

Emergency Broadband Benefit Eligibility Requirements



The [Emergency Broadband Benefit program](#) (EBB) helps lower-income households afford home internet access during the public health emergency of the coronavirus pandemic. You must show proof of eligibility in order to participate in this program. You will likely be eligible for EBB program discounts if you are experiencing financial hardship or participate in any of the programs outlined below.

Five ways a household can qualify for EBB program discounts:

1. Financial hardship

Important note: This applies only to households with a take-home income in 2020 of less than \$99,000 for single filers, or \$198,000 for joint filers.

- Someone in your household experienced a substantial loss of income after February 29, 2020.
- You applied for unemployment benefits or were issued a layoff or furlough notice, you likely qualify under this category.

2. Federal Pell Grant recipients

Someone in your household received a [Federal Pell Grant](#) in the current award year.

3. Free and reduced-price lunch participants

A student in your household currently participates in the [free and reduced-price school lunch program](#) or the school breakfast program, or did so in the 2019–2020 school year (including through the [USDA Community Eligibility Provision](#)).

4. Low-cost internet service program participants

Your household is eligible to participate in a broadband internet service provider's existing low-cost internet service programs, such as Comcast's Internet Essentials, Spectrum Internet Assist, Cox Connect2Compete, and many others.

5. Lifeline eligible

Someone in your household qualifies for the [Lifeline program](#). Many people are eligible for Lifeline by participating in programs such as:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension benefit
- Having an income at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines (currently calculated at \$17,388 per year)
- Tribal-specific federal assistance program (on Tribal lands)

What does "household" mean?

A household means any group of individuals living at the same address that share in the income and expenses. This can include people who are related or not. To be eligible, only one individual in the household must participate in one of the programs outlined above. If multiple households live at the same address, each is eligible for the benefit.

For more information on the program, visit www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit.