

**Alabama Tariff No. 3 of Global Connection Inc. of America replaces, in its entirety,
Alabama Tariff No. 2 of Global Connection Inc. of Alabama**

TITLE PAGE

ALABAMA LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES TARIFF

OF

GLOBAL CONNECTION INC. OF AMERICA

This tariff, filed with the
Alabama Public Service Commission,
Contains the rates, terms, and conditions applicable to
Local Exchange Services within the State of Alabama offered by
Global Connection Inc. of America

Issued: July 9, 2015

Effective: July 10, 2015

Issued By: Dave Skogen, President and CEO
5555 Oakbrook Parkway, Suite 620
Norcross, GA 30093

Check Sheet

Sheets 1 through 29, inclusive of this tariff are effective as the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

(T)

<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision Level</u>
1	Original
2	1 st Revised*
3	Original
4	1 st Revised*
5	Original
6	Original
7	Original
8	1 st Revised*
9	Original
10	Original
11	1 st Revised*
12	Original
13	Original
14	Original
15	Original
16	Original
17	Original
18	Original
19	Original
19.1	1 st Revised*
20	Original
21	Original
22	1 st Revised*
22.1	1 st Revised*
22.2	Original*
23	Original
24	Original
25	1 st Revised*
26	Original
27	1 st Revised*
28	1 st Revised*
29	1 st Revised*
30	Deleted
31	Deleted

* Indicates pages included with this filing

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CONCURRING CARRIERS

None

CONNECTING CARRIERS

None

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

None

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SYMBOLS

The following are the symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D – Delete or discontinue.
- I – Change resulting in an increase to a customer's bill.
- M - Moved from another tariff locations.
- N - New
- R - Change resulting in a reduction to a customer's bill
- T - Change in text or regulation.

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APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of intrastate common carrier communication service by Global Connection Inc. of America within the State of Alabama.

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TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers – Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine, the most current sheet version on file with the APSC. For example, the 4th revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3rd revised sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the sheet number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheet currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence – There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to the next higher level:
- 2.
 - 2.1
 - 2.1.1
 - 2.1.1.A.
 - 2.1.1.A.1.
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a)
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).
- D. Check Sheets – When a tariff filing is made with the APSC, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross-reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remain the same, just revised revision levels on some pages.) The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the APSC.

SECTION 1 – TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Access Line – An arrangement that connects the customer’s location to a switching center or point of presence.

Authorized User – A person, firm, corporation, or any other entity authorized by the Customer to use the GLOBAL service.

Carrier or Company – Whenever used in this tariff, “Carrier,” “Company,” or “Global ” refers to Global Connection Inc. of America unless otherwise specified or clearly indicated by the context.

Commission – The Alabama Public Service Commission.

Customer – The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders, cancels, amends, or uses service and is responsible for payment of charges and compliance with the Company’s tariff.

GLOBAL – Used through this tariff to mean Global Connection Inc. of America unless clearly indicated otherwise by the text.

LEC – Local Exchange Company

Local Exchange Services – Telecommunications services furnished for use by end-users in placing and receiving local telephone calls within local calling areas.

Long Distance Service Provider – The telecommunications company that the customer contracts with to provide long distance service.

One Month – 30 days

Resold Local Exchange Service – A service composed of the resale of exchange access lines and local calling provided by an authorized Local Exchange Carrier and purchased by GLOBAL

APSC – Alabama Public Service Commission.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of GLOBAL

GLOBAL's services offered pursuant to this Tariff are furnished for Local Exchange Service among specified points with a Local Calling Area.

The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

2.2 Limitations

2.2.1 Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and equipment, and subject to the provisions of this tariff.

2.2.2 GLOBAL reserves the right to discontinue or limit service when necessitated by conditions beyond its control, or when the Customer is using service in violation of provisions of this tariff, or in violation of the law.

2.2.3 The Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but offers the use of its facilities when available, and will not be liable for errors in transmission or for failure to establish Connections.

2.2.4 The local exchange telephone service provided under this tariff are controlled by GLOBAL, and the Customer may not transfer or assign the use of service without the express written consent of the GLOBAL. Such transfer or assignment shall only apply where there is no interruption of the use or location of the service.

2.2.5 Prior permission from the Company is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to all such permitted assignees or transferees, as well as all conditions of service.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.3 Use

Services provided under this tariff may be used for any lawful purpose for which the service is technically suited.

