

What are the Restrictions?

1. All outstanding phone bills with AT&T or Sprint must be paid before enrolling in their Lifeline Plan.
2. Customers can only receive Lifeline support on one phone line at a time. This means that a household cannot have a landline discounted through Washington Telephone Assistance Program and receive Lifeline/Link Up service.
3. Eligible customers may receive Link Up benefits only once at the same address.
4. Benefits can only be used towards new services, not on services paid prior to program enrollment.
5. The plans do not include extra features like text messaging, ring tones, internet, or international calls. *Adding any extra features to the AT&T plan will automatically remove you from the Lifeline program and put you on a regular (more expensive) monthly plan.* While you may add extra features to the Sprint Lifeline Plan, they will be billed at full price.
6. If you terminate service before the end of your contract (1 year for AT&T or 2 years for Sprint) you may be charged a disconnection fee (\$175 for AT&T and \$200 for Sprint)
7. The cost of a phone is not included with the plan, however AT&T and Sprint both offer a free phone option and other modestly priced phones.



What about other options?

Washington State Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP)

Program (WTAP): A reduced cost land-line phone program. Costs \$8 a month plus tax (about \$10 per month). WTAP will also waive your local deposit and take 50% off your connection fee. You are also eligible if you are an adult receiving any of the following DSHS services: Food stamps, TANF, SSI, Medicaid, GA-U, GA-X, refugee assistance, specific medical programs, chore services, COPES, and former clients of Community Voice Mail. Community voice mail clients who are not receiving DSHS services must sign an eligibility form available at the agency where they received their voice mail number to apply. To sign up contact your local phone company and tell them you want to sign up for the WTAP program. You will be asked for your DSHS client ID number, so have it ready. For more information call 1-888-700-8880.

Community Voice Mail (CVM)

Free personal voice mail number where people can call and leave a message that you can then check from any telephone line, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A voice mail number does not allow you to make outgoing calls. No eligibility restrictions. Free CVM numbers are available at about 100 social service agencies in King County. For a list of participating agencies or to sign up for a voicemail number call (206) 694-6771.

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Lifeline & Link-Up Subsidized Cell Phone Programs

What is Lifeline/Link-Up?

Lifeline: The Lifeline program offers discounts on monthly phone bills. After discounts and taxes are applied, most customers pay about \$20.00 per month for a Lifeline plan.

Link-Up: The Link-Up program pays 50% of your one-time activation fee (cost for setting up new phone service).

Both AT&T and Sprint offer Lifeline and Link-Up service for eligible customers in King County.

AT&T vs. Sprint Lifeline plans

	AT&T	Sprint
Monthly cost after subsidy	\$16.74 + tax* (about \$20.34 after taxes)	\$16.49 + tax* (about \$20.04 after taxes)
Anytime Minutes	300 anytime minutes	200 anytime minutes
Night/Weekend Minutes	1000 minutes before 6:00 am and after 9:00 pm Mon.-Fri., and all day Sat. and Sun.	Unlimited minutes before 7:00 am and after 9:00 pm Mon.-Fri., all day Sat and Sun.
Activation Fee	Free activation	\$18 (50% off \$36 activation fee)
Additional Minutes (overage fees)	\$0.15 per minute	\$0.45 per minute
Phone	Free phone available	Free phone available
Roaming (travelling out of network)	\$0.25 per minute	\$0.45 per minute
Contract Required	1 year	2 years

*Washington State cell phone taxes average around 21.5%

Do I qualify for the Lifeline/Link-Up Program?

You may qualify for the program if you meet either of the following criteria:

1. Your household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). The guidelines are as follows*:

number of people in household	gross monthly income
1	\$ 1,218
2	\$ 1,639
3	\$ 2,060
4	\$ 2,481
5	\$ 2,901
6	\$ 3,322
7	\$ 3,743
8	\$ 4,164
Each additional person	+ 421

Guidelines valid through 9/2010

**Customers seeking to qualify for program benefits under the income-based standards are required to provide written documentation of their household income.*

2. You participate in any of these programs:

- Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

How Do I Apply?

To Apply for Lifeline and Link-Up service, you must turn in an application to the phone company you wish to use. You can acquire an application by calling the phone company or through their website.

To apply for AT&T's Lifeline and Link Up Program:

call 1-800-377-9450

Or visit <http://www.wireless.att.com/about/community-support/lifeline-link-up.jsp>

Mail Applications to:

AT&T Lifeline-Link Up

1215 W. Cherry St.

Vermillion, SD 57069

To apply for Sprint's Lifeline and Link Up Program:

Call 1-888-408-3306

Or visit http://www.nextel.com/en/services/calling/universal_lifeline_program.shtml

Mail applications to:

Sprint-Nextel Lifeline/Link Up Assistance Program

ACS

2432 Fortune Drive

Lexington, KY 40509

