

Housekeeping

- Audio is available through your computer's speakers
- The audience will remain on mute
- Enter questions at any time using the "Questions" box
 - There is a large audience signed in today. We will accept as many questions as possible!
- If your audio or slides freeze, restart the webinar
- Copy of the slide deck in the "handouts" section of webinar panel

Today's Presenters



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Agenda

- 1. Announcements
- 2. Overview
- 3. Resolving Errors via Portal
- 4. Resolving Errors via Mail
- 5. Timeline

March Monthly Webinar

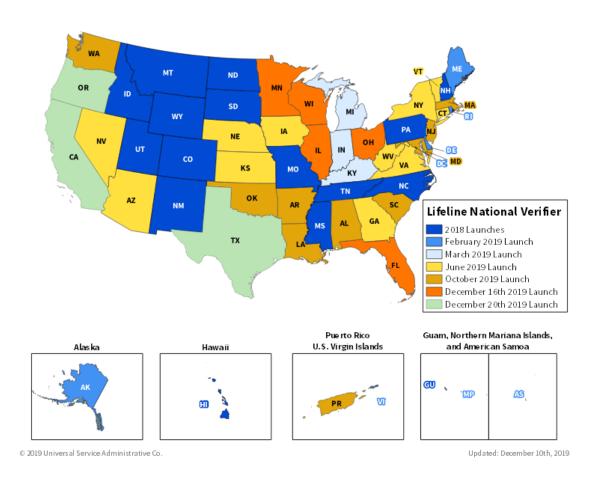
Recent & Upcoming Dates: 2019 Order

Date	Change	Change Description
February 25	Elimination of Commissions	Providers may not pay commission based on Lifeline applications or enrollments to their enrollment representatives.
March 26	Representative Accountability Database (RAD)	RAD will no longer be voluntary and will function as designed and communicated prior to the Order, with minor exceptions communicated previously.
TBD *	Annual Recertification	ETCs will now be required to collect eligibility documentation from a subscriber when that subscriber's eligibility was previously determined through an eligibility database, but at the time of recertification, the subscriber's eligibility cannot be confirmed through a database check. This was not previously required.
**	Biennial Audits	ETCs that must complete the audits will be selected using risk-based factors, rather than the level of Lifeline disbursements. These factors will be used in biennial audits announced after the effective date.

^{* 90} days after announcement of Office of Management and Budget approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

^{**} As in the past, those selected for biennial audits will undergo USAC provided training and have access to subject matter experts throughout the process.

Upcoming Dates: December 16, 2019 Launch



- The Lifeline National Verifier will fully launch in the following states on **Tuesday, March 24, 2020**:
 - Florida
 - Illinois
 - Minnesota
 - Ohio
 - Wisconsin
- At full launch, use of the National Verifier is required for service providers checking consumer eligibility and consumers may apply on their own through the <u>consumer portal</u>.

^{*}Puerto Rico, in the October 2019 launch, will hard launch at a later date.

Upcoming Dates: RAD



Beginning **Thursday, March 26, 2020**, the use of RAD will be mandatory. At that time:

- L. Applicable NLAD website transactions and all National Verifier portal transactions will require a linked Representative ID.
- 2. Transactions submitted via API and batch files **must** include the two new RAD fields and those fields must be included and **populated correctly** as described in the NLAD API Specifications and <u>Field Names and Descriptions</u>:
 - **RepID**: This field should be used to send a Representative ID for the representative associated with the transaction, **or**
 - **RepNotAssist**: This field should be used to indicate no representative was involved in the transaction.

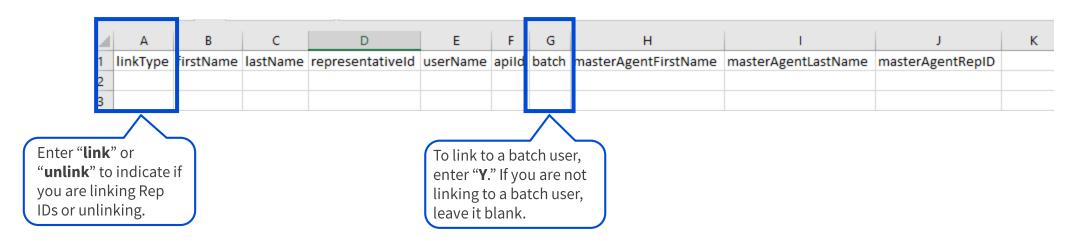
AnnouncementsRAD Linking Process

On the afternoon of **Thursday, March 12**, USAC will add some additional functionalities to the linking process.

- At that time, using the "Linking Representatives File Upload Template," ETC Admins may:
 - Link a Representative ID to a batch user if needed, and
 - Unlink Representative IDs in bulk from NLAD subaccount roles, API IDs, and/or batch users.

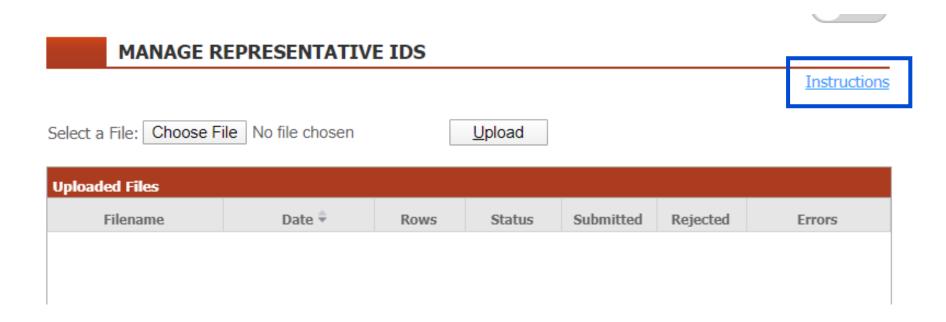
AnnouncementsRAD Linking Process

- An updated linking file with a new column for each functionality listed previously ("linkType" and "batch") and updated linking guides will be posted on the <u>RAD</u> <u>Resources</u> page at the time of this change.
- Beginning March 12, ETC Admins and 497 Officers must use the updated version when linking Representative IDs using the File Upload Template.



AnnouncementsRAD Linking Process

Updated instructions regarding the two new columns on the "Linking Representatives File Upload Template" are posted on the "Manage Representative IDs" page in NLAD.



AnnouncementsRAD Resources

- You can find information on how to resolve errors for <u>domestic representatives</u> and <u>international</u> <u>representatives</u> on USAC's website.
- The <u>RAD Resources</u> page includes:
 - A RAD Fact Sheet,
 - NLAD Staging Guides for linking individual user accounts and APIs,
 - NLAD Production Guides for linking individual user accounts and APIs,
 - <u>Linking Representatives File Upload Template</u>, and the
 - Slide decks from previous training sessions.
- A short video series is available on the <u>Lifeline Learn</u> page.
- Representatives that need assistance with the registration process should email <u>LifelineSupport@usac.org</u>.
- Service providers should email <u>LifelineProgram@usac.org</u> for technical assistance and questions.

Upcoming Dates: FPG



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the 2020 Federal Poverty Guidelines in January, and USAC has updated the Lifeline Income Eligibility Chart to reflect 135% of the 2020 FPG:

- Service providers may review the updated chart on the <u>Income</u> <u>Eligibility</u> page.
- Service providers have until Tuesday, March 31, 2020, to update their forms and systems.
- Service providers that have state-issued forms should follow their state's guidance.

Overview of Upcoming Change

NLAD Address Update Workflow

Overview of Upcoming Change

Terms to Know



- AMS Error: USAC validates Lifeline consumer addresses through the USPS Address Management System (AMS). If this service is unable to verify the consumer's address, the consumer will receive an AMS (or address) error.
- AMS Resolution Guide: This guide provides an overview of how consumers can resolve AMS errors online and through the mail.
- IEH Error: Only one Lifeline benefit is allowed per independent economic household (IEH). If a consumer is identified as living at an address at which another Lifeline consumer lives at, they will receive an IEH (or duplicate address) error.
- **IEH Worksheet**: The IEH worksheet (or <u>Lifeline household worksheet</u>) is the form a consumer must complete to self-certify that they do not share income and expenses with another Lifeline consumer.

Overview of Upcoming Change Background

- As part of continual system improvements, USAC is streamlining the process of updating a subscriber's address.
- Upcoming change: USAC will release changes to the NLAD "Update Subscriber" feature to:
 - Reduce the service provider and consumer burden required to resolve address errors,
 - Streamline the process of updating and verifying an existing subscriber's new address, and
 - Ensure continued program compliance.

Overview of Upcoming Change

New Process for Address Resolution



- Address updates will no longer be rejected by NLAD for AMS and/or IEH errors.
- New addresses which receive an AMS and/or IEH error will automatically be sent to the National Verifier for address resolution.
- Consumers will be expected to resolve their address errors in the National Verifier portal or via mail, to maintain their enrollment status.
- USAC will de-enroll consumers that fail to resolve errors associated with their address update within 30 days of when USAC sends the notice.

Overview of Upcoming Change Success Flow

System	Current Process	New Process
-	The consumer informs their SP of the address change.	The consumer informs their SP of the address change.
NLAD	The SP attempts to update the address in NLAD.	The SP attempts to update the address in NLAD.
NLAD	If new address passes AMS and IEH check, update is successful. If new address fails AMS and/or IEH and errors are not resolved in the NV, the new address is rejected by NLAD.	New address is successfully updated in NLAD. SP is informed in real-time if new address fails AMS and/or IEH. If there are failures, the address resolution is initiated in the NV.
National Verifier	SP instructs or assists consumer to resolve address errors in the NV portal or via mail.	USAC instructs or assists consumer to resolve address errors in the NV portal or via mail. Consumer must resolve errors within 30 days of notification to avoid deenrollment.
National Verifier	Consumer successfully resolves address errors in the NV portal/by mail and informs SP .	Consumer successfully resolves address errors in the NV portal/by mail.
NLAD	SP updates address in NLAD.	Address update resolution process is complete and the consumer remains enrolled.

Overview of Upcoming Change Charting the New Process 3a If new address has Consumer fails to no errors, address resolve address Consumer informs update is complete SP updates errors and is de-SP of address address in NLAD* enrolled change **3b** If new address has **USAC** contacts AMS/IEH error(s), consumer Consumer address resolution resolves address initiated errors in NV portal/mail

^{*} During the pending address resolution process, the subscriber's address in NLAD will continue to reflect their newly updated address until either successful resolution to complete the process or subscriber de-enrollment if errors are unresolved after 30 days. Carriers are informed of subscribers' address resolution status throughout the workflow via NLAD reports.

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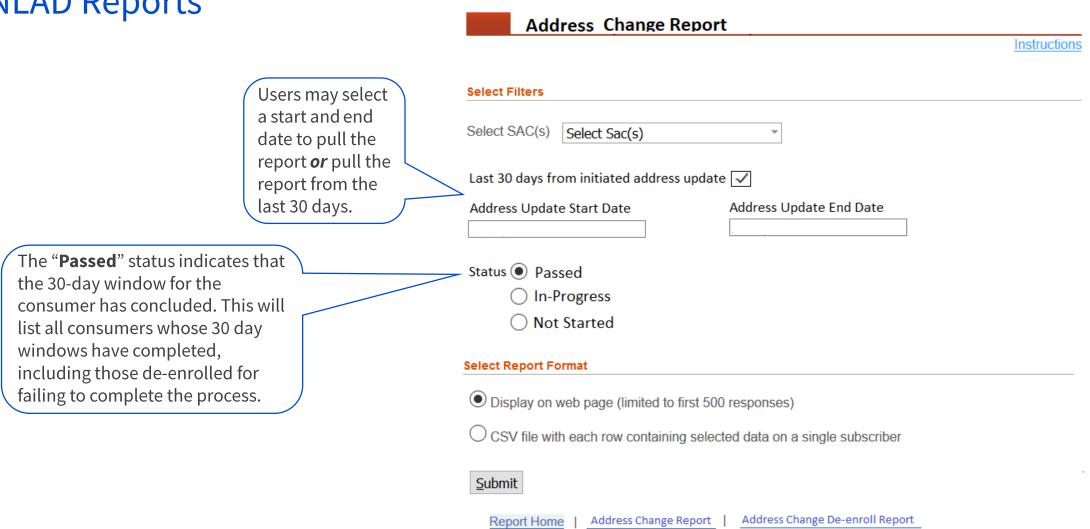
Overview of Upcoming Change NLAD Reports

- At the time of the release, two new reports will be available in NLAD:
 - "Address Change Report:" Includes the subscribers' details and information about their address failure and the resolution deadline.
- "Address Change De-Enroll Report:"
 Includes the subscribers' details and information about their address failure and their de-enrollment.



Overview of Upcoming Change

NLAD Reports



Questions?

The Happy Path



Address Update Workflow

Consumer Informs Service Provider



 The consumer informs their service provider of their new address.