2.4 Liabilities of the Company

2.4.1 GLOBAL's liability for damages arising out of mistakes, interruptions, omissions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission which occur in the course of furnishing service or facilities, in no event shall exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period during which the faults in transmission occur.

2.4.2 GLOBAL shall not be liable for claim or loss, expense or damage (including indirect, special or consequential damage), for any interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect in any service, facility, or transmission provided under this tariff, if caused by any person or entity other than GLOBAL, by any malfunction of any service or facility provided by any other carrier, by an act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, or act of government, or by any other cause beyond the GLOBAL's direct control.

2.4.3 GLOBAL shall not be liable for, and shall be fully indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against any claim or loss, expense, or damage (including indirect, special or consequential damage) for defamation, libel, slander, invasion, infringement of copy-right or patent, unauthorized use of trademark, trade name, or service mark, unfair competition, interference with or misappropriation or violation of any contract, proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any person, property or entity arising out of the material, data, information, or other content revealed to, transmitted, or used

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.4.3 Liabilities of Company, cont.

by GLOBAL under this tariff; or for any act or omission of the Customer; or for any personal injury or death of any person caused directly or indirectly by the installation, maintenance, location, condition, operation, failure, presence, use or removal of equipment or wiring provided by GLOBAL, if not directly caused by negligence of GLOBAL.

2.4.4 No agent or employee of any other carrier shall be deemed to be an agent or employee of GLOBAL.

2.4.5 GLOBAL shall not be liable for any defacement of or damages to the premises of a Customer resulting from the furnishing of service, which is not the direct result of GLOBAL negligence.

2.5 Deposits

GLOBAL does not require a deposit from the Customer.

2.6 Payment for Service

2.6.1 The customer is responsible for all charges for services and equipment furnished to the Customer or to an authorized user of the Customer by GLOBAL. All charges due by the Customer are payable to GLOBAL or to GLOBAL's authorized billing agent. Terms of payment shall be according to the rules and regulations of the billing agent and subject to the rules of regulatory agencies, including the Commission.

2.6.2 Customers pay an activation fee specified in Section 4.2 of this tariff and receive a term of 30 days of service for the first month. Each month after the initial start-up the customer will be pre-billed for 30 calendar days per month. The customer's bill will be created the day following the connection date (CN) at which time the billing cycle is established. GLOBAL offers a pre-paid service that requires customers to pay prior to the service period. Each month the customer will be billed 20 calendar days before the due date for the following month's service. For the customer to remain in a pre-paid status the due date for the pre-payment is scheduled 5 calendar days prior to the service end date. If payment is not received within 5 days after the due date, additional attempts to contact the customer by phone are scheduled prior to the service suspension date. Customers who do not make payment are processed for suspension on the 11th day following the due date and are processed for disconnection 10 days after the date of suspension. If payment is not received by the service end date, the customer must pay a late payment fee in addition to the past due balance.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.6 Payment of Service, cont.

2.6.3 If service is suspended and the customer restores service, the customer is required to pay a restoration fee and any remaining balance. Refer to section 4.2 for appropriate fee charges.

2.6.4 If service is disconnected and the customer reinstates service, the customer is required to pay a reconnection fee and any remaining balance. Refer to section 4.2 for appropriate fee charges.

2.7 Taxes

All federal, state and local taxes (including, but not limited to, franchise fees, excise tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax, education taxes, 911 fees, and FCC charges) are listed as separate line items and are not included in the quoted rates.

2.8 Terminal Equipment

The service provided by GLOBAL may be used with or terminated in Customer provided terminal equipment or Customer provided communications systems, such as a PBX, key systems or Pay telephone. Such terminal equipment shall be furnished and maintained at the expense of the Customer, except as otherwise provided. The Customer is responsible for all costs at his or her premises, including personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like incurred in the use of the GLOBAL's service. When such terminal equipment is used, the equipment shall comply with the generally accepted minimum protective criteria standards of the telecommunications industry as endorsed by the Federal Communications Commission.

2.9 Installation and Termination

Service is installed upon mutual agreement between the Customer and GLOBAL. The agreement will determine terms and conditions of installation, termination of service, and conditions of installation, any applicable sales commission structure, and sales commission payment schedule. The service agreement does not alter rates specified in this tariff.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.10 Other Rules

2.10.1 GLOBAL reserves the right to refuse to process Credit Card or Calling Card billed calls when authorization for use of the card cannot be validated.

