

2011 VERMONT *LIFELINE*

Application for Lifeline Telephone Service Credit



You may be eligible for a credit of at least \$13.00 toward payment of your monthly Vermont basic telephone charge. To apply, return this form by June 15, 2012. **You must reapply for the credit each year.**

If you will be 65 or OLDER by June 15, 2012. Complete this checklist to see if you are eligible:

Are you a Vermont resident? Yes No

Will you be at least 65 by June 15, 2012? Yes No

Was your 2011 household income for you and your spouse less than \$25,743 (from Income section below, Line p.)? Yes No

If you answer "Yes" to all questions, you are eligible.

OR

If you will be UNDER 65 on June 15, 2012. Complete this checklist to see if you are eligible:

Are you a Vermont resident? Yes No

Will you be younger than 65 on June 15, 2012? Yes No

Was your 2011 household income for you and your spouse less than \$22,065 (from Income section below, Line p.)? Yes No

If you answer "Yes" to all questions, you are eligible.

The following section must be filled out completely or your application will be returned and benefits will be delayed.

Your Name _____ Spouse or CU Partner Name _____

Name on phone bill _____ Name of your telephone company _____

Street, P.O. Box or RD _____ Telephone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Social Security Number			Birthdate			Sex
Yours	Month	Day	Year	F/M		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spouse or CU Partner	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

INCOME (Total, You and Spouse or CU Partner combined)

- a. Cash public assistance/welfare a. _____
- b. Social Security/railroad retirement/veteran's benefits, **taxable and nontaxable** b. _____
- c. Unemployment compensation/worker's compensation c. _____
- d. Wages, salaries, tips, etc. d. _____
- e. Interest and dividends. e. _____
- f. Interest on U.S., state and municipal obligations, **taxable and nontaxable** f. _____
- g. Alimony, support money/child support g. _____
- h. Business income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** h. _____
- i. Capital gains, taxable and nontaxable. **If you have a loss, enter -0-** i. _____
- j. Pensions and annuities, **taxable and nontaxable** j. _____
- k. Rental income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** k. _____
- l. Farm/partnership/Subchapter S income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** l. _____
- m. Other income. Please specify m. _____
- n. SUBTOTAL: Add Lines a through m n. _____
- o. LESS adjustments to income from Federal Form 1040, Line 36 or 1040A, Line 20 o. _____
- p. **TOTAL INCOME:** Subtract Line o from Line n and enter the result here p. _____

NR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

I declare under penalties of perjury this application is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. If prepared by a person other than the applicant, this declaration further provides that under 32 V.S.A. §5901 this information has not been and will not be used for any other purpose, or made available to any other person other than for the preparation of this application unless a separate valid consent form is signed by the applicant and retained by the preparer. I authorize the VT Department of Taxes to disclose this information and other information necessary to process the Lifeline Credit to the Secretary of Human Services.

Subscriber's signature _____	Date _____	Signature of preparer if other than taxpayer _____	Date _____
Spouse or Civil Union Partner signature (if filing jointly) _____	Date _____	Address of preparer _____	

Instructions for Lifeline Telephone Service Credit

What is the Lifeline Telephone Credit?

The Lifeline program provides a credit of at least \$13.00 on the monthly telephone bills of income-eligible Vermont residents.

Who is eligible for the Lifeline Telephone Credit?

Two groups of Vermont residents with telephone service are eligible for the credit. You are eligible if you reside in Vermont, have phone service, and

- you will be 65 or older by June 15, 2012 and your household income is less than \$25,743;

OR

- you are under 65 and your household income is less than \$22,065

You need to submit an application for Lifeline credit each year.

What income must be included?

You must include your Adjusted Gross Income (Federal Form 1040, Line 37; or 1040A, Line 21; or 1040EZ, Line 4). This is before deduction of any loss from a trade or business, partnership, small business corporation, rental property or capital loss. This is added to all other taxable and nontaxable income such as alimony, support money, cash public assistance and relief, cost of living allowance, serviceman's dependent allowances, gross amount of pensions and annuities, railroad retirement benefits, Social Security payment, veteran's benefit act payments, nontaxable interest received from Federal or state instrumentality, unemployment and worker's compensation, gross amount of "lost time" insurance and total capital gains. It does not include gifts from nongovernmental sources, food stamps, relief in kind supplied by a government agency, or payments made by the State for foster care or care of a developmentally disabled person.

When and how do you apply?

All eligible telephone subscribers should mail the completed application on or before June 15, 2012 to:

**Vermont Department of Taxes
133 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633-1401**

Electronic submissions are not accepted.

The application may be submitted with your Vermont tax forms. If you are not required to file, you may send just this application to the VT Department of Taxes.

The VT Agency of Human Services processes your application. Your telephone company will receive notice of your eligibility and apply the credit to the telephone account of the name and telephone number you write on this application. It is very important the information on the application matches the information with your telephone company. Before mailing your application, check your telephone bill for the spelling of your name and your telephone number. If it is convenient, attach a copy of your telephone bill to this application.

When will the Lifeline Credit begin?

If this is the first time you applied for the Lifeline credit, it may take up to three (3) months for the credit to appear on your telephone bill.

Do all telephone companies participate in Lifeline?

No. Only the companies listed below must offer the Lifeline discount. Other companies may offer a Lifeline discount, but are not required to do so and do not get reimbursed for their Lifeline costs. Cell phone companies currently do not offer the Lifeline credit.

Participating Telephone Companies

FairPoint Telecom
FairPoint Northern New England
Franklin Telephone
Ludlow TDS
Northfield TDS
Perkinsville TDS
Shoreham Telephone
Sovernet Communications
Topsham Telephone
Vermont Telephone
Waitsfield-Champlain Valley Telecom

How can I get answers to my questions about Lifeline?

For help completing this application:

- Seniors call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-642-5119 to reach your local area agency on aging;
- Under 65 call the AHS Economic Services Division (formerly PATH) at 1-800-479-6151.

Persons who receive Reach Up, Food Stamps, Medicaid, or Fuel Assistance benefits may be eligible to apply year-round for Lifeline through the AHS Economic Services Division. For questions about the credit call the Economic Services Division Benefits Service Center at 1-800-479-6151.

YOU MUST REAPPLY FOR LIFELINE EACH YEAR.