

The Emergency Broadband Benefit

Program overview and how to get people
connected

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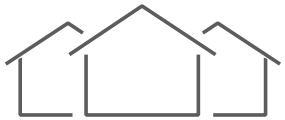
POLICY ADVISOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HOUSING DIVISION

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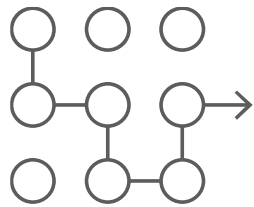
INFRASTRUCTURE



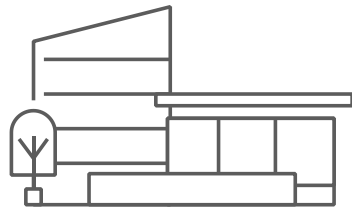
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What is the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB)?

The EBB was designed to lower the cost of high-speed internet service for those struggling to get the connectivity they need during the ongoing pandemic. It's a challenge that is all too real for many families.

December 2020: Covid Relief Bill

The Emergency Broadband Benefit

3.2 Billion for the EBB in two primary components



Internet Service Credit

Up to \$50 (per month) per household

Computing Device Credit

Up to \$100 (one time) per household

Internet Service Credit

\$50-\$75 monthly per household

Eligibility	Registration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifeline or other discount eligible household • Free/Reduced lunch • Pell Grant • Unemployed for six months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

Credits Distributed	Program Termination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled EBB customers receive monthly credit on their internet bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program ends when funds are depleted. • Customer stops receiving credit

Customers can participate even if they have unpaid bills or bad credit, and/or are current Lifeline customers

Device Credit:

One Low Cost Device per Household

- Internet Service Providers (ISP's) can voluntarily offer a refurbished device to eligible EBB customers
- Customers pay between \$10-\$50 for the device
- ISP's receive \$100 credit from FCC
- Customer must contribute \$10 to \$50 to the cost of the device

Customer Identification Requirement

Customer approval criteria will allow applicants to confirm identification with a variety of documents

- Government-issued ID;
- Passport;
- Driver's license,
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number documentation

The Emergency Broadband Benefit is temporary

- By law, the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program will end six months after the end of the COVID-19 emergency period *or* when the amount in the Emergency Broadband Connectivity Fund is exhausted—whichever comes first.
- Consumer applications will include a certification for the household to affirm that they understand the following:
 - the EBB Program is a temporary federal government subsidy that reduces the customer's broadband Internet access service bill
 - at the conclusion of the program, the household will be subject to the provider's undiscounted general rates, terms, and conditions if the household continues to subscribe to the service.

How will consumers apply?

Here is what we expect the FCC and USAC to do:

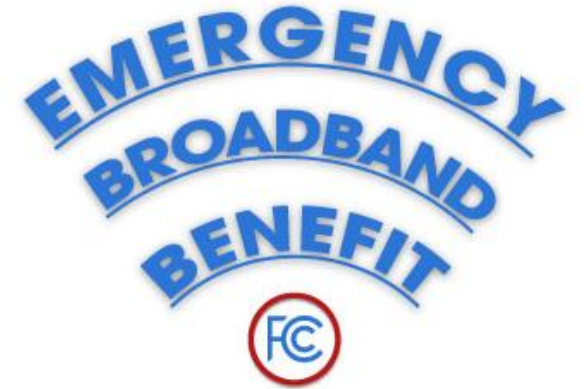
- Customers will be able to apply through their ISP, or directly with the USAC, the agency that administers the Lifeline program.
- USAC will make available an EBB program consumer portal and application form leveraging the existing National Lifeline Verifier infrastructure.
- USAC will verify customer eligibility through database matching agreements or manual documentation review, TBD

How will consumers apply?

Here is what we expect the FCC and USAC to do:

- USAC will establish approval criteria for acceptable identity documentation including a government-issued ID, passport, driver's license, or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).
- If feasible within the overall timeframe of the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, USAC will make available a service provider portal or eligibility check application programming interface (API) so that providers can help consumers with the application process.
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-emergency-broadband-benefit-program-fact-sheet>

Stay Tuned!



[Get Connected - Universal Service Administrative Company \(lifelinesupport.org\)](https://lifelinesupport.org)

[Washington Statewide Broadband Act - Washington State Department of Commerce](#)

[Emergency Broadband Benefit | Federal Communications Commission \(fcc.gov\)](https://fcc.gov)

[Emergency Broadband Benefit Program \(alchemer.com\)](https://alchemer.com)



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Thank you!

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