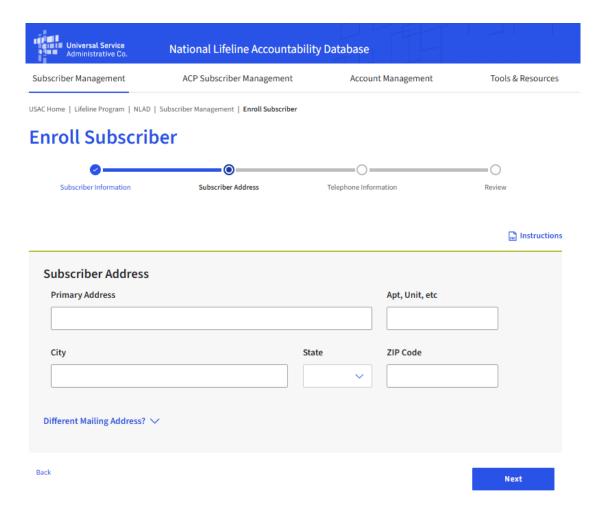
Select Enroll Subscriber - Subscriber Information

- From the Enroll Subscriber workflow, fill in the subscriber's information in each of the blank fields:
 - First name
 - Last name
 - Date of birth
 - SSN4 or Tribal ID (if applicable)
 - Address
- **OR** select the checkbox "Application ID Enrollment" and fill in the relevant fields (first name, last name, date of birth, and Application ID).



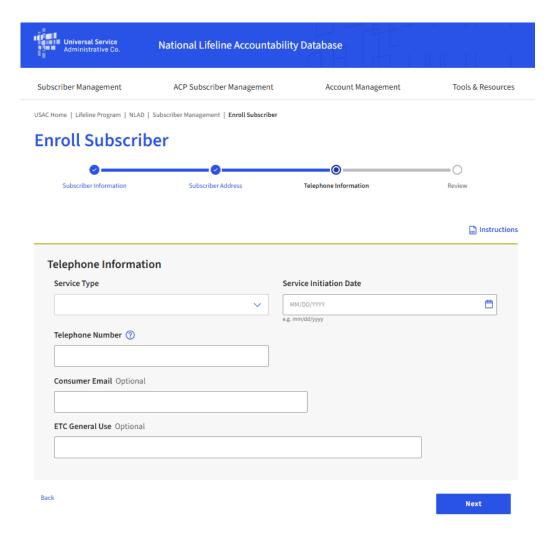
Select Enroll Subscriber – Subscriber Address

 Enter the subscriber's address and then select Next.



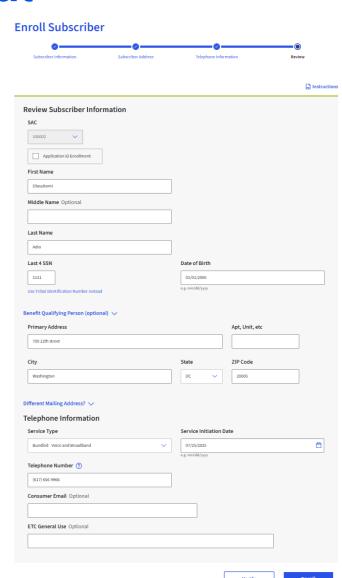
Enter Telephone Information

- Enter in the subscriber's service information:
 - Service Type: Subscriber's Lifeline service offering: voice, broadband, bundled voice, bundled broadband, or bundled voice and broadband.
 - Service Initiation Date: Date the service provider began Lifeline service.
 - **Telephone Number:** Subscriber's phone number (if applicable).
- Select Next.



Review Subscriber Information

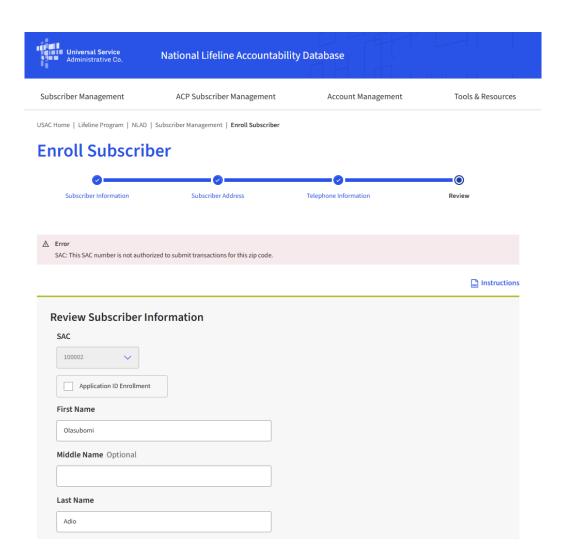
• Review the subscriber's information to confirm that their information is correct and then select **Enroll**.



View Enrollment Status

Unsuccessful Enrollment

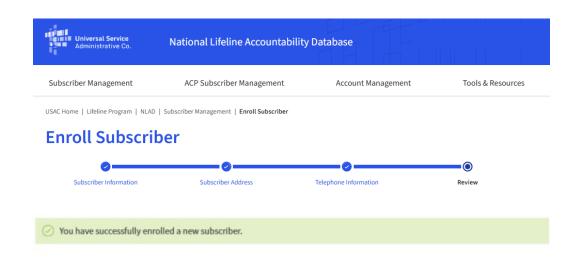
- If an enrollment is unsuccessful because of missing or incorrectly formatted data, the associated error messages will appear at the top of the page in red.
 - The user will be redirected to the Transaction Unsuccessful page, where they will see the related error messages and transaction details.



View Enrollment Status

Successful Enrollment

 Upon successful enrollment, users will be directed to the **Transaction Successful** page, which shows a success message and a read-only display of the enrollment details.



How to Enroll Subscribers Batch Upload

How to Enroll Subscribers - Batch Upload

Overview

Service providers may submit batch files to perform multiple transactions in NLAD.

- Batch uploads can:
 - Contain one or many transactions.
 - Include multiple Study Area Codes (SACs) and transaction types.

How to Enroll Subscribers – Batch Upload Prepare Batch Files

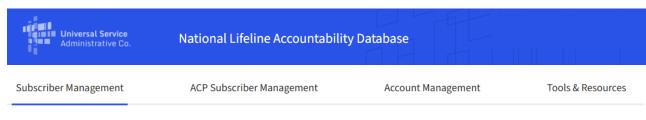
To prepare and submit batch files, the following steps are required:

- Fill in the <u>batch template</u> with subscriber information.
 - Provide all required fields for the transaction type.
 - Do not change/modify any of the template headers.
 - For full descriptions of all input fields, including restrictions, review the <u>detailed field</u> <u>descriptions</u>.
- Save the file.
 - The file name must start with a six-digit SAC number and end with a .csv extension.
 - For example, 999999-Company.csv.

How to Enroll Subscribers - Batch Upload

Upload Subscriber File

To submit batch files, select
 Upload Subscriber File.



USAC Home | Lifeline Program | NLAD | Subscriber Management

Subscriber Management

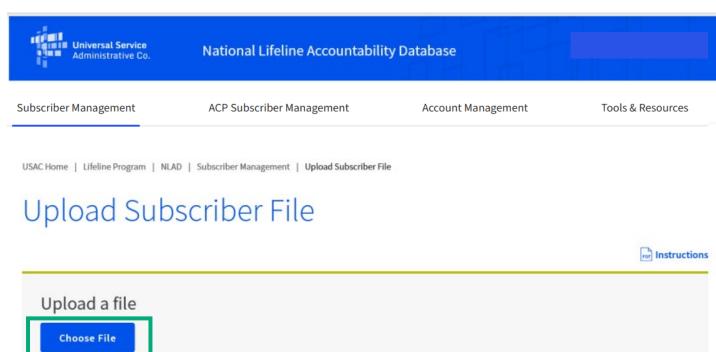
Welcome to NLAD Subscriber Management. Here you can enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll a subscriber and ensure your records are up to date. For assistance, please refer to the Instructions guide on each of the pages

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- Upload Subscriber File Perform batch transactions. Enroll, transfer, update, or de-enroll more than one subscriber at a time.
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How to Enroll Subscribers - Batch Upload

Upload Subscriber File

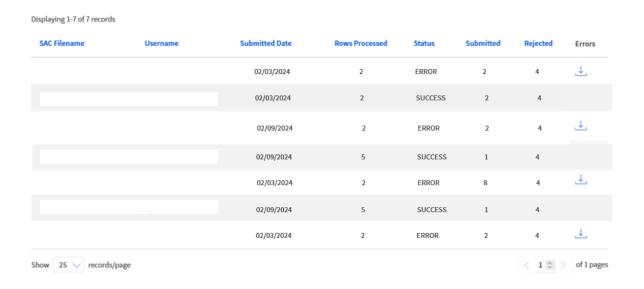
- Select Choose File and then select the file to upload.
- Select **Upload** to submit the file.



How to Enroll Subscribers - Batch Upload

Retrieve Batch Status and Feedback

- NLAD provides the status of batch files in the Uploaded Files table.
- If the file is successfully uploaded, the status will be SUCCESS.
- If the file is not upload successfully, the status will be **ERROR**.
 - Download the ERROR file to see which transactions were not accepted and why.
 - Correct errors and upload a new batch file.
 - Tip: Do not include subscribers who were previously uploaded successfully.



Questions?

How to Enroll Subscribers

NLAD API

How to Enroll Subscribers - NLAD API

Overview

- The NLAD API allows for a computer-to-computer connection.
- The NLAD API allows service providers to connect their billing or customer management system
 directly to NLAD so that their system can send enrollments or other transactions and pull reports
 automatically.
 - The NLAD API enables service providers to streamline the consumer enrollment process.
 - The NLAD API automatically captures consumer enrollment information in service provider billing systems.
- To use the NLAD API, service providers must have a signed <u>Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA)</u>
 with USAC.

How to Enroll Subscribers – NLAD API Obtain API Access to NLAD

The following steps are required to obtain API access to NLAD*:

- Review API specifications.
 - Information on how a service provider can integrate NLAD into their existing business models is available within the **NLAD API Specifications** document, which can be found in the **Tools & Resources** section of NLAD.
- Complete technical development and testing.
 - Technical work is required to establish an API connection.
 - The NLAD API Specifications document may assist technical teams with development.
- Submit a signed Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) to USAC.
 - An ISA is an agreement established between USAC and service providers to document the technical requirements and security components of the interconnections between IT systems.

*Processes are subject to change

How to Enroll Subscribers – NLAD API Obtain API Access to NLAD

Service providers accessing NLAD via the API must submit the following to USAC*:

- The API ID(s) they would like to register for API production access.
 - If the provider has not created an API ID yet, the ETC Administrator can create an API account in NLAD.
- The completed and signed ISA.
- The domain information for the service provider.

^{*}Processes are subject to change

Service Provider Responsibilities

Service Provider Responsibilities

Account Management

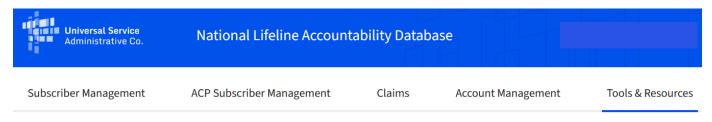
Account management in NLAD is the primary responsibility of 497 Officer and ETC Administrator users.

- USAC sends quarterly reminders to the 497 Officer and ETC Administrator user roles, reminding them of their account management responsibilities.
 - These responsibilities include keeping accounts current and deactivating accounts where applicable.
 - The reminder includes detailed instructions on how to view information, manage accounts, and manage representative IDs.
- 497 Officers are required to review ETC Administrator accounts.
- ETC Administrators are required to review all NLAD subaccounts (ETC Analyst, ETC Operations, and ETC Agent) associated with each SPIN.
- Additional information on how to manage accounts in NLAD is available in the <u>NLAD User Guide</u>.

Available for Public Use Resources

One Portal Resources

- Resources are available in the Tools & Resources section of NLAD:
 - Reports
 - User Guide
 - NLAD API Specifications
 - Field Descriptions
- For common questions about NLAD, review the <u>NLAD FAQs</u>.



USAC Home | Lifeline Program | NLAD | Tools & Resources

Tools & Resources

- Reports Review reports on Lifeline subscribership and activity.
- ACP Reports Review reports on ACP subscribership and activity. Access historical EBBP subscribership information.
- Tribal Lands Eligibility Verification Check if a subscriber's address is on Tribal lands. For information purposes only.
- ACP User Guide Information on using the system.
- ACP API Specification Learn how to connect to NLAD and manage ACP subscribers by API.
- ACCA API Specification Learn how to connect to the National Verifier by API for ACP.
- User Guide Information on using the NLAD system.
- NLAD API Specification Learn how to connect to NLAD by API.
- NV API Specification Learn how to connect to the National Verifier by API.
- NV API ISA Required agreement to connect to USAC's systems by API.
- Field Descriptions Detailed information on required fields in NLAD.
- ACP Field Descriptions Detailed information on required fields in ACP.
- Training Videos Review information on using NLAD.

Other Resources

NLAD Resources

- More information can be found on the <u>NLAD</u> page of our website and will include:
 - National Verifier NLAD Input Templates Field Names and Descriptions.
 - NLAD Maintenance Schedule and Release Notes.
- View <u>NLAD instructional videos</u> on USAC.org.

General Resources

- Visit <u>usac.org/lifeline</u> for general program information.
- Email <u>LifelineProgram@usac.org</u> for technical support and additional information on processes, rules, and requirements.
- Visit Lifeline's <u>Webinars</u> page to review past trainings and register for upcoming events.

September Webinar

Register for the next Lifeline webinar.

- **Date**: September 10, 2025
- **Time**: 3 p.m. ET 4 p.m. ET
- **Topic**: How to Apply for Survivors

How to Apply for Survivors

September 10, 2025 © 03:00 pm – 04:00 pm ET

Intended Audience: Consumers and consumer advocates

Lifeline subject matter experts will provide an overview of how survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and related crimes can apply to receive an emergency Lifeline benefit.

Register

Lifeline Monthly Newsletter

 <u>Subscribe</u> to the Lifeline monthly newsletter for program updates, reminders, and announcements.

Subscribe

Fill out and submit the form below to sign up for one or several of our newsletters and/or listservs, or manage your subscriptions.

irst Name	Last Name
Email	
Choose Program	
E-Rate	Rural Health Care (RHC) Program
News Brief	Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program (Consortia)
Tribal Stakeholders	Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program (Individual HCPs)
Tribal Nation Newsletter	Telecom Program
High Coat	
High Cost Detailed HUBB Updates	Service Providers
Program Updates	FCC Form 499 (Contributors)
Lifeline	
Program Newsletter	
NLAD Bulletin Consumer Advocates	

Thank You!

