

**R746. Public Service Commission, Administration.**

**R746-341. Lifeline[] Rule.**

**R746-341-1. Applicability.**

Telecommunications corporations that []are designated as eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) by the Commission, pursuant to Section 214 of the Federal Communications Act, shall establish a Lifeline Voice Telephony service pursuant to the requirements of Sections 2 through 10.

**R746-341-2. Definitions.**

*CenturyLink proposes changes to the terms "Applicant", "Income", and "Lifeline" to align the definitions of the terms with the federal Lifeline rules. We are also proposing to add the definitions for "Household" and "The National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD)" as those terms are used in other definitions and sections of these rules and need to be defined for that purpose.*

*CenturyLink proposes throughout the draft to modify the references to "Lifeline telephone service" to reflect the federal language that refers to the service as a "voice telephony service". This term is a more broad definition that allows for the service to be "voice" but not restricted to "telephone". This change is also consistent with the federal Universal Service definition of supported services under those rules.*

- A. "Applicant" -- means []an ETC's customer who subscribes to the ETC's supported Voice Telephony services as defined in 47 CFR § 54.101(a). ].
  - a. B. "[]ETC" -- means the eligible telecommunications carrier.
- B. "Federal ETC" -- means an ETC that qualifies for, and participates in, only the federal Lifeline program.
- C. "Federal Poverty Guidelines" -- means the poverty guidelines issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services and published in the Federal Register.
- D. "Household" -- A "household" is any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit. A household may include related and unrelated persons. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household. An adult is any person eighteen years or older. If an adult has no or minimal income, and lives with someone who provides financial support to him/her, both people shall be considered part of the same household. Children under the age of eighteen living with their parents or guardians are

considered to be part of the same household as their parents or guardians.

- E. "Income" -- means income as defined in 47 CFR § 54.400.
- F. "Lifeline" -- means the retail service offering as defined in FCC 47 CFR § 54.401(a) and this rule.
- G. "The National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD)" - means the database developed by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under the direction of the FCC to detect and prevent duplicative support in the Lifeline/Link Up program as provided for in FCC 47 CFR § 54.404.
- H. "Participant" -- means an ETC's customer currently receiving the Lifeline discount or benefit.
- I. "Responsible Agency" -- means the state government agency that administers the certification, eligibility verification, and continued eligibility verification of Lifeline enrollment.
- J. "State ETC" -- means an ETC which participates in both the federal and state Lifeline programs.

*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-3. Eligibility Requirements.*

*As defined in FCC 47 CFR § 54.410(c), initial applications require verification of program participation by accessing a state database or by reviewing documentation of program participation provided by the customer. Self certification is not sufficient for granting Lifeline eligibility. CenturyLink is proposing modifications to Section A of this section to provide for documentation of eligibility requirements and to remove the reference to self-certification.*

*The programs listed in 8 through 11 of the draft proposed amendments are only applicable to Tribal applicants. Since these rules do not apply to Tribal (see proposed amendments R746-341-3 E.) CenturyLink does not think it is appropriate to include the Tribal programs in these rules and therefore they should be removed from the list.*

*CenturyLink proposes changes to Section B to align the language with the federal definition of Lifeline-supported service as a "voice telephony service" in FCC 47 CFR § 54.401(a). We are also proposing changes to the acceptable proof of income eligibility to align those requirements with the federal guidelines shown in FCC 47 CFR § 54.410(b)(1)(i)(B). In addition, we propose to add an additional criterion as "C", which requires that a qualifying low-income consumer must not already be receiving a Lifeline service. This addition is proposed so that these rules will align with the federal criteria in CFR § 54.409(c).*

**R746-341-3. Eligibility Requirements.**

A. Initial Program-Based Criteria -  To constitute a low-income consumer, an applicant must subscribe to a  Lifeline telephony service and, using an approved application form, certify via supporting documentation  (in the case of a Federal ETC), or be verified by a responsible agency (in the case of a State ETC), under the penalty of perjury, that  the applicant's household is eligible for public assistance under one of the following or its successor programs:

1.  Medicaid;
2. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP);
3. Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
4. Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8);
5. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
6. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF);
7. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program

B. Initial Income-Based Criteria -  To constitute a low-income consumer, an applicant must subscribe to a Lifeline telephony service and, using an approved application form, certify via supporting documentation  (to either the ETC for Federal ETC customers, or the responsible agency for State ETC customers), under the penalty of perjury, his household income to be at or below 135 percent of the then applicable Federal Poverty Guidelines.

