

Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB)

EBB is a temporary federal program to help consumers impacted by the pandemic to afford broadband Internet service. Eligible households can receive up to a \$50 per month discount on broadband service. There is also a \$100 one-time discount on purchase of a computer or tablet, with a \$10 to \$50 co-pay. (KWISP does not sell hardware, so we do not offer discounted devices under EBB.)

EBB was funded by Congress in December 2020 with \$3.2 billion and it is administered by the FCC. The program will continue until the money runs out or 6 months after the HHS Department declares an end to the pandemic emergency, whichever comes first. Internet providers will be required to notify participants when the program is about to end, and what the cost will be without the EBB discount. At that point providers will need to obtain opt-in approval from consumers to continue service.

EBB uses many of the same systems as the Lifeline phone program to verify eligibility, enroll subscribers, and reimburse providers. The federal government requires extensive documentation and records retention to prevent fraud, waste and abuse, so you should anticipate a certain amount of paperwork.

There is a limit of one EBB discount per household (not per person). A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses, even if they are not related. You can receive an EBB discount in addition to having a Lifeline phone, and they do not have to be from the same provider. There are several ways to qualify for EBB (some require more documentation than others):

- Household member participates in assistance program such as Lifeline, SNAP, Medicaid, or SSI
- Participate in the free/reduced price school lunch program
- Demonstrates low household income at or below 135% of the Federal poverty level
- Received a Pell grant during the current award year
- Document significant income loss after Feb. 29, 2020 due to job loss or furlough (household income in 2020 must have been less than \$99,000 for single filers or \$198,000 for joint filers)

The following table shows 135% of the federal poverty level:

# of people in household including yourself	135% of 2020 federal poverty level
1	\$17,388
2	\$23,517
3	\$29,646
4	\$35,775
5	\$41,904
6	\$48,033
7	\$54,162
8	\$60,291

If you already participate in Lifeline, your eligibility is already verified and you can fill out this application to have KWISP enroll you in EBB. Otherwise you should first verify your eligibility either online at <https://getemergencybroadband.org> or by filling out and mailing the paper form at https://getemergencybroadband.org/res/documents/EBB_Application_Form_FINAL.pdf

After your eligibility is verified, we can enroll you in EBB. Sorry, we cannot process the verification for you. In some cases this will require sensitive personal information and documentation such as tax returns and income verification for you and other household members, and we are not comfortable handling this kind of information. We can however query the NLAD database to check that your eligibility has been verified. This will require the same information as for enrollment: name, address, date of birth, and last 4 digits of Social Security number.

Once you are enrolled in EBB, you are not locked into one provider, you can transfer your benefit to another participating provider. USAC maintains a list of participating providers at <https://getemergencybroadband.org/companies-near-me/>

Once you are enrolled, you must notify your provider in a timely manner if you are no longer eligible for EBB or if you transfer your benefit to a different provider.

Providers participating in EBB are not allowed to deny the benefit to a current customer with a past due balance, but if the customer selects a speed that costs more than the \$50 per month maximum benefit, they are responsible for paying the additional amount. Be aware that if you do not make up the difference, KWISP will downgrade you to a plan that costs \$50 or less.

New customers will have to pay the standard installation fee, EBB does not cover installation.

Please complete all the fields on the next page exactly as you did at the National Verifier website or on the paper form. If the information doesn't match exactly, we will receive a "No Application Found" error.

If you only want us to verify that the NLAD database says that your eligibility has been verified, that's all we need. If you want to enroll in EBB with KWISP as your provider, please initial each disclosure item and then sign and date the form. Providers are required to obtain and retain documentation that a customer asked to be enrolled. The Lifeline program has experienced its share of waste, fraud and abuse, so EBB will be subject to some scrutiny.

revised form to reflect simplified USAC enrollment process using Application ID

First Name	Last Name
Street Address	
City	Zip Code
Date of Birth	National Verifier Application ID
Email Address	

Initial each of the following:

_____ I have been informed that EBB is limited to one benefit per household (where household is defined as a group of people who live together and share income and expenses, regardless of whether they are related)

_____ I have been informed that EBB is temporary and will end when the money runs out or 6 months after the HHS Department declares an end to the pandemic emergency, whichever comes first. KWISP will notify you when the program is about to end and what the cost will be without the EBB discount. At that point you will need to provide approval to continue service.

_____ I have been informed that I can transfer my benefit to a different provider, and that I can choose different providers for Lifeline and EBB.

_____ I agree to inform KWISP if my eligibility changes or I transfer my benefit to another provider.

_____ I understand that KWISP does not sell discounted devices under the EBB program.

_____ I understand that EBB does not cover installation.

_____ I understand that I am responsible for charges that exceed the maximum EBB benefit of \$50 per month, and if I do not pay the difference, KWISP may downgrade my service to a \$50 plan.

I wish to enroll in the EBB program and apply my benefit to broadband service from KWISP.

Signed

Date