

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-328, filed 9/11/90, effective 10/12/90)

WAC 480-122-010 Definitions. For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Local exchange company" means a telecommunications company providing local exchange telecommunications service.

(2) "Department" means the department of social and health services.

(3) "Washington telephone assistance program" means(~~(+~~

~~(a) A discount on residential service connection fees of fifty percent;~~

~~(b) A waiver of the deposit on local residential exchange service;~~

~~(c) A discounted flat rate on one access line for local residential exchange service for eligible persons subscribing to the lowest available local exchange flat rate service, where that rate, including any federal end user access charge or other charge necessary to obtain local exchange service, is greater than the telephone assistance rate set by the commission. Where available, single party service shall qualify as the lowest available flat rate for persons otherwise eligible, who are sixty years of age or older, or who receive medical assistance.~~

~~(4) "Eligible person" means an adult recipient of department-administered programs for the financially needy which provide continuing financial or medical assistance, food stamps, or supportive services to persons in their own homes. The department shall notify the participants of their eligibility.~~

~~(5) "Eligibility period" means a one year period of eligibility as certified by the department. The eligibility period shall run from July 1 through June 30 of the succeeding year.~~

~~(6) "Charge necessary to obtain local exchange service" means the charge for the lowest available grade of residential flat rate service, any federal end user access charge, any charge for nonoptional extended area service and any charge for nonoptional mileage. It does not include any charge for customer premises equipment or any applicable taxes)) the program of local exchange service discounts administered by the department.~~

~~((7))~~ (4) "Switched access line" means, for the purpose of applying the telephone assistance program excise tax, a communication facility extending from a serving central office to a customer's premises to provide access to and from the switched telecommunications network for message toll service and local calling. When used with PBX or Centrex-CU a switched access line may also be referred to as a trunk.

~~((8) "Connection fees" means any service charge applicable to the connection of a switched access line to establish new service, but not including line extension charges or any delinquent balance owed to the local exchange company.))~~ (5) Radio communications service company has the meaning found in RCW 80.04.010, except that for the purposes of this section it includes only those companies providing two-way voice communication as a common carrier.

(6) "Eligible telecommunications carrier" (ETC) means a carrier designated as an ETC pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-449, filed 9/2/98, effective 10/3/98)

WAC 480-122-020 Washington telephone assistance program rate. The commission shall set by order the telephone assistance rate to be paid by program participants for local service. Every eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) must offer the telephone assistance rates and discounts in accordance with RCW 80.36.410 through 80.36.475. Every non-ETC local exchange company must offer the telephone assistance rates and discounts in accordance with RCW 80.36.410 through 80.36.475 when one hundred or more of its access lines are subscribed to for residential service. Radio communications service companies that are not ETCs may offer the telephone assistance rates and discounts in accordance with RCW 80.36.410 through 80.36.475.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-377, filed 9/28/92, effective 10/29/92)

WAC 480-122-060 Telephone assistance excise tax. ~~((Beginning November 1, 1992,))~~ Wireline local exchange companies shall collect a telephone assistance excise tax on all switched access lines ~~((of thirteen cents per month))~~ in an amount set by the commission by order at the request of the department. Each party line ~~((subscriber))~~ customer shall be assessed the telephone assistance excise tax in full. The telephone assistance excise tax shall be separately identified on each ratepayer's bill as the "Washington telephone assistance program." Money collected from the telephone assistance excise tax shall be transferred to a telephone assistance fund administered by the department.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-328, filed 9/11/90, effective 10/12/90)

WAC 480-122-080 Accounting. Local exchange companies shall maintain their accounting records so that expenses associated with the telephone assistance program can be separately identified. ~~((Only the unwaived portion of the federal end user access charge shall be shown on the ratepayer's bill.))~~

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 480-122-030 Connection fees.

WAC 480-122-040
WAC 480-122-070
WAC 480-122-090

Deposit waiver.
Recovery of costs.
Administration.