

Federal officials announce broadband internet discount for Pell Grant recipients!

Approximately 6.5 million Pell Grant recipients may be eligible for a new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program offering discounts on broadband internet service and connected devices. Education officials on May 12 [announced](#) that they are reaching out to individuals and households about the [Emergency Broadband Benefit Program](#) to help households struggling to pay for internet service during the pandemic. This new benefit will connect eligible households to jobs, critical healthcare services, and virtual classrooms.

MONTHLY DISCOUNT ON INTERNET SERVICE, DEVICES

Under the temporary EBB Program, low-income college students who received a Pell Grant during the 2020-21 school year can receive a discount of up to \$50 per month—\$75 per month for those on qualifying Tribal lands—for broadband service and equipment. The program also provides a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a “connected device,” such as a tablet or laptop computer, purchased from a participating vendor. To receive the connected device discount, households must contribute a co-pay of \$10 to \$50.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

A household is eligible if one member of the household:

- Qualifies for the [Lifeline](#) program;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, or did so in the 2019-2020 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020, and the household had a total income in 2020 below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating providers' existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

How to Apply

Eligible households must **both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.**

There are three ways for eligible households to apply:

1. **Contact a [participating broadband provider](#)** directly to learn about their application process. If you are unable to apply through them directly, you will have to apply using option 2 or 3 below, and then contact a participating provider to select an eligible plan.

1. **Go to [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.getemergencybroadband.org)** to apply online and to find participating providers near you. After you apply, you will have to contact a participating provider to select an eligible plan.
1. **Call 833-511-0311 for a mail-in application or [print a copy](#)**, and return it along with copies of documents showing proof of eligibility to:

Emergency Broadband Support Center
P.O. Box 7081
London, KY 40742

After you received a notice that you have qualified for the program, households must contact a participating provider to select an Emergency Broadband Benefit eligible service plan.

Get More Consumer Information

Check out the [Broadband Benefit Consumer FAQ for more information about the benefit](#).

Which Broadband Providers Are Participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit?

Various broadband providers, including those offering landline and wireless broadband, are participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit. [Find broadband service providers](#) offering the Emergency Broadband Benefit in your state or territory.

Broadband providers can find more information about how to participate [here for more information about how to participate](#).