

ACCESS SERVICE

CHECK SHEET

Title Pages of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date hereof.

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(a) (Cont'd)

Switched Access or serving wire centers for Special Access) using the V&H method set forth respectively in 6.4.6 and 7.2.5 following.

(b) Determine the billing percentage (BP), as determined by the Telephone Company, which represents the portion of the service provided by each Telephone Company.

(c) For Feature Groups A, B, C and D Tandem Switched Transport* (C)

- multiply the number of originating and terminating access minutes of use routed over the facility times the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Tandem Switched Facility rate*;
- multiply the Tandem Switched Termination rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes routed over the facility.
- When a tandem office is located within the operating territory of the Telephone Company, multiply the Tandem Switching rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes that are switched at the tandem.

*As of July 1, 2021, the Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate element is applied per tandem to originating toll free minutes only, as set forth in Section 6.1.3(A)(3), following, in lieu of the Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination and Tandem Switching rate elements.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)2.4.7 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport, Directory Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(f) (Cont'd)

The Special Access Channel Mileage Termination rate and nonrecurring charges are applied as set forth in 7.2.1(B)(2) and 7.2.2(C) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to either the Channel Mileage Termination Recurring Rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

(g) For Directory Assistance Service, multiply the Directory Transport rate times the number of directory assistance calls times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding.

The Directory Assistance Nonrecurring charge is applied as set forth in 9.4.1(B) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to any Nonrecurring Charge.)

(h) When three or more Telephone Companies are involved in providing an Access Service, the intermediate Telephone Company(s) will determine the charges as set forth in (c) through (g) preceding. Additionally, when a segment of the Tandem Switched Facility, Direct Trunked Facility or Channel Mileage Facility is measured to the intermediate office(s), the Tandem Switched Termination, Direct Trunked Termination or Channel Mileage Termination rates are also applied at the intermediate Telephone Company(s) office(s).*

(C)

*As of July 1, 2021, the Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate element is applied per tandem to originating toll free minutes only, as set forth in Section 6.1.3(A)(3), following, in lieu of the Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination and Tandem Switching rate elements.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Installation and Repair Technician

The term "Installation and Repair Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, outside of the Telephone Company Central Office and generally at the customer designated premises.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier" (IC) or "Interexchange Common Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Intermediate Hub

The term "Intermediate Hub" denotes a wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for customers served by that wire center and wire centers that subtend the hub, as specified by the Telephone Company.

Intermodulation Distortion

The term "Intermodulation Distortion" denotes a measure of the nonlinearity of a channel. It is measured using four tones, and evaluating the ratios (in dB) of the transmitted composite four-tone signal power to the second-order products of the tones (R2), and the third-order products of the tones (R3).

Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling

The term "Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling" denotes a packet data-oriented protocol used for communicating call signaling information.

Interstate Communications

The term "Interstate Communications" denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

Intrastate Communications

The term "Intrastate Communications" denotes any communications within a state subject to oversight by a state regulatory commission as provided by the laws of the state involved.

Joint Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Joint Tandem Switched Transport" denotes the rate element assessable for the transmission of originating toll free minutes. The rate element includes both the transport between the end office and the tandem switch and the tandem switching. It does not include transport of traffic over dedicated transport facilities between the serving wire center and the tandem switching office.

(N)

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Synchronous Transport Signal (STS)

The term "Synchronous Transport Signal" denotes a 51.84 Mbps. electrical signal used within the SONET optical carrier network. The signal consists of the information content and the overhead used by SONET. The overhead is used for controlling, framing and maintaining the STS signal so it can be directly connected to other SONET carrier channels. STS signals are in exact multiples of 51.84 Mbps. (STS-1 is 51.84 Mbps., STS-3 is 155.52 Mbps., etc.).

Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Tandem Switched Transport" denotes transport from the tandem to the end office that is switched at a tandem.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from a Customer's premises to an End User Premises.

Terminus Hub

The term "Terminus Hub" denotes a wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for Customers served directly by the same wire center.

Throughput

The term "Throughput" denotes the number of data bits successfully transferred in one direction per unit of time.

Toll Free Database Access Service/800 Database Access Service

The term "Toll Free Database Access Service" and "800 Database Access Service" shall be synonymous within this entire tariff and in all references. Both namings shall include the following service access codes 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833, and 822.

(N)

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Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term "Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. "Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" originates and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

The term "Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/ Responder" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)(3) Tandem Switched Transport

The Tandem Switched Transport rate elements recover a portion of the costs associated with a communications path between a tandem and an end office on circuits that are switched at a tandem switch.

Tandem Switched Transport rates consist of a Tandem Switching rate, a Tandem Switched Facility rate, and a Tandem Switched Termination rate. For originating toll free minutes only, a Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate applies in lieu of the Tandem Switching, Tandem Switched Facility and Tandem Switched Termination rates and is only billed by the tandem company that performs the tandem switching function.

