CINCINNATI BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY LLC

Section 4 1st Revised Page 1 Cancels Original Page 1

LIFELINE

A. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE

1. Regulations

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a. Benefits

Lifeline shall be a flat-rate, monthly, primary access line service with touch-tone service, or any other services and bundles or packages of services, if available to customers, less the Lifeline discount, and shall provide the following:

- 1. A recurring discount to the monthly basic local exchange service rate or other local service rate that provides for the maximum contribution of federally available assistance.
- 2. Not more than once per customer at a single address in a twelve-month period, a waiver of all nonrecurring service order charges for establishing service. (See Note 1.)
- 3. Free blocking of toll service, 900 service and 976 service.
- 4. A waiver of the federal universal service fund end user charge
- 5. A waiver of the Company's local telephone service deposit requirement.
- Note 1: The Lifeline nonrecurring charge waiver applies only to establishing access line service. The waiver does not apply to nonrecurring charges for optional services or features ordered with the access line including charges to establish a service bundle.

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Effective: December 2, 2016

In accordance with Case No. 16-2283-TP-TRF

By: Ted Heckmann, Assistant Secretary and Managing Director, Regulatory Affairs

CINCINNATI BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY LLC

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LIFELINE

A. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE (Continued)

1.	Regulations	
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a. Eligibility

Lifeline Assistance is available to residential customers who are currently participating in one of the following federal or state low-income assistance programs that limit assistance based on household income:

- 1. Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- 2. Survivor Pension Benefits Program
- 3. Veteran Pension Benefits Program
- 4. Medical Assistance under Chapter 5111 of the Ohio Revised Code (Medicaid) or any state program that might supplant Medicaid.
- 5. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) under Title XVI of the Social Security Act
- 6. Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps)

Lifeline Assistance is also available to customers whose total household income is at or below one hundred thirty-five percent (135%) of the federal poverty level.

Prior to receiving Lifeline benefits the customer will have to verify eligibility through the National Verifier. There are three ways in which to verify eligibility. One: the customer may apply for Lifeline on their own through the consumer portal at <u>www.checklifeline.org</u>. Eligibility *may* be determined immediately after applying online. If the National Verifier cannot prove eligibility the customer will need to upload more documents as proof of eligibility. Two: the customer may apply by sending their completed application and all supporting documentation via mail. Completed documentation can be sent to the Lifeline Support Center.

Lifeline Support Center PO Box 7081 London, KY 40742

Three: the customer may bring their completed application and supporting documentation to an authorized retail location where a Cincinnati Bell Telephone representative can assist with National Verifier eligibility. Lifeline benefits will only begin once the completed application form and documentation of eligibility are reviewed and approved through the National Verifier. Customers will not receive retro-active Lifeline credits for periods prior to the approval of National Verifier.

The Company shall follow established processes for recertification through the National Verifier in accordance with FCC requirements.

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In accordance with Case No. 20-0367-TP-ATA

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LIFELINE

A. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE (Continued)

1.	Regulations (Continued)	(T)
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c. Payment Arrangements

Customers qualifying for Lifeline Assistance with past due bills for regulated local service charges shall be offered special payment arrangements with the initial payment not to exceed \$25.00 before service is installed, with the balance for the regulated local charges to be paid over six equal monthly payments. Lifeline service customers with past due bills for toll charges shall have toll restricted service until such past due toll charges have been paid in full or until the customer establishes service with a subsequent toll provider. (C)

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A.	LII	FELI	NE ASSISTANCE (Continued)	
	1.	Re	gulations (Continued)	(T)
		d.	Terms and Conditions	(T)
All aspects of Lifeline Assistance shall be consistent with the federal requirements and any additional state-specific requirements, including, but not limited to 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart E; The FCC's Lifeline Modernization Order (Third Report and Order released on April 27, 2016, WC Docket No. 11-42, FCC 16-38, et.al. Ohio Administrative Code; and, the Commission's nontraditional Lifeline service order (Finding as Order adopted May 23, 2012, Case No. 10-2377-TP-COI) and any subsequent entries and/or orders. Additional state-specific		(C)		
			requirements are tariffed in parts A.1.a., A.1.b., and A.1.c. of this section.	(C)

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Note: Some material appearing on the prior version of this page now appears on 1st Revised Page 2 of this section.

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CINCINNATI BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY LLC

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LIFELINE

A. LIFELINE ASSISTANCE (Continued)

- 2. Rates and Charges
 - a. Price Flexibility

All of the Company's exchanges have been deemed competitive and have been accorded the pricing flexibility defined in 4927.12(B) (2) O.R.C. which caps BLES monthly rates at annual increases of no more than \$2.00 per line.

The annual period for rate increases is defined to begin on the anniversary date.

b. Monthly Pricing with Lifeline

All Lifeline customers receive an FCC prescribed \$5.25 discount on their local monthly service rates. This discount is first applied to waive the federal end user common line charge with the remainder applied to the Customer's monthly BLES, measured service, or bundle rate.

Lifeline customers with BLES receive an additional CBT-funded discount under the Commission's previous alternative regulation rules, 4901:1-4-11 O.A.C. effective August 7, 2006. This additional discount varies by exchange as follows.

Exchange	Additional Monthly Lifeline Discount
Cincinnati and Hamilton	6.25
Bethany, Harrison, Little Miami, and Williamsburg	3.75
Clermont and Newtonsville	2.50
Bethel, Reily, Seven Mile, and Shandon	1.25

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CINCINNATI BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY LLC

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LIFELINE

B. LIFELINE RECOVERY SURCHARGE

1. General

Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILECs), in accordance with Section 4927.13 (D) of the Revised Code, may recover from end users any Lifeline service discounts that are not recovered through state or federal funding or whose recovery is prohibited by law. In accordance with 4901:1-6-19 (P) O.A.C., ILECs may recover these discounts through a customer billing surcharge on retail customers, excluding those with Lifeline service.

The Company's Lifeline Recovery Surcharge is calculated to recover the difference between the Company's Lifeline prices and the Company's standard retail service prices, minus any portion of the price differences that are recovered through federal or state funding. The Company will update this calculation at least once per year in accordance with 4901:1-6-19 (R) O.A.C.

The Lifeline Recovery Surcharge is imposed on each residence, nonresidence, and payphone access line, other than Lifeline service. For purposes of application of this surcharge, access lines are defined as facilities, which provide access to and from the telecommunications network for toll service and for local calling. Not included in this definition are remote call forwarding and Cincinnati Bell official accounts.

2. Rates and Charges

Monthly Charge

Lifeline Recovery Surcharge, per Line:

\$ 0.00

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