

## FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit Program Fact Sheet

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, the FCC unanimously adopted a Report and Order that established the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, a \$3.2 billion federal initiative to help lower the cost of high-speed internet for eligible households during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program was created by Congress in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

The Report and Order along with the rules governing this program can be [found here](#), but below are a few important facts:

### What Is the Benefit?

- Up to \$50/month discount for broadband services;
- Up to \$75/month discount for broadband services for households on Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.
- The Emergency Broadband Benefit is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per eligible household.

### Who Is Eligible for the Emergency Broadband Benefit?

A household is eligible if one member of the household:

- Qualifies for the [Lifeline](#) program, including those who are on Medicaid or receive SNAP benefits;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, or did so in the 2019-2020 school year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020, and the household had a total income in 2020 below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant in the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

### When Can Eligible Households Sign Up?

- The FCC expects the Emergency Broadband Benefit program to be open to eligible households before the end of April, 2021. Please check the FCC's website, [www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](http://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit), regularly for the latest information.

### How Will Eligible Households Sign Up?

- Eligible households will enroll through participating broadband providers or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). Please check the FCC's website, [www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](http://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit), regularly for the latest information on the enrollment process.

### What Broadband Providers Will Be Offering the Emergency Broadband Benefit?

- Many types of broadband providers can qualify to provide service in this program.

- The FCC is currently setting up the systems needed for providers to participate.
- Contact information for the providers participating in the program will be posted on USAC's website: <https://www.usac.org/>.

### **Outreach**

- The FCC is excited to partner with those who want to help get the word out about this critical program. Please visit [www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](http://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit) to sign up to receive important updates and information about the Emergency Broadband Benefit program.