

Cell Phone Plans Comparison of the Four Approved Federal Lifeline Wireless Service Providers

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/Telco/Public+Programs/fedlifelinewireless.htm>

There are four approved service providers in California that can offer the federal Lifeline wireless phone service discounts. These four wireless service providers are Cricket Communications, Inc. (Cricket), Nexus Communications, Inc. (Nexus), Telscape Communications, Inc. (Telscape), and Virgin Mobile USA, L.P. (Virgin Mobile). Nexus calls its federal Lifeline service as ReachOut Wireless while Virgin Mobile uses the product name, Assurance Wireless.

The Federal Communications Commission allows service providers to use the federal funding for the federal Lifeline program on various phone service pricing options. Each of the federal Lifeline wireless service providers in California has different service offerings. Calling features and contractual arrangements will also differ. To learn about the cell phone plans in general, click on the [Cell Phone Plans Comparison Chart](#).

Consumers need to contact Cricket, Nexus, Telscape, or Virgin Mobile to learn more about their federal Lifeline wireless phone plans. Contact any of the four federal Lifeline wireless service providers at the following toll-free numbers:

Cricket Communications, Inc.
Nexus Communications, Inc. (ReachOut Wireless)
Virgin Mobile USA, L.P. (Assurance Wireless)
Telscape Communications, Inc.
To get more information online visit these Web sites:

- <http://www.mycricket.com/>
- <https://www.reachoutmobile.com/>
- <http://www.assurancewireless.com>
- <http://www.telscape.com/>

Only one discount per household for each residential address is allowed. Each household must choose to get the discount either on a

home phone or on a cell phone, but not on both. Households cannot get the discount from multiple phone companies. Households that do not follow the one discount per household rule will lose their discounts.

Lifeline Phone Bill Assistance

Learn how to sign up for the Lifeline program and receive your free cell phone.

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California Lifeline Information

Lifeline Phone Service Quick Start Guide

#1 Do you want a cell phone or landline?

Search for providers that offer the type of service you want by filtering by that service type or by looking at the "services available" for a provider. The available services are wireless (cell phone), landline or both.

#2 Select a provider

Browse thru the list of California Lifeline Phone Service Providers and locate ones that offer service in your area. If you are not sure which ones provide services in your area you may want to check your city or county website, visit the providers website or call the provider for more information.

#3 Check eligibility

You can be eligible for Lifeline service by being enrolled in another government program such as SNAP (food stamps), Housing Assistance (section 8) and many others. Check the "Eligibility By Program" list for the provider you have selected, if you are enrolled in any of the programs listed then you are eligible.

You may also be eligible for service based on your income if you are not enrolled in any of the programs listed. This option is not always available, review the "Eligibility by Income" for your selected provider for further details.

#4 Apply

The "How to Apply" section will provide directions on how to apply for service with your selected provider.

California Lifeline Service Providers

ReachOut Wireless

Services Available: Wireless **Phone Number:** 877-870-9444 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#) **Online Application:** [Click to visit Online Application](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- SSI
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- CalFresh, Food Stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)
- Healthy Families Category A
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)
- Stanislaus County Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (StanWORKs)
- Welfare-to-Work (WTW)
- Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)
- Tribal TANF
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Head Start Income Eligible (Tribal Only)

Eligibility by Income

Household size: 1-2 (\$24,000), 3 (\$28,200), 4 (\$34,000), each additional beyond 4 add \$5,800.

How to Apply for ReachOut Wireless Lifeline Service

To apply for ReachOut Lifeline Phone Service call 1-877-870-9444 or [click here to apply on the ReachOut Website](#)

AT&T

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-310-2355 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- Healthy Families Category A
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [CA Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for AT&T Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call AT&T directly at 800-310-2355. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from AT&T at <http://att.com/lifeline> . An application can be obtained via phone.

Cal-Ore Telephone

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-858-2399 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC)

- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [the California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Cal-Ore Telephone Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Cal-Ore Telephone directly at 530-397-2211. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Cal-Ore Telephone at <http://www.cot.net> . An application can be obtained .

Calaveras Telephone Company

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-253-2511 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- WIC
- Healthy Families Category A
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Lifeline Program](#).

How to Apply for Calaveras Telephone Company Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Calaveras Telephone Company directly at 800-253-2511.

You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Calaveras Telephone Company at

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/telco/public+programs/ults.htm>. An application can be obtained via phone, or from Calaveras Telephone Company.

CenturyLink

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-201-4099 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Medi-Cal
- State TANF Programs (CalWORKS, StanWORKS, WTW and GAIN)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for CenturyLink Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call CenturyLink directly at 800-201-4099. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from CenturyLink at <http://www.centurylink.com> . An application can be obtained via phone.

Cricket Communications

Services Available: Wireless **Phone Number:** 800-274-2538 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Cricket Communications Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline stop by your nearest certified [Cricket Communications](#) retail store. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Cricket Communications at <http://www.mycricket.com/community/cell-phone-news/federal-cricket-lifeline-credit-california-residents> . An application can be obtained [online](#), or at a certified [Cricket Communications](#) retail store.

Ducor Telephone Company

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 888-539-5234 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- Healthy Families Category A
- WIC
- CalWorks
- StanWorks
- WTW
- GAIN
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California LifeLine Program](#).