2.10.2 GLOBAL reserves the right to discontinue service, limit service, or to impose requirements on Subscribers as required to meet changing regulatory rules and standards of the Alabama Public Service Commission.

2.11 Cancellation by the Customer

When a customer desires to have his service terminated, he must notify GLOBAL, either orally or in writing.

2.12 Interconnections

Service furnished by GLOBAL may be connected with the services or facilities of other carriers or enhanced service providers. The Customer is responsible for all charges billed by these entities for use in Connection with GLOBAL's service. Any special interface equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between these entities is the responsibility of the customer. Neither GLOBAL nor any interconnections carrier participation in a service shall be liable for any act or omission of any other company furnishing a portion of such service.

2.13 Refusal or Discontinuance by Company

GLOBAL mails the Customer a statement at least 20 days prior to the delinquent date. The due date is clearly indicated on the statement. The statement also includes a Notice to the Customer that service may be disconnected 5 days after the due date if payment is not made in full. GLOBAL reserves the right to suspend customers rather than disconnect the customer depending upon the circumstances. GLOBAL may suspend, refuse or discontinue service under the following conditions:

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

- (a) For non-compliance with or violation of any State, municipal, or Federal law, ordinance or regulation pertaining to telephone service.
- (b) For use of telephone service for any other purpose than that described in the application.
- (c) For neglect or refusal to provide reasonable access to GLOBAL or its agents for the purpose of inspection and maintenance of equipment owned by GLOBAL and its agents.
- (d) For noncompliance with or violation of Commission regulations or GLOBAL's rules and regulations on file with the Commission, provided five days' written notice is given before termination.
- (e) For nonpayment of bills for regulated service, provided that suspension or termination of service shall not be made without prior notice to the customer.
- (f) Without notice in the event of the Customer or authorized user use of the service in such a manner as to adversely affect GLOBAL's provision of service to others.
- (g) Without notice in the event of tampering with the services provided by GLOBAL or its agents.
- (h) Without notice in the event of unauthorized or fraudulent use of service. Whenever service is discontinued for fraudulent use of service, GLOBAL may, before restoring service, require the customer to make, at his or her own expense, all changes in facilities or equipment necessary to eliminate illegal use and to pay an amount reasonably estimated as the loss in revenues resulting from such fraudulent use.
- (i) Without notice by reason of any order or decision of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction which prohibits GLOBAL or its Carrier from furnishing such services.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.14 Interruption of Service, cont.

Credit allowances for interruptions of services which are due to the negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of equipment or communications systems provided by the Customer, are subject to the general liability provisions set forth in Section 2.13 herein. It shall be the obligation of the Customer to notify GLOBAL immediately of any interruption in service for which Customer desires a credit allowance. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble was not within his or her control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by the Customer and connected to GLOBAL's service. Interruptions caused by the Customer-provided equipment are not deemed an interruption of service as defined herein.

2.15 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Public Service Commission.

2.16 Tests, Pilots, Promotional Campaigns and Contests

GLOBAL may conduct special tests or pilot programs and promotions at its discretion to demonstrate the ease of use, quality of service and to promote the sale of its services. GLOBAL may also waive a portion or all processing fees, installation fees or local service fees for winners of contests and other occasional promotional events sponsored or endorsed by GLOBAL, provided the Commission approves the promotions.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.18 Inspection, Testing, and Adjustment

Upon reasonable notice, the service provided by GLOBAL's Carrier shall be made available to the Carrier for tests and adjustments as may be deemed necessary by the Carrier for maintenance. No interruption allowance will be granted for the time during which such tests and adjustments are made.

2.19 Cost of Collection and Repair

The Customer is responsible for any and all costs incurred in the collection of monies due GLOBAL including legal and accounting expenses. The Customer is also responsible for recovery costs of GLOBAL-provided equipment and any expenses required for repair or replacement of damaged equipment.

2.20 Late Fee

A late fee of 1.5% monthly will be charged on any past due balances beginning 30 days from the mailing date of the bill.

2.21 Return Check Charges

The Company's return check charge is \$20.00, consistent with applicable Alabama law.

