



Missouri Universal Service Fund

A Publication Of The Missouri Public Service Commission

The Missouri Universal Service Fund (MoUSF) provides financial support to wireline carriers by offering discounted phone service to qualifying low-income or disabled Missouri residents. This program is only available through wireline carriers. Wireless carriers do not participate in this program.

How much of a discount is provided to qualifying customers?

Qualifying low-income customers can receive discounts up to \$13.50 per month on their monthly telephone bill; however, this amount can depend on the provider's basic local telecommunications service. Qualifying disabled customers can receive discounts of \$3.50 on their monthly bill.

How do I apply for this program?

Customers must submit a completed application form to their wireline carrier participating in the program. The application form is available from the carrier, social service agencies in Missouri or the Missouri USF website at www.missouriusf.com.

Qualifying low-income customers must currently receive benefits from other low-income programs such as Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income, Missouri HealthNet, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8, National School Lunch Program or Temporary Assistance For Needy Families.

Qualifying disabled customers must currently receive benefits from such programs as Veterans Administration Disability Benefits, State Blind Pension, State Aid To Blind Persons, Federal Social Security Disability or Federal Supplemental Security Income.

How is MoUSF funded?

MoUSF is funded by a Missouri Universal Service Fund Surcharge applied to wireline monthly bills. The surcharge is a percentage of a customer's local and intrastate long distance charges. (Note: If local and long distance charges appear separately on a bill, the total surcharge would be split and a customer may see two charges.) Currently, the surcharge percentage is .0029 which translates to 9 cents on a \$30 bill.

For More Information

Created in 1913, the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) regulates investor-owned telecommunications, water and sewer, natural gas, electric and steam utilities. The PSC works to ensure that Missouri citizens receive safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility services. If you have an inquiry, billing question or service-related problem that your utility provider cannot answer, please call the PSC at 1-800-392-4211 or visit our website at www.psc.mo.gov