How to Apply for Ducor Telephone Company Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Ducor Telephone Company directly at 888-539-5234. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Ducor Telephone Company at <http://www.ducortelephone.com/>. An application can be obtained via phone.

Frontier Communications

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 866-931-5256 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [the California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Frontier Communications Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Frontier directly at 866-931-5256. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Frontier Communications at <http://www.frontieronline.com>. An application can be obtained via phone.

Pinnacles Telephone Co.

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 831-389-4500 **Website:** [Click to](#)

[visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- WIC
- Healthy Families Category A
- CalWorks
- StanWorks
- WTW
- GAIN
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California LifeLine Program](#).

How to Apply for Pinnacles Telephone Co. Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Pinnacles directly at 831-389-4500. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Pinnacles Telephone Co. at

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/Telco/Public+Programs/lifelinedetails.htm>. An application can be obtained via phone.

Ponderosa Telephone

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-682-1878 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Medicaid or Medi-Cal
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly called Food Stamps,
- Healthy Families Category A

- Tribal TANF
- Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), also known in California as:
- California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWorks)
- Stanislaus Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (StanWorks)
- Welfare to Work (WTW)
- Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)
- National School Lunchâ€™s FREE Lunch Program (NSL)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Head Start Income Eligible (Tribal Only)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [the California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Ponderosa Telephone Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call 559-868-6000 or toll free 800-682-1878 directly at Ponderosa Customer Care Center. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Ponderosa Telephone at <http://www.goponderosa.com>. An application can be obtained via phone.

Sebastian (formerly Foresthill Telephone Co.

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 530-367-2222 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medical
- WIC

- Healthy Families Category A
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Lifeline Program](#).

How to Apply for Sebastian (formerly Foresthill Telephone Co. Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Sebastian (formerly Foresthill Telephone) directly at 530-367-2222 or stop by your nearest certified [Sebastian \(formerly Foresthill Telephone Co.\)](#) retail store. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Sebastian (formerly Foresthill Telephone Co. at <http://www.sebastiancorp.com/> . An application can be obtained via phone, or at a certified [Sebastian \(formerly Foresthill Telephone Co.\)](#) retail store.

Sebastian (formerly Kerman Telephon Co.)

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 559-846-9311 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medical
- WIC
- Healthy Families Category A
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Lifeline Program](#).

How to Apply for Sebastian (formerly Kerman Telephon Co.) Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Sebastian (formerly Kerman Telephone directly at 559-846-9311 or stop by your nearest certified [Sebastian \(formerly Kerman Telephon Co.\)](#) retail store. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Sebastian (formerly Kerman Telephon Co.) at

<http://www.sebastiancorp.com> . An application can be obtained via phone, or from 811 S. Madera Ave, Kerman, CA, or at a certified [Sebastian \(formerly Kerman Telephon Co.\)](#) retail store.

Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 877-658-4611 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Sierra Telephone directly at 1 877-658-4611. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. at <http://www.sierratelephone.com/> . An application can be obtained via phone.

Siskiyou Telephone Company

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 866-467-6001 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Siskiyou Telephone Company Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Siskiyou Telephone directly at 866-467-6001. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Siskiyou Telephone Company at <http://www.siskiyoutelephone.com> . An application can be obtained via phone.

SureWest

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-232-4006 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [the California](#)

[Public Utilities Commission.](#)

How to Apply for SureWest Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call SureWest directly at 1-800-232-4006. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from SureWest at <http://www.surewest.com/> . An application can be obtained via phone.

TC Telephone

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 877-669-8282 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally Administered TANF
- Head Start (income qualifying / residents of Tribal Lands only)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for TC Telephone Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call TC Telephone directly at 877-669-8282. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from TC Telephone at <http://www.tctelephone.com> . An application can be obtained via phone.

TDS Telecom

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 888-225-5837 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- Healthy Families Category A
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [CA Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for TDS Telecom Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call customer advisor directly at 888-225-5837. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from TDS Telecom at <http://www.tdstelecom.com> . An application can be obtained via phone.

Verizon

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 800-483-4000 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)
- Welfare-to-Work (WTW)
- Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)
- Medi-Cal
- Additional eligibility criteria may apply to residents of [federally recognized](#)

[tribal lands](#)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Verizon Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Verizon directly at 800-483-4000. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Verizon at <http://www22.verizon.com/> . An application can be obtained via phone.

Volcano Telephone Company

Services Available: Landline **Phone Number:** 888-886-5226 **Website:** [Click to visit site](#)

Eligibility by Program

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Healthy Families Category A
- Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally Administered TANF
- Head Start (income qualifying / residents of Tribal Lands only)

Eligibility by Income

Total household income at or below an amount determined by [California Public Utilities Commission](#).

How to Apply for Volcano Telephone Company Lifeline Service

To apply for Lifeline call Volcano Telephone Company directly at 888-866-5226. You may find more information about Lifeline and other telephone services available from Volcano Telephone Company at <http://www.volcanocommunications.com>. An application can be obtained via phone.



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110 Riverside, CA 92507

■ Office: 951.955.3623

■ Fax: 951.955.3131

■ Mail: TWesley@rivcoeda.org

■ Web: www.rivcojobs.com

The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino is dedicated to providing excellent service. We would appreciate your feedback. Please complete our customer service survey online at: <http://www.hacsb.com/contact/customer-service-survey>