2.22 Re-Connection Charge

A reconnection fee per occurrence, per line is charged when service is re-established for residential customers who have been disconnected for non-payment. Refer to section 4.2 for appropriate fee charges.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.23 Access to Telephone Relay Services

Where required by the Commission, GLOBAL will participate in telephone relay services for handicapped and/or hearing-impaired end users, and will comply with all applicable regulations and requirements as specified by the Alabama Public Service Commission. GLOBAL may impose any monthly surcharge or any other applicable related charge upon its local service subscribers as may be allowed by state law.

2.24 Access to Carrier of Choice

End users of GLOBAL'S local service shall have the right to select the Long Distance Service Provider of their choice. The LDSP should request confirmation/verifications of choice from its customers no later than the date of submission of its first bill to the customer. The LDSP should maintain signed letters of agency or confirmations of choice on file for use in dispute resolution.

2.25 Directory listings

2.25.1 The Company does not publish a directory of subscriber listings. The Company, however, does allow for the customer's main billing number to be placed in the directory or directories of the dominant local exchange carrier in their area.

2.25.2 The regulations specified herein for directory listings apply only to the alphabetical section of the directory. Listings are intended solely for the purpose of identifying subscriber's telephone number and as an aid to use of telephone service.

2.25.3 In accepting listings as requested by subscribers, GLOBAL will not be a party to controversies between subscribers and directory publishers as a result of the publication of such listings in the directories.

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.26 911 Service

This service is offered solely as an aid in handling assistance calls in connection with fire, police and other emergencies. The Company is not responsible for any losses, claims, demands, suits or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or person for any personal injury or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused by: (1) mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or other defects in the provision of service, of (2) installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, local or use of any equipment and facilities furnishing this service.

Neither is the Company responsible for any infringement, nor invasion of the right of privacy of any person or persons, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, occasion or use of emergency 911 service features and the equipment associated therewith, or by any services furnished by the Company, including, but not limited to the identification of the telephone number, address or name associated with the telephone used by the party or parties accessing emergency 911 service, and which arise out of the negligence or other wrongful act of the Company, the Customer, its users, agencies or municipalities, or the employees or agents of any one of them.

When a Customer with a nonpublished telephone number, as defined herein, places a call to the emergency 911 service, the Company will release the name and address of the calling party, where such information can be determined, to the appropriate local governmental authority responsible for emergency 911 service upon request of such governmental authority. By subscribing to service under this rate sheet, the Customer acknowledges and agrees with the release of information as described above.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

2.27 Directory Assistance

The Company does not provide local directory assistance. Access to directory assistance may be obtained by dialing 1+800+555+1212 or 411 for other listings. Customers will be billed for each intrastate directory assistance call at the rate listed in section 4.1. The directory assistance charge will be applied to each call regardless of whether the directory assistance bureau is able to furnish the requested telephone number.

2.28 Rates for Hearing or Speech Impaired

Where required by the Commission, for properly certified hearing or speech impaired Subscribers who communicate via TDD, the Company will issue upon request a credit for certain intrastate toll charges for calls made between TDDs. The credit will appear on the Customer's subsequent bill and will be equal to applying the Evening Rate during business day hours and Night/Weekend Rate during the Evening Rate period. Subscribers using TDDs with assistance of the relay center will receive a credit equal to fifty percent (50%) of the rate for the applicable rate period. If either the Subscriber or the called party indicates that either party is both hearing and visually impaired, the call shall be discounted by seventy-five percent (75%) of the applicable rate. Such credit does not apply to surcharges on per call add-on charges for operator services when the call is placed by a method that would normally incur the surcharge.

2.29 Miscellaneous and Recovery Rates and Charges

The Company may adjust its rates, charges, carrier costs or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amounts it is required by governmental or quasi-governmental authorities to collect from, or pay to others, in support of statutory or regulatory programs and network recovery costs. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to: the Universal Service Fund and the Primary Interexchange Carrier Charge, Fees paid to support government programs such as Telecommunications Relay Service and Local Number Portability, additional indirect costs associated with administering and complying with these types of government programs.

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SECTION 3 – DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

3.1 Product Descriptions

3.1.1 Product Description Generally

GLOBAL will resell some or all of the contracted carrier's available features and services to residential and business customers that are eligible.