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In those instances where an SSP equipped end office is capable of handling 800 traffic on a direct trunked basis but incapable of handling 800 series (other than the 800 service access code) traffic on a direct trunked basis, a full credit will be provided for tandem switched transport charges associated with FGC and FGD service for 888 traffic delivered at the tandem. This results in all 800 series traffic being rated as direct trunked transport regardless of whether the SSP equipped end office is capable of handling 800 series (other than the 800 service access code) traffic on a direct trunked basis.

- (a) The Tandem Switching rate recovers a portion of the costs of switching traffic through an access tandem. The Tandem Switching rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute per tandem basis for all originating (excluding toll free) and all terminating minutes of use switched at the tandem.

(C)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)(3) Tandem Switched Transport (Cont'd)

(b) The Tandem Switched Facility rate recovers a portion of the costs of transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of interoffice circuits. The Tandem Switched Facility rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute per mile basis for all originating (excluding toll free) and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility. (C)

(c) The Tandem Switched Termination rate recovers a portion of the costs of circuit equipment necessary for the termination of each end of each measured segment of the Tandem Switched Facility. The Tandem Switched Termination rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute basis (for all originating (excluding toll free) and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility) at each end of each measured segment of Tandem Switched Facility (e.g., at the end office, Feature Group A dial tone office, host office and the access tandem). When the Tandem Switched Facility mileage is zero, neither the Tandem Switched Facility rate nor the Tandem Switched Termination rate will apply. (C)

(d) The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate specified in Section 17.2.2, following, is applied on a per originating toll free access minute per tandem basis in lieu of the Tandem Switching, Tandem Switched Facility, and Tandem Switched Termination rates and is only billed by the tandem company that performs the tandem switching function. (N)

(4) Transport Interconnection Charge

The Transport Interconnection Charge recovers the costs associated with Local Transport that are not recovered by the other Local Transport Rate Categories (i.e., Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport, Tandem Switched Transport and Multiplexing) or by dedicated signaling (i.e., SS7) rates. The Transport Interconnection Charge specified in 17.2.2 and 17.5.1 following applies to both Tandem Switched and Direct Trunked access minutes of use.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)(8) Chargeable Optional Features

Common Channel Signaling, Signaling System 7 (CCS/SS7) Network Connection (CCSNC) Service provides a signaling path between a customer's designated Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI) and a Telephone Company's Signaling Transfer Point (STP). CCSNC is provided as set forth in 6.10.3 following.

Toll Free Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. A Basic or Vertical Feature Query charge, as set forth in 17.2.2 (B) following, is assessed for each completed query returned from the toll free data base whether or not the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed when the appropriate call routing information is returned to the Service Switching Point (SSP) that launched the query and the results are transmitted to the next company in the call path. If the originating company transmits the results of the query, it will assess the query charge per call. However, when the originating company is unable to do so, the next company in the call path that is able to launch and transmit the results of the query will assess the query charge. Only one query charge per call may be assessed. The Basic Query provides the identification of the customer to whom the call will be delivered and includes area of service routing which allows routing of 800 series calls by telephone companies to different interexchange carriers based on the Local Access Transport Area (LATA) in which the call originates. The Vertical Feature Query provides this same customer identification function in addition to vertical features which may include: (1) call validation (ensuring that calls originate from subscribed service areas); (2) POTS translation of 800 series numbers (which is generally necessary for the routing of 800 series calls); (3) alternate POTS translation (which allows subscribers to vary the routing of 800 series calls based on factors such as time of day, place of origination of the call, etc.); and (4) multiple carrier routing (which allows subscribers to route to different carriers based on factors similar to those in (3)).

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(C)(B) End Office

The End Office rate category establishes the charges related to the local end office switching and end user termination functions necessary to complete the transmission of Switched Access communications to and from the end users served by the local end office. The End Office rate category includes the Local Switching and Information Surcharge rate elements. Directory Assistance Service is set forth in Section 9. following.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(B) End Office (Cont'd)(1) Local Switching (Cont'd)

Local Switching does not apply to Feature Groups B and D Switched Access Services associated with Wireless Switching Center (WSCs) directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office.

Where end offices are appropriately equipped, international dialing may be provided as a capability associated with Local Switching which provides local dial switching for Feature Groups C and D. International dialing provides the capability of switching international calls with service prefix and address codes having more digits than are capable of being switched through a standard FGC or FGD equipped end office.

Rates for Local Switching are set forth in 17.2.3 following. For originating toll free minutes only, a different Local Switching rate is specified in Section 17.2.3, following. The application of these rates with respect to individual Feature Groups is as set forth in 6.4.1(C) following.

(C)
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There are four types of functions included in the Local Switching rate element: Common Switching, Transport Termination, Line Termination and Intercept. These are described in (a) through (d) following.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(B) End Office (Cont'd)(1) Local Switching (Cont'd)(d) Intercept

The Intercept function provides for the termination of a call at a Telephone Company Intercept operator or recording. The operator or recording tells a caller why a call, as dialed, could not be completed, and if possible, provides the correct number.

(2) Information Surcharge

Information Surcharge rates are assessed to a customer based on the total number of access minutes. Information Surcharge rates are as set forth in 17.2.3(B) following. For originating toll free minutes only, a different Information Surcharge rate is specified in Section 17.2.3 following. The application of these rates with respect to individual Feature Groups is as set forth in 6.4.1(C) following.

