



The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) offered eligible consumers a special opportunity to receive a discount on their monthly phone service during a post-Hurricane Irma celebration of National Lifeline Awareness Week, which was September 11-17, 2017. Lifeline Assistance (Lifeline) program information will be available at PSC outreach events rescheduled for late September in several Florida communities and is also be available online.

“Lifeline helps ensure that low-income consumers can afford 21st century communication and the access it provides to jobs, health care, education, and opportunities,” said PSC Chairman Julie Brown. “Lifeline Awareness Week is a great opportunity to let consumers know that recent program changes now allow Lifeline broadband offerings, expanding ways to stay connected.”

To participate in Lifeline, consumers must have an income at or below 135 percent of the federal Poverty Guidelines, or you (or someone in your household) must participate in one of these federal assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Tribal Programs (and live on federally-recognized Tribal lands)

Due to Hurricane Irma, Lifeline Awareness events had to be canceled and rescheduled. The PSC hosted information sessions on September 26, in Sarasota and Venice, and on September 29 in Crawfordville for residents to learn about Lifeline, and other events will be scheduled throughout the year.

Joining other states that celebrated National Lifeline Awareness Week, Florida’s outreach events help raise awareness and increase participation in the Lifeline program. PSC representatives will be available to help qualified residents who want to apply for Lifeline.