

WN U-4
Sixth Revised Sheet 160
Cancels Fifth Revised Sheet 160

McDANIEL TELEPHONE COMPANY
Washington

SCHEDULE 15
LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Low-Income Assistance Programs consist of two programs, Lifeline Assistance and Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP). These programs were developed to reduce rates for low income customers. The Company participates in both of these assistance programs to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas. The structure of each program is outlined in the following paragraphs.

1. Lifeline Assistance

a. General

Lifeline Assistance reduces an eligible customer's monthly rates for local service.

b. Regulations

1) Federal Lifeline Assistance is available to all residential customers who meet the eligibility requirements stated in 47 CFR 54.409 WTAP Assistance is available to all residential customers who meet the eligibility requirement stated in WAC 388-273-0020.

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a) Customers must participate in one of the following programs:

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Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)(a/k/a Food Stamps), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), federal public housing assistance or Section 8 (a Federal Housing Assistance Program administered by the Dept. of Urban Development), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, or the National School Lunch's free lunch program.

Customers will also qualify for Lifeline Assistance if their household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

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b) Beginning October 1, 2000, eligibility has been expanded to permit low-income individuals living on tribal lands to establish their income eligibility by certifying participation in one of the following federal assistance programs: (1) Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; (2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) tribally-administered block grant program; (3) Head Start Programs (under income qualifying eligibility provision only); or (4) National School Lunch Program (free meals program only), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

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2) As a participant in Lifeline Assistance, customers are eligible to receive Toll Restriction Service at no charge. This service will only be provided at the customer's request.

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BY:


Joel Dohmeier

TITLE: Vice President- Rates & Tariffs

WN U-4
Tenth Revised Sheet 161
Cancels Ninth Revised Sheet 161
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SCHEDULE 15
LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Continued)

1. Lifeline Assistance (Continued)

b. Regulations (Continued)

- 3) Local service deposit requirements will be waived for customers who voluntarily receive Toll Restriction Service.
- 4) Participants in Lifeline Assistance shall not be disconnected from Local Service for non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are eligible for Lifeline Assistance and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges. Lifeline Assistance will not be connected if an outstanding balance is owed by the customer for local service.
- 5) Partial payments that are received from Lifeline customers will first be applied to local service charges and then to any outstanding toll charges.
- 6) State Credit amount, as determined by the Department of Social Services and Health Services, is benchmarked at \$8.00.

c. Credits

The following credits* will apply for each customer eligible for Lifeline Assistance:

	<u>Monthly Credit*</u>
1) Credit if qualify for Federal Assistance	\$9.25
2) Credit if qualify for State WTAP Assistance	\$12.80
3) Credit if qualify for both Federal & State WTAP Assistance	\$12.80

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* Credit amount will not exceed the total of the Subscriber Line Charge and the Residential Local Exchange rate.

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WN U-4
Third Revised Sheet 162
Cancels Second Revised Sheet 162
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SCHEDULE 15
LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Continued)

2. WTAP (Discount on Service Connection Fees)

a. General

WTAP Discount on Service Connection Fees reduces an eligible customer's service connection charges. All eligible customers receive a credit for half of the service connection charges up to \$22.00

b. Regulations

- 1) The same eligibility requirements as outlined in Paragraph 1.b.1) a) above will apply for WTAP discount on service connection fees. (T)
- 2) This credit is only available on the installation of a single residential access line to the principal residence of the eligible customer.
- 3) This credit will only apply a second or subsequent time for a principal place of residence with a different address from the previous address at which a WTAP discount on service connection fees was provided.
- 4) A deferred schedule for payment of the remaining service connection charges will be offered to WTAP customers. The customer is not required to pay interest on the first \$200 of service connection charges that are deferred up to a year.

c. Credit

- 1) Half of Service Connection Charges or \$22.00 whichever is less.

Federal Link-Up was eliminated per FCC Order FCC12-11 effective April 2, 2012

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