1. Income-based eligibility is based on family size and actual income; therefore, the Lifeline  applicants must certify, under the penalty of perjury, the number of individuals residing in their household.

2. A Lifeline  applicant must certify, under the penalty of perjury, that the documentation presented accurately represents the applicant's annual household income. The following documents, or any combination of these documents, are acceptable for Lifeline certification;

- a. Prior year's state, federal, or tribal tax return;
- b. Current earnings statement from an employer or paycheck stub;
- c. Social Security statement of benefits;
- d. Veterans Administration statement of benefits;
- e. Retirement/pension statement of benefits;
- f. Unemployment/Worker's Compensation statement of benefits;
- g. ~~Federal or tribal notice letter of participation in Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; or~~

h. Divorce decree or child support wage assignment statement or other official document containing income information.

i. If the prospective subscriber presents documentation of income that does not cover a full year, such as current pay stubs, the prospective subscriber must present the same type of documentation covering three consecutive months within the previous twelve months.

C. In order to constitute as a qualifying low-income consumer, a consumer must not already be receiving a Lifeline service, and there must not be anyone else in the subscriber's household subscribed to a Lifeline service.

D. Eligibility Certifications -- The application form for participation will be supplied by the ETC or the responsible agency and []shall be consistent with both the federal requirements then in effect, as contained in 47 CFR § 54.410, and the following state requirements:

1. []Complete information for both the applicant []and []the qualifying household member, if the qualifying household member is different than the applicant[], including:

- a. full Social Security Number(s);
- [] b. mailing and physical addresses;
- c. relationship between applicant and qualifying household member; and

d. a statement, under the penalty of perjury, that the person is participating in one of the programs listed in Subsection R746-341-3 or other federal eligibility criteria; or a statement, under the penalty of perjury, that the person's household income is at or below 135 percent of the current Federal Poverty Guidelines.

[]e. If qualified by income-based criteria, a statement, under penalty of perjury, that identifies the number of individuals residing in the household and affirms that the documentation presented to support eligibility accurately represents the applicant's household income.

f. signature of applicant, either physical or electronic.

E. False Certification Penalties -- A Lifeline participant who does not qualify and has falsely self-certified and participated in the Lifeline program is responsible to pay the difference between the Lifeline service rate and the otherwise applicable service rate for the length of time the participant subscribed to Lifeline for which the participant was not eligible.

F. Tribal Land Lifeline Discounts --. This rule does not govern or otherwise affect the Tribal Land Lifeline Discount program.

[ ]

*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-4. Duties of the Responsible Agency.*

*Under A.1. in R746-341-4, no time frame is suggested for providing the results of the application process. CenturyLink proposes that the responsible agency should send that information at least monthly but does not believe it has to be more frequent than weekly.*

*It is CenturyLink's understanding that the FCC has told another state commission staff, Nevada, that the NLAD will allow a state administrator access to the NLAD to make queries. Given that understanding, CenturyLink is proposing to add A.3., which provides that additional step in the verification of eligibility process. The responsible agency should include the NLAD query in the verification of eligibility for new applicants before it notifies the ETC of the applicant's eligibility. If the applicant is ineligible according to the NLAD query, the responsible agency should correspond with the applicant to let them know that the applicant or someone in their household is apparently already receiving benefits. In the case of duplicate addresses, the responsible agency will contact the applicant to complete the One-per-Household worksheet in order to determine if a duplicate truly exists.*

*CenturyLink is unsure why the proposed draft includes a provision that the responsible agency will query the state's databases monthly to assess on-going eligibility and also perform an annual verification process. If the agency performs a monthly verification, the annual process seems duplicative of that process. Although CenturyLink has proposed revisions to both the proposed monthly and annual verification processes, ultimately we believe that one or the other should be the process, not both. CenturyLink's preference would be that the state agency should perform an annual certification process as provided for in federal rules, with the knowledge that anytime the agency becomes aware that a Lifeline recipient may no longer be eligible for those benefits, the de-enrollment process in C. can be initiated.*

