

Universal Service Fund — Lifeline Assistance

Universal Service Fund low-income programs are available to recipients of W2, Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, SSI, Energy Assistance, Badger Care, TANF, Federal Public Housing Assistance, National School Lunch Program, or the Wisconsin Homestead Tax Credit. Consumers must be active clients in the applicable state databases. The local telephone companies have established an agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) that allows them to verify eligibility through DWD. The Public Service Commission has established an agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue that allows DOR, with signed release from the customer, to provide a telephone company with verification of eligibility through receipt of the Wisconsin Homestead Tax Credit. The USF Lifeline Program is not available to customers who are dependents for federal income tax purposes unless the customer is more than 60 years of age. Lifeline provides a reduced monthly rate for local telephone & internet service. Local telephone companies must meet certain requirements before they can offer this program. A contact with local telephone companies will have to be made to verify the availability of this program in a particular area of the State. For those telephone companies who meet the requirements, funding is available for monthly telephone charges. If you have questions in regards to the above mentioned programs, please contact our office at 715-463-5322.