

2008 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, 2009. **You must reapply for the credit each year.**

If you will be 65 or OLDER by June 15, 2009. 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, 2009? Yes No

Was your 2008 household income for you and your spouse less than \$24,500 (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, 2009. 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, 2009? Yes No

Was your 2008 household income for you and your spouse less than \$21,000 (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 _____ Telephone Number _____ Company Code * _____

Spouse or CU Partner Name _____

Name on phone bill _____ Name of your telephone company _____

Street, P.O. Box or RD _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Social Security Number

Yours [][][] - [][] - [][][][][]

Spouse or CU Partner [][][] - [][] - [][][][][]

Birthdate

Yours Month [][] Day [][] Year [][][][] Sex F/M

Spouse or CU Partner Month [][] Day [][] Year [][][][] Sex F/M

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 _____

* See back for help finding your Company Code.

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, 2009 and your household income is less than \$24,500;

OR

- you are under 65 and your household income is less than \$21,000

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 non-taxable 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, 2009 to:

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

Electronic submissions are not accepted. Applications submitted after June 15, 2009 will not be considered for the credit this year. To request a waiver of this deadline by the Agency of Human Services, applicants must submit in writing the reason for failure to meet the June 15, 2009 deadline.

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, telephone number and customer code 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, your telephone number, and the customer code that follows 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 in "Company Codes" 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.

Company Codes for participating telephone companies

FairPoint Northern New England	001
FairPoint Telecom	002
Franklin Telephone	003
Ludlow TDS	004
Northfield TDS	005
Perkinsville TDS	006
Shoreham Telephone	007
Topsham Telephone	008
Unicel	009
Vermont Telephone	010
Waitsfield CV Telecom	011

How can I get answers to my questions about Lifeline?

For more information about the application or the credit

- 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 1-800-287-0589.

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. To apply, contact your Economic Services Division district office.

YOU MUST REAPPLY FOR LIFELINE EACH YEAR.