



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON UNITED STATES TELECOM ASSOCIATION'S PETITION FOR WAIVER

WC Docket No. 11-42

Comment Date: October 21, 2016

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment from states and territories, along with other interested parties, on a petition for a limited waiver filed by the United States Telecom Association (USTelecom) for Commission rules adopted in the *2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*.¹ In its petition, USTelecom seeks a waiver, in 27 states and territories, of the amended Lifeline eligibility rules in sections 54.400(j) and 54.409(a) of the Commission's rules, which were adopted in the *2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*.² USTelecom requests that the waiver expire at the earlier of: (1) 18 months from its grant or (2) 60 days after the State notifies the Commission and all eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) in the State that it has aligned its eligibility criteria with the federal criteria.

States and territories, along with other interested parties, may file comments on or before the date indicated above. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), or by filing paper copies.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
 - All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

¹ See Petition of USTelecom for Waiver of Lifeline Eligibility Rules, WC Docket No. 11-42 et al (filed Oct. 3, 2016).

² See *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962, 4021-4040, paras. 167-216 (2016).

- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

The proceeding this petition initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.³ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

For further information, please contact Nathan Eagan, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-0991 or via email at Nathan.Eagan@fcc.gov.

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³ 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*