(C)

(C)

The Information Surcharge does not apply to Feature Groups B and D Switched Access Services associated with Wireless Switching Centers (WSCs) directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office.

The number of end office switching transmission paths will be determined as set forth in 6.2.5 following.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.1 General (Cont'd)6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)(C) Chargeable Optional Features (Cont'd)(2) Operator Transfer Services (Cont'd)

Operator Transfer Service charges, provided for in this tariff, are applied only to those calls actually transferred by the Telephone Company to the customer's operator.

(3) Toll Free Data Base Access Service

Toll Free Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. When a 1+800 series+NXX-XXXX call is originated by an end user, the Telephone Company will utilize the Signaling System 7 (SS7) network to query the toll free data base to identify the customer to whom the call will be delivered and provide vertical features based on the dialed ten digits. The call will then be routed to the identified customer over FGC or FGD switched access. The 800 series includes the following service access codes: 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833 and 822.

A Basic or Vertical Feature Query charge, as set forth in 17.2.2(B) following, is assessed for each completed query returned from the data base identifying the customer to whom the call will be delivered whether or not the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed when the appropriate call routing information is returned to the Service Switching Point (SSP) that launched the query and the results are transmitted to the next company in the call path. If the originating company transmits the results of the query, it will assess the query charge per call. However, when the originating company is unable to do so, the next company in the call path that is able to launch and transmit the results of the query will assess the query charge. Only one query charge per call may be assessed. The Basic Query provides the identification of the customer to whom the call will be delivered and includes area of service routing which allows routing of 800 series calls by telephone companies to different interexchange carriers based on the Local Access Transport Area (LATA) in which the call originates. The Vertical Feature Query provides the same customer identification as the basic query and vertical features which may include: (1) call validation, (ensuring that calls originate from subscribed service areas); (2) POTS translation of 800 series numbers; (3) alternate POTS translation (which allows subscribers to vary the routing of 800 series calls based on factors such as time of day, place or origination of the call, etc.); and (4) multiple carrier routing (which allows subscribers to route to different carriers based on factors similar to those in (3)).

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges
(Cont'd)(C) Application of Rates (Cont'd)(1) Premium Rates (Cont'd)

In addition, premium rates always apply to the following Local Transport rate elements:

- Entrance Facility
- Direct Trunked Facility
- Direct Trunked Termination
- Multiplexing
- Tandem Switched Facility
- Tandem Switched Termination
- Tandem Switching
- Joint Tandem Switched Transport (N)
(originating toll free minutes only) (N)

(2) Non-premium Rates

Non-premium rates do not apply to the following Local Transport rate elements:

- Entrance Facility
- Direct Trunked Facility
- Direct Trunked Termination
- Multiplexing
- Tandem Switched Facility
- Tandem Switched Termination
- Tandem Switching
- Joint Tandem Switched Transport (N)
(originating toll free minutes only) (N)

Non-premium rates (i.e., discounted access minute rates) apply to all FGA and FGB access minutes (measured or assumed) originating or terminating in an end office which is not equipped with equal access capabilities. Non-premium rates do not apply to FGA and FGB access minutes when utilized in the provision of MTS/WATS service.

In addition, non-premium rates apply to FGC access minutes originating in an end office which is not equipped with equal access capabilities when the FGC service is used in conjunction with the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or 800 Data Base services by customers who do not furnish interstate MTS/WATS.

Non-premium rates do not apply to FGB ADA access minutes.

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6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)(C) Application of Rates (Cont'd)(7) Common Channel Signaling/Signaling System 7
(CCS/SS7) Network Connection Service

The CCS/SS7 Network Connection is comprised of a Signaling Mileage Facility charge, a Signaling Mileage Termination charge, a Signaling Entrance Facility charge, and a Signaling Transfer Point (STP) Port charge.

The Signaling Mileage Facility charge is assessed on a per facility per mile basis. The Signaling Mileage Termination charge is assessed on a per termination basis (i.e., at each end of the Signaling Mileage Facility). When the Signaling Mileage Facility mileage measurement is zero, Signaling Mileage Termination charges do not apply.

The Signaling Entrance Facility charge is assessed on a per facility basis for the connection between the customer's designated premises (Signaling Point of Interface) and the serving wire center of that premises.

The STP Port charge is assessed on a per port basis for each termination of a Signaling Mileage Facility at an STP.

(8) Toll Free Data Base Access Service

A Basic Query or Vertical Feature Query charge applies for each completed query that is returned from the Toll Free data base identifying the customer to whom the call will be delivered whether or not the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed when the appropriate call routing information is returned to the Service Switching Point (SSP) that launched the query and the results are transmitted to the next company in the call path. If the originating company transmits the results of the query, it will assess the query charge per call. However, when the originating company is unable to do so, the next company in the call path that is able to launch and transmit the results of the query will assess the query charge. Only one query charge per call may be assessed. Query charges, as set forth in 17.2.2(B), will only be applied by those companies whose wire centers are identified as assessing query charges by the Telephone Company and when the query is completed.

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