Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: https://www.fcc.gov

TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 19-402

Released: May 10, 2019

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL LIFELINE ELIGIBILITY VERIFIER FOR ALL NEW ENROLLMENTS IN THREE STATES

WC Docket No. 11-42

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces the launch of the National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier (National Verifier) for all new enrollments in Indiana, Kentucky, and Michigan.¹ Starting on June 11, 2019, ETCs in these three states will be required to use the National Verifier to make eligibility determinations for all consumers applying for Lifeline service and must cease using legacy eligibility processes for prospective Lifeline subscribers.

USAC will continue after June 11, 2019 to verify that subscribers in the National Verifier for these three states are eligible to receive Lifeline service through the process that was initiated during the soft launch on March 12, 2019.² In addition, annual recertification will now be conducted by the National Verifier for all Lifeline consumers in these three states.

As of June 11, 2019, consumers in Indiana, Kentucky, and Michigan can begin to check their eligibility for Lifeline service directly by using the National Verifier consumer portal available at CheckLifeline.org. The consumer portal is available in both English and Spanish language versions. Consumers, as well as service providers, will also be able to mail Lifeline program forms and documentation to USAC for manual review. Consumers and service providers can obtain the Lifeline program application form by going to CheckLifeline.org and clicking on "use a paper form." Forms sent by mail should be sent to:

USAC Lifeline Support Center P.O. Box 7081 London, KY 40742

USAC has been conducting ongoing outreach and training for ETCs in the relevant states during the soft launch. ETCs have also had access to a pre-production test environment during the soft launch, which was designed to improve ETCs' ability to conduct sample transactions using test data that does not reflect actual Lifeline applicants and train their employees for readiness. To ensure that ETCs continue to be supported during the transition to the National Verifier, USAC will also be contacting ETCs in the relevant states to provide details regarding additional training opportunities. Informational resource

¹ 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, para. 165 (2016) (2016 Lifeline Order) (directing the Bureau to "issue a notification to all interested participants providing information about effective dates and any other relevant obligations" as USAC deploys the National Verifier in each state).

² Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Next National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier Launch in Three States, WC Docket No. 11-42, Public Notice, DA 19-167 (WCB Mar. 8, 2019).

materials regarding the National Verifier are also available on USAC's website.3

For further information, please contact Allison Jones at (202) 418-1571, of the Wireline Competition Bureau's Telecommunications Access Policy Division.

- FCC -

2

³ See https://www.usac.org/li/tools/national-verifier/how-to-use.aspx.