*In C.1.c. ineligible applicants that have been through the de-enrollment process may reapply for the Lifeline program, "but must do so by submitting a completed application to the responsible agency. An ineligible customer may not reapply through any ETC's initial verification processes." Since the applicant has to provide proof of eligibility in the initial application process, they should not be precluded from reapplying through the normal process. This appears to be targeting federal ETC's. How would a federal ETC know if an applicant had previously been through this de-enrollment process? CenturyLink is proposing that the rules provide for re-application for Lifeline through*

*the initial application process, as defined in A. of this Section and in B. of R746-341-5.*

*CenturyLink proposes additional language to the Annual Verification process in D. to include references to the federal requirements. Those requirements currently provide for Lifeline carriers to utilize the subscriber lists from the carrier's current year Form 497 filed in February to establish the snapshot for the current year's recertification. The Utah proposed language that ETC's should provide a December 31 Lifeline subscriber list by January 15 is in conflict with this federal requirement. So, CenturyLink has proposed revisions and additional language to bring these processes in line with the federal requirements.*

*ETC's must also report the results of the annual recertification efforts by January 31 of the year following those efforts in the form of the Form 555, which is filed with USAC, the FCC and state commissions. When the recertification is performed by a state Lifeline administrator or agency, that agency must provide the results of the recertification study to the ETC in the format required by the Form 555 so the ETC can report those results. CenturyLink has added D.3. to address that reporting requirement.*

*Section E proposed language addresses the process for transferring Lifeline benefits from one carrier to another but does not consider NLAD updates that must be made by both carriers; nor does it anticipate the federal Benefits Transfer Process. CenturyLink suggests additional language to address the required NLAD updates. However, CenturyLink must point out that it is skeptical of this suggested process. First, this proposed section assumes that a Lifeline recipient understands the Lifeline program and will approach the new carrier with a request to transfer the benefit from their current Lifeline provider. Rather, it is more likely that it will be when the Responsible Agency queries the NLAD or an ETC tries to enroll a new applicant in the NLAD that the Responsible Agency or ETC will know that an applicant is already a Lifeline recipient. At that point, the federal Benefit Transfer Process can be exercised. CenturyLink suggests that these rules should at a minimum include that process in addition to the proposed process that assumes customer knowledge of the transfer need. By adopting the federal Benefit Transfer Process, state and federal rules and processes would then also be aligned.*

**R746-341-4. Duties of the Responsible Agency.**

**A. Initial Eligibility**

1. The responsible agency shall process all applications submitted for participation in the state Lifeline voice telephony service program. The responsible agency shall inform the Applicant and the ETC of the results of the application process.

2. The responsible agency shall verify the initial eligibility status of all new federal-only Lifeline recipients on a monthly basis and shall inform the ETC of its determinations.

3. Consistent with 47 CFR § 54.404(b)(4), prior to informing the ETC of the results of the application process, the responsible agency will access the NLAD to confirm that neither the applicant nor the applicant's address/household is already receiving Lifeline service.

a. If the applicant's name is listed in the NLAD, then the responsible agency will send the applicant a rejection notice that explains that the applicant is already receiving Lifeline benefits from another carrier.

b. If Lifeline service is already being provided at the applicant's address, then the responsible agency will send the applicant a letter of explanation and the One-per-Household form for completion and return.

i. If the applicant completes and returns the One-per-Household form and it shows that there is a separate household at the address, the applicant is eligible. The responsible agency should inform the ETC that the applicant completed the One-per-Household form.

ii. If the applicant completes and returns the One-per-Household form and it shows that there is not a separate household at the address, the applicant is ineligible and the application should be rejected.

c. If the applicant is not listed in the NLAD, then the responsible agency will approve the application.

#### B. Continuing Monthly Eligibility

1. The responsible agency shall verify on a monthly basis the continuing eligibility status of both state and federal ETC Lifeline participants who qualify based on program eligibility.

