

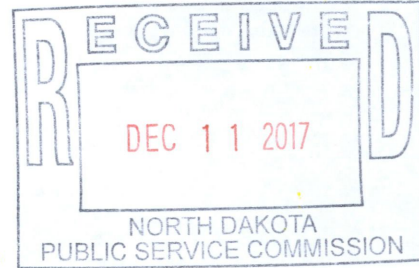


More Than a Telephone Company!

211 22nd St NW, PO Box 180
Devils Lake, ND 58301-0180
701-662-1100 or 1-800-880-4213
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December 8, 2017

Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
12th Floor State Capitol
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck ND 58505-0480



RE: North Dakota Telephone Company Exchange and Network Services Tariff

North Dakota Telephone Company (NDTC) respectfully files with the North Dakota Public Service Commission the enclosed revised tariff pages of the NDTC Exchange and Network Services Tariff. We have enclosed both an original and a redlined copy. The effective date for the tariff revision is January 1, 2018.

The filing of the revised tariff Section 4, Pages 9,11,12,13,15,16, and Section 7, Page 39 reflect a residential local service rate increase and updated Link Up Program eligibility requirements.

If you have any questions or need additional information please let me know and I will be happy to provide this as requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Dircks".

Dave Dircks
CEO/General Manager
North Dakota Telephone Company

DD/plm
Enclosures

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: September 13, 2005
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
4th Revised Page 9
Replaces 3rd Revised Page 9

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.7 RATES

A. Local Exchange Service Rates

The following rate table contains the Local Exchange Service Rates for flat rate local service. Local Exchange Service is described at Section 4.3 preceding. The following Local Exchange Service Rates include Expanded Local Exchange calling and eliminates local toll costs within NDTC exchanges.

	Individual Line	
<i>BUSINESS SERVICE</i>		
Individual Line	\$ 37.00	
Business Trunk	\$ 53.00	
Key Business Line	\$ 37.00	
<i>RESIDENCE SERVICE</i>		
Individual Line	\$ 22.00	(I)
2-Party-Grandfathered	-----	
<i>CUSTOMER OWNED PAY TELEPHONE SERVICE</i>		
	\$ 37.00	

NOTICE
THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: November 27, 2002
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
2nd Revised Page 11
Replaces 1st Revised Page 11

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Link Up Program

1. Residents of Tribal lands are eligible for Link Up support if served by a high cost recipient based on:
 - a. Income Level
 - b. Participation in any Tribal-specific federal assistance program identified in the FCC rules (See Lifeline/Link Up application)
 - c. Participation in any other program identified in the FCC rules (See Lifeline/Link Up application)

The Link Up Program consists of the following:

- a. A reduction in the installation charge for a single telecommunications connection at a subscriber's principal place of residence.
- b. The reduction shall be 100% of the customary charge.
- c. The reduced connection charge will be payable in the first billing cycle following connection of service.
- d. Charges assessed for commencing service include any charge customarily assessed to connect a subscriber to the network. The charges do not include security deposit requirements.
- e. A subscriber can only receive one Link Up benefit in a lifetime. (N)

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: November 27, 2002
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
2nd Revised Page 12
Replaces 1st Revised Page 12

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

B. Lifeline Program

North Dakota residents who are eligible to receive assistance from one of the following federal assistance programs; Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Programs. (N)

Residents of Tribal lands qualify if they participate in any of the above programs or one of the following: Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, and Head Start (those meeting its income-qualifying standards). Consumers with household* income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are also eligible for support. (N)

The Federal Lifeline Program consists of the following:

- a. Qualifying low income consumers pay reduced charges for retail local telecommunications service.
- b. Lifeline service includes voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent, minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users, access to emergency services, and toll limitation service to qualifying low income consumers.
- c. Toll Limitation Service will be provided at no additional cost to the consumer who qualifies for Lifeline where the ETC still distinguishes between local and long distance.
- d. A deposit may not be collected in order to initiate Lifeline Service for plans that:
 1. Do not charge subscribers additional fees for toll calls; or
 2. That charge additional fees for toll calls, but the subscriber voluntarily elects toll limitation service.
- e. North Dakota Telephone Company will not disconnect Lifeline service if consumer keeps their basic local service in good standing
- f. Only one Federal Lifeline Service is available per household.

