

**TARIFF DISTRIBUTION**

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<b><u>TARIFF SECTION</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE REVISION</u></b>
A003	32	0015
A003	32.0.2	0011
A004	7	0013
A004	8	0010
A4 Cont. (pg)	1	0008
A Subj. Indx (pg)	1	0023

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 Charlotte, North Carolina

## GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Fifteenth Revised Page 32  
 Cancels Fourteenth Revised Page 32

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### A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

#### A3.31 Lifeline

##### A3.31.1 Description of Service

- A. The Lifeline Program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service to qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific rates are as prescribed by the North Carolina Utilities Commission and are set forth in this tariff.
- B. Lifeline is supported by the federal and state universal service support mechanisms. State support is provided via a state tax credit.
- C. Federal baseline support of \$8.20 and \$3.50 in state support is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to the subscriber. In addition, supplemental federal support of \$1.75, matching one half of the state contribution, is available and will be passed along to the Lifeline subscriber. The total Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in North Carolina is \$13.45. The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes the access line, touchtone service, the Subscriber Line Charge and local usage. The access line may be a flat rate, message rate or measured line. Local usage charges (excluding operator surcharges) are those applicable for calling within the local or expanded local areas. For the purpose of this credit, the monthly rate and the message rate associated with the MetroConnection Plan Option 2 for residence customers qualify as local usage charges.

##### A3.31.2 Regulations

- A. General
  1. **(DELETED)** (D)
  2. One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential service only. The named subscriber must meet the eligibility criteria identified in B.
  3. A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residence customers.

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Eleventh Revised Page 32.0.2  
 Cancels Tenth Revised Page 32.0.2

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### A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

#### A3.31 Lifeline (Cont'd)

##### A3.31.2 Regulations (Cont'd)

###### C. Certification

1. Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company at the time of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company. If the customer requests installation prior to the Company's receipt of proof of eligibility, the requested service will be provided without the Lifeline credit. When eligibility documentation is provided subsequent to installation, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis.
2. The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state or federal agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
3. When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will send the customer a written notice of ineligibility. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.
4. Resellers providing Lifeline service from this tariff are responsible for determining proof of eligibility prior to requesting the service. As set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.417(a) and (b), a reseller must provide a certification, upon request, to AT&T that it is complying with all FCC and applicable State requirements governing Lifeline programs, including certification and verification procedures. Resellers are required to retain the required documentation for three (3) years and be able to produce the documentation to the Commission or its Administrator to demonstrate that they are providing discounted services only to qualified low-income customers as outlined in B.1 and B.2. Disclosure requirements described in 2. are applicable to resellers of Lifeline service. (C)

##### A3.31.3 Rates and Charges

###### A. General

1. Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
2. Service Charges in A4 are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
3. **(DELETED)** (D)
4. The Secondary Service Charge in A4 is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline.

###### B. The total Lifeline credit consists of one federal credit plus one state credit.

	<b>Monthly Credit</b>	<b>USOC</b>
1. Federal credit		
(a) Work First or TANF	<b>\$9.95</b>	<b>ASGFA</b>
(b) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<b>9.95</b>	<b>ASGFS</b>
(c) Food Stamps	<b>9.95</b>	<b>ASGFC</b>
(d) Medicaid	<b>9.95</b>	<b>ASGS1</b>
(e) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	<b>9.95</b>	<b>ASGFL</b>
(f) federal public housing	<b>9.95</b>	<b>ASGFP</b>
2. State credit		
(a) All programs, one per Lifeline service	<b>3.50</b>	<b>CRA</b>

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Eighth Revised Page 1  
Cancels Seventh Revised Page 1

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2012

**A4. SERVICE CHARGES**

CONTENTS

<b>A4.1 (DELETED)</b>	<b>4</b>	(T)
<b>A4.2 Application of Charges</b>	<b>4</b>	
A4.2.1 through A4.2.6 (DELETED)	4	
A4.2.7 Installment Billing	4	
<b>A4.3 through A4.6 (DELETED)</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>A4.7 (DELETED)</b>	<b>7</b>	(D)
<b>A4.8 through A4.10 (DELETED)</b>	<b>8</b>	

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Thirteenth Revised Page 7  
Cancels Twelfth Revised Page 7

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**A4. SERVICE CHARGES**

**A4.7 (DELETED)**

(D)

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Tenth Revised Page 8  
Cancels Ninth Revised Page 8

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2012

## **A4. SERVICE CHARGES**

**A4.7 (DELETED) (Cont'd)**

(D)

**A4.8 through A4.10 (DELETED)**

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

Twenty Third Revised Page 1  
Cancels Twenty Second Revised Page 1

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**SUBJECT INDEX**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>SECTION</b>	
Lifeline.....	A3.31	
<b>(DELETED)</b>		(D)
711 Dialing Code for Telephone Relay Service (TRS).....	A13.80	