#### C. De-Enrollment Process

1. The responsible agency shall manage the de-enrollment process for both state and federal ETC Lifeline participants it has reason to believe are no longer eligible for the program.

a. The responsible agency shall send a notice to each participant it has reason to believe may no longer be eligible for the program, explaining the participant's Lifeline benefit will be discontinued within thirty (30) days unless the participant can verify his continuing eligibility before that date.

b. At the end of thirty (30) days, if the participant has not demonstrated continuing eligibility, the responsible agency shall notify the relevant ETC to discontinue the ineligible

participant's Lifeline benefit. The benefit must be discontinued in the month following notification, i.e., the next month's benefit cannot be provided.

c. Ineligible applicants may reapply for the Lifeline program but must do so by submitting a completed initial application form along with documentation of eligibility, as required, to the responsible agency or federal ETC.

D. Annual Eligibility Verification

1. The responsible agency shall verify on an annual basis the continuing eligibility status of both state and federal ETC Lifeline participants. The annual eligibility verification shall be performed on the participant list as defined by the FCC in its May 22, 2013 Public Notice in Docket No. 11-42 and any subsequent FCC guidance.

2. The annual eligibility verification process shall be performed by the responsibility agency using the same process as outlined in the de-enrollment process in R746-341-4.C. and in accordance with 47 CFR § 54.410(f)(3).

3. The responsible agency shall provide results of the annual recertification efforts to the ETCs pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.410(f)(4) and will provide all necessary FCC Form 555 information to ETCs by December 31 of the year in which the annual verification was performed.

E. Participants Switching Between ETCs -- When a current Lifeline participant desires to change to a different ETC's Lifeline telephony service, the participant must issue that request to the responsible agency. The responsible agency shall verify the participant's intent, and then send notices to the affected ETCs.

a. The first notice must go to the ETC from whom the participant is currently receiving benefits, instructing the ETC to de-enroll the participant from Lifeline and enter the de-enrollment in the NLAD.

b. Once the ETC in a. has de-enrolled the participant from the Lifeline program, the responsible agency will notify the ETC to whom the participant is transferring Lifeline benefits. That ETC may then enroll the participant in the NLAD and add the Lifeline benefits to the participant's account.

F. Documentation Retention -- The Responsible Agency shall retain income and program eligibility certification, in electronic format, as required by 47 CFR § 54.417 for the state ETC customers' applications it processes. Copies of the relevant eligibility records shall be made available on request to auditors from either the federal Lifeline program administrator or the state Lifeline program administrator.



*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-5. Duties of ETCs*

*Section A.b. anticipates that ETCs would provide updates to the responsible agency for changes in the size of a subscriber's household. That information is not normally made available to ETCs by customers. Generally, only during the Lifeline initial application and annual re-certification would that information be provided by a Lifeline subscriber. Those functions will be performed by the responsible agency, not the ETC.*

*A.2. provides "The records sent shall contain the full information for each Participant as required by this rule." Where are those requirements outlined in the rules?*

*A.5. CenturyLink is proposing removal of the benefits within five (5) business days so that these rules will correspond with the federal rules in 47 CFR § 54.405(e)*

*As discussed above in R746-341-4 E. , section A.7. and B.8. assume that a Lifeline recipient understands the Lifeline program and will approach the new carrier with a request to transfer the benefit from their current Lifeline provider. Rather, it is more likely that it will be when the Responsible Agency queries the NLAD or an ETC tries to enroll a new applicant in the NLAD that the Responsible Agency or ETC will know that an applicant is already a Lifeline recipient. At that point, the federal Benefit Transfer Process can be exercised. CenturyLink suggests that these rules should at a minimum include that process in addition to the proposed process that assumes customer knowledge of the transfer need. By adopting the federal Benefit Transfer Process, state and federal rules and processes would then also be aligned.*

*As CenturyLink proposed above in R746-341-4 D., it suggests additional language to the Annual Verification process outlined in A.8. and B.9. of this section to include references to the federal requirements. Those requirements currently provide for Lifeline carriers to utilize their subscriber lists from the current year's Form 497 filed in February to establish the snapshot for the current year's recertifications. The Utah proposed language that ETC's should provide a December 31 Lifeline subscriber list by January 15 is in conflict with this federal requirement. So, CenturyLink has proposed revisions and additional language to bring these processes in line with the federal requirements.*

**R746-341-5. Duties of ETCs**

**A. State ETCs**

**1. Each state ETC shall, at least monthly, send to the responsible agency all changes in the status of the Lifeline**

participants to whom they provide Lifeline voice telephony service, including, but not limited to:

- a. participants changing names, residence locations (addresses), or telephone numbers;
- ~~b. changes in the size of households;~~
- c. participants switching carriers; or
- d. customers who no longer receive service.