Address Update Workflow Service Provider Updates NLAD

- The service provider updates the new address in NLAD.
- The process to update subscriber information in NLAD remains the same.

Address Update Workflow Service Provider Updates NLAD



- If new address has **no errors**, address update is complete in NLAD.
- No further action is needed from the service provider or consumer.

Resolving Errors

NLAD Address Update Workflow

National Verifier Portal

National Verifier Portal

Consumer Informs Service Provider



 The consumer informs their service provider of their new address.

National Verifier Portal Service Provider Updates NLAD

- The service provider updates the new address in NLAD.
- The process to update subscriber information in NLAD remains the same.

National Verifier Portal Service Provider Updates NLAD – Errors Found

TRANSACTION SUCCESSFUL Subscriber successfully updated Warning Primary Address: Address Not Found. ZIP4 did not match. · Address: The primary address in this transaction matches the primary address of another **SAC Number Phone Number** Subscriber ID **Anniversary Date** 461835 (571) 419-8634 A169KT6D8 01/23/2020 Subscriber Personal Information Last 4 SSN Tribal ID Last Name Date of Birth BERNARD DIOMANDE 05/19/1987 2990 First Name Middle Name TANGERIE Subscriber Address Primary Address Mailing Address 2000 L ST NW # 871 2000 L ST NW # 871 WASHINGTON 20036 WASHINGTON DC 20036 Additional Subscriber Information Service Type BROADBAND Service Initiation Date 01/23/2019 Lifeline Tribal Benefit Linkup Service Date **ETC General Use** asdasda **Benefit Qualifying Person** Last Name Date of Birth Last 4 SSN Tribal ID Middle Name First Name

- If the new address receives an AMS and/or IEH error, the service provider is notified in real-time in NLAD.
- During the pending address resolution process, the subscriber's address in NLAD will continue to reflect their newly updated address.
- USAC will reach out to the consumer immediately to provide instructions to resolve their new address error(s).

Note: API change: Update transaction "success" response now returned with address errors (see NLAD API specs).

National Verifier Portal

USAC Contacts Consumer to Resolve Error(s)



- Consumers will receive mailed outreach from USAC, which will include:
 - A reminder of the consumer's obligation to resolve the errors associated with their new address within 30 days, and
 - Information on acceptable documentation to resolve AMS errors and a copy of the IEH form from USAC.
- Two new reports will be available in NLAD:
 - "Address Change Report"
 - "Address Change De-Enroll Report"
- Service providers are encouraged to coordinate with their subscribers to ensure completion of this process.

National Verifier Portal Consumer Accesses Account

Lifeline National Verifier English | Español Your Acco Welcome Sam Rogers Lifeline is a federal program that lowers the cost of phone or internet services. Learn more about the Lifeline Program Consumer My Applications selects here to Here are all your applications from the last 180 days. You can start a new application when your last one expires. update their Start New Application Return to Application address. Application Application Type Application ID **Expiration Date** Status Confirm Your A34356-98285 01/07/2020 02/21/2020 Incomplete Address 11/05/2019 12/20/2019 Qualification Form Expired Q54731-31022 Qualification Form Q53521-57463 10/15/2019 12/19/2019 Expired Recertification Form R69219-09729 09/11/2019 09/12/2019 Expired

- Within the NV portal, the consumer will either create a new account or sign-in to their existing NV account.
- If the consumer has an existing account, the option to confirm their address will appear as an application on their account dashboard.

Apply or Transfer Your Service

Complete a new application if you'd like to sign up for Lifeline or want to transfer your benefit to a different company.

Update Your Address

If you already get Lifeline but have moved recently, update your address here and let your company know as soon as possible.

Find a Company Near Me

1

Lifeline is a federal benefit. If you are not happy with your Lifeline service, you can move to another phone or internet company.

National Verifier Portal

Consumer Accesses Open Address Application

You recently changed your address with your Lifeline phone/internet company. We need some more information from you to confirm your new address.

Address: 123 ADDRESS DR
CITY, VA 98765

You will have until 04/15/2020 to confirm your new address, or you may lose your Lifeline benefit.

Please click "Next" to continue.

Note: You will not need to provide any documentation.

Next

 Upon accessing their open address application, the National Verifier reminds the consumer they have 30 days (from when USAC's initial mailed outreach was sent) to resolve any errors associated with their new address.

