

This guide identifies the documents you can submit to show that you qualify for Lifeline. Make sure all of your documents are current. We **CANNOT** accept expired documentation. Please remember to send copies or pictures of your original, valid document. **NEVER** send the original document. If you applied to Lifeline because your child or dependent is a Benefit Qualifying Person (BQP) or participates in a Lifeline qualifying program, make sure all of the documents, such as a Medicaid card, have their name where appropriate.

Proof of Identity, Date of Birth, or Social Security

You can use any of the following, either alone or in combination with another.

- Driver's license
- Most recent W-2*
- Social Security card
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship
- Permanent resident alien card
- Passport
- Weapons permit
- Benefits statement from a qualifying program*
- Birth certificate
- Most recent state, federal, or Tribal tax return*
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Permanent resident card
- Federal, military, state, or Tribal issued ID
- Military discharge documentation*
- A federal or state assistance program document *
- Unemployment/Worker's compensation statement *

***Must have your date of birth (DOB) or the last four digits of your social security number (SSN)**

Proof of Eligibility

Qualifying programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension

If you live on Tribal lands, you may also qualify through:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Tribal head Start
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

To prove participation in **one** of the above programs, you must submit a document that includes:

- Your name, or the name of your benefit qualifying person (BQP);
- The name of the Lifeline-qualifying program, such as SNAP;
- The government or Tribal program administrator or the managed care organization (MCO) that issued the document; and
- An issue date within the last 12 months or a future expiration date that aligns with the benefit period.

Proof of Income

To qualify via income, you must prove your income is 135% or less than the federal poverty guidelines (see to the right). You can submit any of the following types of documents. If you do not have documents that cover a full year, such as current pay stubs, send copies the same type of document from 3 consecutive months from the past 12 months.

- The prior year's state, federal, or Tribal tax return,
- Current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub,
- A Social Security statement of benefits,
- A Veterans Administration statement of benefits,

Household Size	135% of Federal Poverty Guidelines in your state*		
	48 States, DC, & Territories	Alaska	Hawaii
1 person	\$17,388, or less	\$21,722, or less	\$20,007 or less
2 people	\$23,517, or less	\$29,390, or less	\$27,054 or less
3 people	\$29,646, or less	\$37,058, or less	\$34,101 or less
4 people	\$35,775, or less	\$44,726, or less	\$41,148 or less
5 people	\$41,904, or less	\$52,394 or less	\$48,195 or less
6 people	\$48,033, or less	\$60,062 or less	\$55,242 or less
7 people	\$54,162, or less	\$67,730 or less	\$62,289 or less
8 people	\$60,291, or less	\$75,398 or less	\$69,336 or less
For each additional person, add	\$6,129, or less	\$7,668, or less	\$7,047, or less

*Guidelines are adjusted annually. Above chart reflects guidelines for 2021.

- A retirement/pension statement of benefits,
- An Unemployment/Workers' Compensation statement of benefit,
- Federal or Tribal notice letter of participation in General Assistance, **or**
- Divorcedecree, child support award, or other official document containing income information.

Proof of Address

You may submit **any** of the following:

- Provide a printed map (such as an image from Google maps) that contains a pin and latitude and longitude coordinates identifying the location of your primary residence.
- Provide any available map that makes your location identifiable to USAC, and circle the location of your primary residence. If coordinates are known, write them on the map. Otherwise, USAC will determine coordinates based on the map.
- Provide a hand-drawn document that identifies your primary residence by identifying the nearest crossroads (or mile markers), identifiable landmarks, and distance between the locations. If coordinates are known, write them on the map. Otherwise, USAC will determine coordinates based on the map.

You also may submit **any** of the following (**do not use one of these options if you are seeking the enhanced Tribal benefit**):

- Unexpired driver's license or federal, state, or Tribal identification card,
- Utility bill (but not a phone bill from your Lifeline company),
- Current income statement from an employer, paycheck stub, or W-2,
- Most recent state, federal, or Tribal tax return,
- Current mortgage or lease statement,
- An official letter from a federal, state, or tribal government/agency, **or**
- Confirmation from local USPS that address is a deliverable address.

Proof of Life

Follow the steps to determine what documents to submit:

STEP 1: Submit ONE document from Category A, List 1 **and** ONE document from Category A, List 2 -**OR-**

Submit ONE document from Category B

STEP 2: Submit ONE document from Category C

***NOTE:** Phone and internet bills **CANNOT** be used as utility bills. You can use water, electricity, and waste removal bills.

CATEGORY A		CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C
SUBMIT ONE FROM LIST 1 & ONE FROM LIST 2			
LIST 1	LIST 2		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver's license • Birth certificate • Certificate of Naturalization • Proof of Citizenship • Permanent Resident Alien card • Passport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W-2 • Prior year's state, federal, or tribal tax return • Social Security card • SSA-1099 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal, military, state, or tribal ID with DOB and/or SSN4/tribal ID • Military discharge documentation with DOB and/or SSN4/tribal ID • Weapons permit with DOB and/or SSN/tribal ID • Qualifying program document with DOB and/or SSN4/tribal ID • Unemployment/Worker's compensation statement of benefits with DOB and/or SSN/tribal ID • A federal or state assistance program document that contains your DOB and/or SSN4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current qualifying program documentation • Current utility bill* • Current income statement • Current mortgage or lease statement • Current retirement/pension statement of benefits • Current unemployment/workers' compensation statement of benefits • A notarized letter affirming the subscribers identity and alive status