*A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit. (N)

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NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
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Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
4th Revised Page 13
Replaces 3rd Revised Page 13

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

B. Lifeline Program (Cont'd)

- f. Lifeline credits applied to retail residential basic local telecommunication service rates are as follows:

Regular Federal Lifeline Customers	Code	Credits	
Interstate Lifeline Credit	LLCR	\$2.75	(E)
Federal Lifeline Waiver	LLW	\$6.50	
Lifeline Regular Toll Block Credit	BLKLL	\$1.00	

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NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: November 27, 2002
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
2nd Revised Page 15
Replaces 1st Revised Page 15

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

D. Lifeline for Eligible Residents of Tribal Lands

(D)

1. North Dakota residents of Tribal lands who are eligible to receive one of the following programs are eligible to receive Tribal Lifeline:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Medicaid

(N)

Other programs:

Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Program

(N)

Federal public housing assistance

(T)

Bureau of Indian Affairs General assistance

(T)

Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)

(T)

Head Start (only those meeting its income qualifying standard)

(D)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

(T)

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Income guidelines of 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (Income based eligibility is intended for those that do not otherwise qualify)

- a. A resident of Tribal lands is a consumer living on a reservation as defined by Section 20.1(v) of the Bureau of Indian Affairs regulations (25 C.F.R. § 20.1(v)).
- b. Tribal Lifeline for eligible residents of Tribal lands provides additional Lifeline support above the Lifeline received under the Federal Lifeline program described in Section 4.8.B, of up to \$25.00 per month.

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**NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff**

State of North Dakota
Issued: September 13, 2005
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 4
5th Revised Page 16
Replaces 4th Revised Page 16

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

D. Tribal Lifeline for Eligible Residents of Tribal Lands (Cont'd)

1. (Cont'd)
 - d. Tribal Lifeline benefits apply to the basic local residential telephone charges.
2. In order to receive Tribal Lifeline for residents of Tribal lands, a consumer must complete and sign a certification form provided by North Dakota Telephone Company as described below. The Tribal Lifeline certification form will include the following:
 - a. a statement that the consumer is certifying the information conveyed in the completed certification under penalty of perjury,
 - b. indication that the consumer is receiving benefits under one of the programs listed under Section 4.8.D.1 for Tribal Lifeline,
 - c. indication that the consumer lives on Tribal lands, and
 - d. a statement that the consumer agrees to notify North Dakota Telephone Company if the consumer ceases to participate in the program or programs.
3. Federal Lifeline credits applied to tribal residential basic local telecommunications service rates are as follows:

Tribal Lifeline Credit Amounts

<u>Exchange with Tribal Land</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Credit Amount</u>	
Interstate Lifeline Credit	<u>LLCRX</u>	\$ 2.75	
Federal Lifeline Waiver	<u>LLWX</u>	\$ 6.50	
Additional Federal Tribal Lifeline Amounts			
	<u>LLXTT</u>		
Crary.....		\$19.25	(I) (I)
Fort Totten.....		\$19.25	
Minnewaukan.....		\$19.25	
Oberon.....		\$19.25	
Sheyenne.....		\$19.25	
Tolna.....		\$19.25	
Warwick.....		\$19.25	
Toll Block	<u>BLKEX</u>	\$ 1.00	

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: November 27, 2002
Effective: January 1, 2018

Section 7
3rd Revised Page 39
Replaces 2nd Revised Page 39

7. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE OFFERINGS

7.11 CENTREX SERVICE (CONT'D)

D. Rates (Cont'd)

2. Individual Station Features (Cont'd)

b. The following individual station features are offered at no charge - SMDI Group:

- (1) Call Retrieval Billing
- (2) KSH Support
- (3) Simplified Message Desk Interface

3. Centrex Line Rates

a. The following rates will apply.

Business, per trunk, per month	\$49.00	
Residence, per trunk, per month	\$22.00	(I)

b. Centrex Service Establishment Charge

Standard Subsequent Service Order Fee	\$12.00	
Plus Standard Facility Administrative Fee		
Charge for all new or additional lines	\$20.00/Line	

Additions and changes to establish line features:

Standard Subsequent Service Order Fee	\$12.00	
Plus per feature charge	\$ 5.00/Feature	
Not to exceed \$20.00 per Line.		