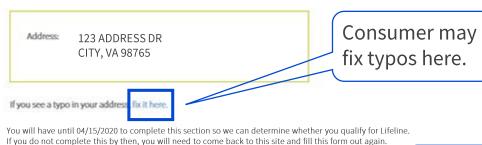
National Verifier Portal Consumer Resolves Error(s): AMS

We Didn't Recognize Your Address

The U.S. Postal Service could not find the address you gave us.

Show us that your address is right.

This is the information you gave us.



Consumer uses National Verifier mapping tool.

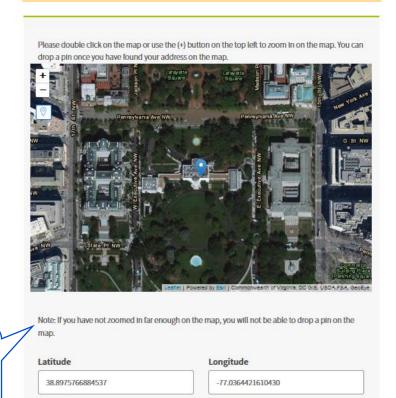


We Didn't Recognize Your Address

The U.S. Postal Service could not find the address you gave us.

We need to confirm where you live on the map below.

You will have until 04/15/2020 to complete this section so we can determine whether you qualify for Lifeline.



Next

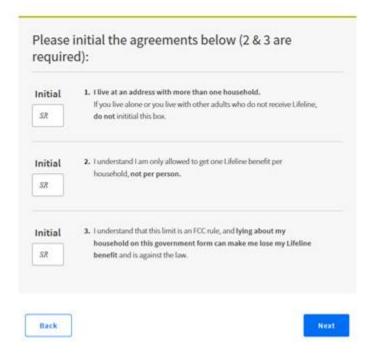
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National Verifier Portal Consumer Resolves Error(s): IEH

Someone at Your Address Already Gets Consumer Lifeline completes We need more information to determine whether you qualify for Lifeline. the online IEH form. Do you share money (income and expenses) with another adult who gets Lifeline? This can be the cost of bills, food, etc., and income. If your spouse receives Lifeline, please answer "Yes" to this question. You will have until 04/15/2020 to complete this section so we can determine whether you qualify for Lifeline. If you do not complete this by then, you will need to come back to this site and fill this form out again. Back Next

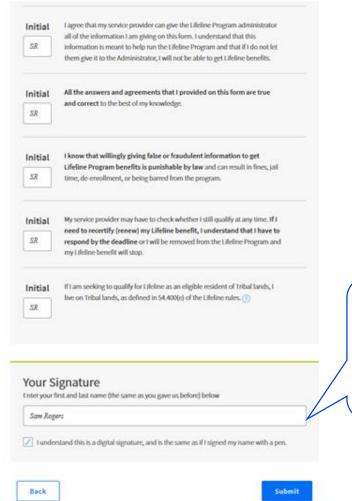
You Can Apply for Lifeline

Your household does not get Lifeline yet. A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other.)



National Verifier Portal Consumer Certifies

Agreement You are almost done qualifying. Please initial next to each statement and sign this form to finish the process. I agree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements: Consumer I (or my dependent or other person in my household) currently get benefits Initial must enter from the government program(s) listed on this form or my annual household. SR income is 135% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines (the amount first and listed in the Federal Poverty Guidelines table on this form). last initial. Lagree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days. SR I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not. qualify for Lifetine anymore, including: SR 1. I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a government program or income anymore. 2. Either I or someone in my household gets more than one Lifeline benefit (including, more than one Lifeline broadband internet service, more than one Lifeline telephone service, or both Lifeline telephone. and Lifeline broadband internet services). I know that my household can only get one Lifeline benefit and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not getting more than one Lifeline SR benefit.



Consumer must e-sign by entering their full name.

National Verifier Portal

Address Update Complete

You Have Successfully Updated Your Address

You do not need to do anything else. We will let your phone or internet company know and your service will continue.

If something changes and you do not qualify for Lifeline anymore, please tell your internet or phone company within 30 days.

You may be asked to recertify for Lifeline each year. To learn more about Lifeline, visit LifelineSupport.org.

- After the consumer resolves all errors associated with their new address, the process is complete and the consumer will remain enrolled.
- No further action is required by the consumer or service provider.