2. The records sent shall contain the full information for each Participant **as required by this rule.**

3. Each state ETC shall provide information to potential applicants regarding how to receive an application from the responsible agency. This information shall be provided **on the phone**, in-person, in written format at the ETC's offices, and on-line at the ETC's website.

4. Each state ETC shall add the Lifeline discount to a customer's account, as directed by the responsible agency, within five business days.

5. Each state ETC shall remove the Lifeline discount from a participant's account as directed by the responsible agency within five business following notification of the participant's ineligible status.

6. Each state ETC shall contemporaneously update the NLAD with all changes in the ETC's participants' Lifeline status as directed by the responsible agency in accordance with the requirements for NLAD updates found in 47 CFR § 54.404.

**7. If a qualified Lifeline participant seeks to switch service from a given ETC to a different ETC, the responsible agency must be notified by the ETC to which the participant seeks to switch its Lifeline benefit. The responsible agency shall verify the participant's desire to switch and shall send notices to both of the ETCs involved in the switch. The new benefit may not be applied until the following month. Both ETCs shall update the NLAD to reflect the change in the participant's status.**

8. Annually the State ETCs shall send the responsible agency the participant list as defined by the FCC in its May 22, 2013 Public Notice in Docket No. 11-42 and any subsequent FCC guidance. The list shall contain the full identifying information on each individual as specified in R746-341-3.

**9. If a state ETC has a reasonable basis to believe a Lifeline participant no longer qualifies for Lifeline service in accordance with this rule, the ETC shall inform the responsible agency and provide the documentation, or reason, for its belief within two business days.**

B. Federal ETCs

1. Each federal ETC shall process only initial applications for new Lifeline service from customers who have not been determined ineligible by the responsible agency. Each Federal ETC shall conduct

its initial eligibility verification in accordance with both the federal guidelines and the state requirements. The applications and supporting documentation shall be retained by the federal ETC in accordance with federal requirements.

2. Each federal ETC shall check the NLAD to determine if the Applicant, or any member of the applicant's household, is already receiving a Lifeline benefit. Only Applicant households that are cleared through the NLAD may be considered for Lifeline benefits .

3. Each federal ETC shall extend the Lifeline discount or benefit to eligible Applicants in accordance with the federal requirements and the provisions of R746-341.

4. Each federal ETC shall contemporaneously update the NLAD to reflect the ETC's initial eligibility verification decision and the Participant's Lifeline status.

5. Each federal ETC shall, at least monthly, send the responsible agency all changes in the status of the Lifeline Participants to whom they provide Lifeline service, including:

- a. newly approved participants;
- b. participants changing residence locations (addresses);
- c. changes in the size of households;
- d. participants switching carriers; or
- e. customers who no longer receive service.

6. The records sent shall contain the full information for each Participant as required by R746-341-3. Each federal ETC shall add, or remove, the Lifeline discount or benefit to, or from, a customer's account as directed by the responsible agency.

7. Each federal ETC shall contemporaneously update the NLAD with all changes in the ETC's participants' Lifeline status as directed by the responsible agency.

8. If a qualified Lifeline participant seeks to switch service from a given ETC to a different ETC the responsible agency must be notified by the ETC to which the participant seeks to switch its lifeline benefit. The responsible agency will verify the participant's desire to switch and shall send notices to both of the ETCs involved in the switch. The new benefit may not be applied until the following month. Both ETCs will update the NLAD to reflect the change in the participant's status.

9. Annually the Federal ETCs shall send the responsible agency the participant list as defined by the FCC in its May 22, 2013 Public Notice in Docket No. 11-42 and any subsequent FCC guidance. The list shall contain the full identifying information on each individual as specified in R746-341-3.

10. If a federal ETC has a reasonable basis to believe that a Lifeline participant no longer qualifies for Lifeline service in accordance with this rule, the ETC shall inform the responsible agency and provide the documentation, or reason, for its belief within two business days.