4. Individual Station Features

a. Chargeable individual station features

The monthly rates shown below applies to the following individual station features:

- (1) Station-Camp on With Music
- (2) Centrex Paging

Individual feature per line	\$0.75
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NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: September 13, 2005

Effective: ~~October 1, 2016~~ *January 1, 2018*

Section 4

~~3rd-4th~~ Revised Page 9

Replaces ~~2nd-3rd~~ Revised Page 9

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.7 RATES

A. Local Exchange Service Rates

The following rate table contains the Local Exchange Service Rates for flat rate local service. Local Exchange Service is described at Section 4.3 preceding. The following Local Exchange Service Rates include Expanded Local Exchange calling and eliminates local toll costs within NDTC exchanges.

	Individual Line	
<i>BUSINESS SERVICE</i>		
Individual Line	\$ 37.00	
Business Trunk	\$ 53.00	
Key Business Line	\$ 37.00	
<i>RESIDENCE SERVICE</i>		
Individual Line	\$	(I)
	2022.00	
2-Party-Grandfathered	-----	
<i>CUSTOMER OWNED PAY TELEPHONE SERVICE</i>		
	\$ 37.00	

NOTICE
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NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: November 27, 2002

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Section 4

~~1st~~ *2nd* Revised Page 11

Replaces ~~Original-1st Revised~~ Page 11

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Link Up Program

1. Residents of Tribal lands are eligible for Link Up support if served by a high cost recipient based on:
 - a. Income Level
 - b. Participation in any Tribal-specific federal assistance program identified in the FCC rules (See Lifeline/Link Up application)
 - c. Participation in any other program identified in the FCC rules (See Lifeline/Link Up application)

The Link Up Program consists of the following:

- a. A reduction in the installation charge for a single telecommunications connection at a subscriber's principal place of residence.
- b. The reduction shall be 100% of the customary charge.
- c. The reduced connection charge will be payable in the first billing cycle following connection of service.
- d. Charges assessed for commencing service include any charge customarily assessed to connect a subscriber to the network. The charges do not include security deposit requirements.
- e. ~~There is no limit on the number of times the subscriber may use Link Up as long as they haven't received Link Up at the address that they are requesting the benefit for. A subscriber can only receive one Link Up benefit in a lifetime.~~

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota
Issued: November 27, 2002
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Section 4
~~1st 2nd~~ Revised Page 12
Replaces ~~Original 1st-Revised~~ Page 12

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

B. Lifeline Program

North Dakota residents who are eligible to receive assistance from one of the following federal assistance programs; Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance, ~~Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program, Temporary Assistance For Needy Families, or the consumer's household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of that size may qualify for the Lifeline Program.~~ *Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Programs.*

(TN)

Residents of Tribal lands qualify if they participate in any of the above programs or one of the following: Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, and Head Start (those meeting its income-qualifying standards). Consumers with household income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are also eligible for support.*

(N)

The Federal Lifeline Program consists of the following:

- a. Qualifying low income consumers pay reduced charges for retail local telecommunications service.
- b. Lifeline service includes voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent, minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users, access to emergency services, and toll limitation service to qualifying low income consumers.
- c. Toll Limitation Service will be provided at no additional cost to the consumer who qualifies for Lifeline where the ETC still distinguishes between local and long distance.
- d. A deposit may not be collected in order to initiate Lifeline Service for plans that:
 1. Do not charge subscribers additional fees for toll calls; or
 2. That charge additional fees for toll calls, but the subscriber voluntarily elects toll limitation service.
- e. North Dakota Telephone Company will not disconnect Lifeline service if consumer keeps their basic local service in good standing
- f. Only one Federal Lifeline Service is available per household.