National Verifier Portal

Address Update Errors Unresolved

- Consumers that fail to resolve address errors within 30 days of when USAC's mailed outreach was sent are de-enrolled by USAC from the Lifeline Program.
 - USAC encourages service providers to coordinate with their subscribers to ensure consumers complete the process.
- Consumers are notified of their de-enrollment via mail.
- Consumers that are de-enrolled for failing to complete an address update may reapply at any time with their new address.

Questions?

Resolving Errors

NLAD Address Update Workflow

Mailed Application

Mailed Application

Consumers may resolve any errors associated with their new address via mail:

- Consumers should mail the necessary documentation (<u>documentation</u> to resolve AMS errors and/or <u>IEH worksheet</u>), -and-
- A completed <u>cover sheet</u> to the **Lifeline Support Center** at Lifeline Support Center
 P.O. Box 7081 London, KY 40742

Mailed ApplicationReminders

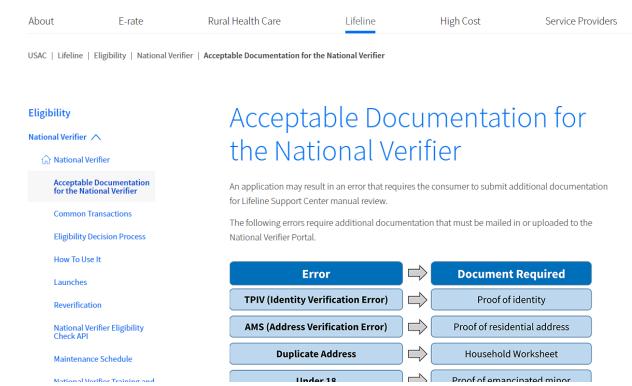
 A list of acceptable documentation to resolve AMS errors via mail is available on the <u>Acceptable</u> <u>Documentation</u> page and on the <u>AMS</u> Resolution Guide.

Scroll down to

"Address

Documentation"

section



Address Documentation

When an address validation cannot be verified through any of the National Verifier's automated data sources, the subscriber can submit documentation to resolve the error. There are two types of errors that a consumer may receive relating to their address. To help consumers resolve specific address errors, see below.

AMS Error (address not found)

^{*} Review the AMS Resolution Guide more for detail.

Mailed ApplicationReminders

 The <u>IEH worksheet</u> is available on the Lifeline Forms page. FCC FORM 5631

Lifeline Program Household Worksheet





OMB APPROVAL EDITION 3060-0819

About Lifeline

Lifeline is a benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service (not both). You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, not per person.

What this worksheet is for

Use this worksheet if someone else at your address gets Lifeline. The answers to these questions will help you find out if there is more than one household at your address.

What is a household?

A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

Examples of one household:

- A married couple who live together are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.
- A parent/guardian and child who live together are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.
- An adult who lives with friends or family who financially support him/her are one household. They must share one Lifeline benefit.

Examples of more than one household:

- 4 roommates who live together but do not share money are 4 households. They can have one Lifeline benefit each, 4 total.
- 30 seniors who live in an assisted-living home are 30 households. They can have one Lifeline benefit each, 30 total.

Household expenses

A household shares expenses. Household expenses include, but are not limited to, food, healthcare expenses, and the cost of renting or paying a mortgage on your place of residence and utilities.

Income

Households share income. Income includes salary, public assistance benefits, social security payments, pensions, unemployment compensation, veteran's benefits, inheritances, alimony, child support payments, worker's compensation benefits, gifts, and lottery winnings.

Questions?

Timeline

Please note this slide was updated in July 2020 to reflect the latest timeline for this enhancement.

Mid August

Thursday, August 13

Available in NLAD Staging:

- 1. API Specs will be available in NLAD Staging
- 2. Changes to NLAD "Update Subscriber" feature to accept all address changes (Address resolution process and reports **not** included)

TBD



TBD

The production release for this enhancement is tentative and contingent upon how the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve

Available in NLAD Production - Go-Live Date:

- Changes to NLAD "Update Subscriber" feature to accept all address changes
- 2. Address resolution process initiated
- "Address Change Report" and "Address Change De-Enroll Report" available

Thank You!

- Thank you for joining us!
- Sign up to our Lifeline Program
 newsletter to receive the latest news
 about the new address update
 workflow
 - Visit <u>our subscription center</u>
- Need help? Contact us!
 - General inquiries:
 <u>LifelineProgram@usac.org</u>