*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-6. State Lifeline Features.*

*CenturyLink proposes modifications to the proposed rules in A., B. and E. so that the rule language will align with comparable federal language in 47 CFR § 54. Specifically, in regards to the proposed restrictions in E., federal rules do not restrict Lifeline to the applicant's principal residence. In fact, federal benefits are available for wireless service, which is not tied to a subscriber's residence. CenturyLink proposes the changes below, which follow federal guidelines that Lifeline benefits are for voice telephony services. The restriction that CenturyLink proposes should be included in this section is that Lifeline benefits are only available on one voice telephone service per household, as stated in 47 CFR § 54.409 (c).*

*The federal Lifeline Reform Order eliminated the Link Up program, which previously provided for reimbursement for waiver of certain service charges, except in Tribal areas. Section D of these proposed state rules allows for waivers of certain service charges. CenturyLink proposes the elimination of this section to bring the state rules in line with federal rules that no longer provide for support for service charges.*

**R746-341-6. State Lifeline Features.**

A. Application of Discounts -- ETCs may allow qualifying low-income consumers to apply state and federal Lifeline discounts to any residential service plan that includes voice telephony service in accordance with with FCC 47 CFR § 54.401(a).The state Lifeline benefit amount is \$3.50.The available federal support amount is the amount established in 47 CFR § 54.403.

B. Deposits -- When customer security deposits are otherwise required, they will be waived for Lifeline []participants if the customer subscribes to a service that does not charge subscribers additional fees for toll calls, or that charge additional fees for toll calls, but the subscriber voluntarily elects toll limitation service.

C.[] Nonrecurring Charge Waiver -- Lifeline []participants []shall receive a waiver of the nonrecurring service charge for changing the type of local exchange usage service to Lifeline service, or changing from flat rate service to message rate service, or vice versa, but only one such waiver shall be allowed during any 12-month period.

[]D. Disconnection -- Lifeline voice telephony service shall not be disconnected for nonpayment of toll service.

[]E. Restrictions -- Lifeline voice telephony service will be subject to the following restrictions:

1. 2. A Lifeline participant must not be receiving Lifeline from more than one ETC or on more than one voice telephony service, and there must not be anyone else in the subscriber's household subscribed to a Lifeline service.

G. Other Services -- A Lifeline []participant will not be required to purchase other services from the ETC, nor prohibited from purchasing other services unless the []participant has failed to comply with the ETC's terms and conditions for those services.

**R746-341-7. Federal Lifeline Features.**

A. Federal Lifeline consists of those features and conditions set forth in applicable federal ETC docket granting ETC status, as modified by subsequent orders and R746-341.

*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-8. ETC Reporting Requirements.*

*The relevancy of R746-341-8.A.2. and R746-341-8.A.3. should be discussed during a technical conference. The PSC needs to determine the costs it will allow to be recovered by ETCs from the state USF. For example, the advertising expenses of ETC's to promote Lifeline should not normally be recoverable unless the PSC mandated advertising and other promotional activities.*

**R746-341-8. ETC Reporting Requirements.**

A. Reporting Requirements -- ETCs shall submit, to the Division of Public Utilities, a semi-annual report, []for the periods through June 30 and December 31, of each year, containing a description of the ETC's Lifeline program. The reports shall also contain monthly information on:

1. the forgone revenue resulting from the discounts provided to Lifeline []participants, if any;
2. the amounts of administrative, advertising, []and other program expenses;
3. interest accrual amounts on Lifeline []funds, if any; and
4. the number of Lifeline []participants by exchange area per month; and
5. a detailed report of outreach efforts.

*CenturyLink comments in regards to R746-341-9. Funding of Lifeline.*

*See response above. The PSC needs to determine the costs it will allow to be recovered by ETCs.*

**R746-341-[ ]9. Funding of Lifeline.**

A. Cost Recovery -- The total cost of providing the state portion of Lifeline , including the administrative costs of the state ETCs and the costs incurred by the responsible agency, shall be recovered and funded as provided in 54-8b-15.

**R746-341-[ ]10. Collection and disbursement of Lifeline Funds.**

A. State ETC Payment -- Within 30 days after review and audit of [ ]a state ETC's semi-annual report, the Public Service Commission shall disburse an amount equal to the ETC's semi-annual Lifeline program expenses and Lifeline discounts granted.

**KEY: telephone, telecommunications, rules and procedures, lifeline rates**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: October 20, 2005**

**Notice of Continuation: October 18, 2010**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 54-4-1; 54-4-4**