(TN)

**A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit.*

(N)

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: September 13, 2005

Effective: ~~May 1, 2013~~ *January 1, 2018*

Section 4

~~3rd-4th~~ Revised Page 13

Replaces ~~2nd-3rd~~ Revised Page 13

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

B. Lifeline Program (Cont'd)

- f. Lifeline credits applied to retail residential basic local telecommunication service rates are as follows:

Regular Federal Lifeline Customers	Code	Credits	
Interstate Lifeline Credit	L LLCR	\$2.75	(NE)
Federal Lifeline Waiver	LLW	\$6.50	(+)
Lifeline Regular Toll Block Credit	BLKLL	\$1.00	

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NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: November 27, 2002

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Section 4

~~1st-2nd~~ Revised Page 15

Replaces ~~Original-1st~~ Revised Page 15

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

D. Lifeline for Eligible Residents of Tribal Lands

1. North Dakota residents of Tribal lands who are eligible to receive one of the following programs are eligible to receive Tribal Lifeline.

Major assistance programs administered by the North Dakota Department of Human Service:

~~Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)~~
~~Food Stamps~~
~~Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program~~
~~Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)~~
Medicaid

D

D

(TN)

Other programs:

~~Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Program~~
Federal public housing assistance
Bureau of Indian Affairs *General* assistance
Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (*TTANF*)
Head Start (only those meeting its income qualifying standard)
~~National School Lunch Program's free lunch program (NSL)~~
~~Supplemental Security Income (SSI)~~
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (*FDPIR*)
Income guidelines of 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (Income based eligibility is intended for those that do not otherwise qualify)

(N)

(T)

(T)

(D)

(T)

(T)

- a. A resident of Tribal lands is a consumer living on a reservation as defined by Section 20.1(v) of the Bureau of Indian Affairs regulations (25 C.F.R. § 20.1(v)).
- b. Tribal Lifeline for eligible residents of Tribal lands provides additional Lifeline support above the Lifeline received under the Federal Lifeline program described in Section 4.8.B, of up to \$25.00 per month.

(T)

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: September 13, 2005

Effective: ~~October 1, 2016~~ January 1, 2018

Section 4

~~4th-5th~~ Revised Page 16

Replaces ~~3rd-4th~~ Revised Page 16

4. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

4.8 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

D. Tribal Lifeline for Eligible Residents of Tribal Lands (Cont'd)

1. (Cont'd)
 - d. Tribal Lifeline benefits apply to the basic local residential telephone charges.
2. In order to receive Tribal Lifeline for residents of Tribal lands, a consumer must complete and sign a certification form provided by North Dakota Telephone Company as described below. The Tribal Lifeline certification form will include the following:
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Federal Lifeline Waiver	<u>LLWX</u>	\$ 6.50	
Additional Federal Tribal Lifeline Amounts			
	<u>LLXTT</u>		
Crary.....		\$179.25	(I)
Fort Totten.....		\$179.25	
Minnewaukan.....		\$179.25	
Oberon.....		\$179.25	
Sheyenne.....		\$179.25	
Tolna.....		\$179.25	
Warwick.....		\$179.25	
Toll Block	<u>BLKEX</u>	\$ 1.00	(I)

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Exchange and Network Services Tariff

State of North Dakota

Issued: November 27, 2002

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Section 7

~~2nd~~ *3rd* - Revised Page 39

Replaces ~~1st~~ *2nd* Revised Page 39

7. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE OFFERINGS

7.11 CENTREX SERVICE (CONT'D)

D. Rates (Cont'd)

2. Individual Station Features (Cont'd)

b. The following individual station features are offered at no charge - SMDI Group:

- (1) Call Retrieval Billing
- (2) KSH Support
- (3) Simplified Message Desk Interface

3. Centrex Line Rates

a. The following rates will apply.

Business, per trunk, per month	\$49.00	
Residence, per trunk, per month	\$20 22.00	(1)

b. Centrex Service Establishment Charge

Standard Subsequent Service Order Fee	\$12.00
Plus Standard Facility Administrative Fee	
Charge for all new or additional lines	\$20.00/Line

Additions and changes to establish line features:

Standard Subsequent Service Order Fee	\$12.00
Plus per feature charge	\$ 5.00/Feature
Not to exceed \$20.00 per Line.	

4. Individual Station Features

a. Chargeable individual station features

The monthly rates shown below applies to the following individual station features:

- (1) Station-Camp on With Music
- (2) Centrex Paging

Individual feature per line	\$0.75
-----------------------------	--------

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