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SECTION 4 – RATES

4.1 Rates - Residential

4.1.1 Service Offerings on a Prepaid Basis

	AT&T Areas	CenturyTel Areas	Frontier Areas	Windstream Areas
Monthly Residential Service				
Basic	\$33.45(R)	N/A	\$49.45(R)	\$49.45(R)
Advantage (includes caller ID plus Call Waiting; also includes 100 minutes LD)	\$38.45(R)	\$59.45(N)	\$59.45(N)	\$59.45(N)
Premium (includes 7 calling features and 100 minutes LD)	\$43.45(R)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Directory Assistance, per call	\$2.99	\$2.99	\$2.99	\$2.99
Directory/Operator Assistance Block	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00

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SECTION 4 – RATES, CONT.

(R)

4.1.2 Installation
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(T)

(T)	AT&T Areas	CenturyTel Areas	Frontier Areas	Windstream Areas
Activation Fee ¹	\$40.00	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$85.00
Restoration Fee	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00
Name Change	\$20.00(I)	\$20.00(I)	\$20.00(I)	\$20.00(R)
Number Change	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00(R)
Transfer	\$59.95	\$59.95	\$59.95	\$59.95
Upgrade/Downgrade	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00(R)
Reconnect Line	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Change Order Fee	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

4.1.3 Custom Calling Services

	AT&T Areas	CenturyTel Areas	Frontier Areas	Windstream Areas
(D, C) Call Waiting	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
(D, C) Call Waiting Deluxe	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
(D, C) Call Forwarding	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Three Way Calling	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
(T) Speed Dial	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Call Return	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Caller ID	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Caller ID Deluxe	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Call Block	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Call Tracing	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Repeat Dial	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$5.00
(N) Unpublished Number*	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00
LD 250 minutes	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
LD unlimited minutes	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Maintenance Plan	\$7.50	n/a	\$3.00	\$7.50

*Requires Change Order Fee

¹ The Activation Fee may be collected over a 12 month payment plan. The Company may discount or waive the Activation fee for Lifeline customers

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SECTION 4 – RATES, CONT.

4.2 Rates – Business

4.2.1 Local Exchange Service

Global offers local exchange service on a monthly pre-paid basis as follows, only in AT&T areas:

4.2.2 Installation Charges

Connection Fee	\$109.99
Restoration Fee	\$28.00
Reconnect Line	\$50.00

4.2.3 Service Rates

Basic UNE Service	\$89.99
Directory Assistance, per call	\$2.99

These features are included with a Customer's local service that elects to purchase the Company's UNE package. A Customer that elects to purchase the Company's basic package may add one or more of the following features at the monthly price indicated:

Caller ID Deluxe	\$15.00
Call Waiting	\$10.00
Call Return	\$10.00
Call Forwarding	\$10.00
3 Way Calling	\$10.00
Call Block	\$10.00
Repeat Dialing	\$10.00
Call Selector	\$10.00

4.2.4 Optional Services

Unpublished Number	\$ 7.00
Voice Mail	\$12.00
Maintenance Plan	\$10.00

SECTION 5 – SPECIAL SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 Individual Case Basis Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for service not generally available under this tariff. On an Individual case basis rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis. All such rates will be submitted to the Commission for approval.

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SECTION 6 – SERVICE AREA

6.1 Service Area

GLOBAL will serve all areas of Alabama which are serviced by an Incumbent Local Exchange Service provider for which GLOBAL has a resale agreement.

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SECTION 7 - LIFELINE

7.1 Eligibility

7.1.1 To be eligible for the Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any one of the following low income assistance programs:

- A. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), previously known as AFDC
- B. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- C. Food Stamps
- D. Medicaid
- E. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- F. Federal Public Housing Assistance
- G. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Initiative (NSLP)

7.1.2 Additionally, a customer is eligible if their total gross annual household income does not exceed one hundred and thirty-five percent (135%) of the federal poverty guidelines. (T)
|
(T)

7.1.3 All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

7.2 Certification

7.2.1 Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided by the eligible Lifeline subscriber to the Company at the time of application for service, unless the Company has access to an eligibility database with which they can verify applicant's eligibility. Lifeline customers must complete and sign a Lifeline certification form. The lifeline credit will not be established until the Company has received such signed document. If the Customer requests installation prior to the Company's receipt of proof of eligibility, the requested service will be provided without the Lifeline credit. When eligibility documentation is provided subsequent to installation, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis. (T)
|
(T)

SECTION 7 – LIFELINE, CONTD.

7.2 Certification, contd.

- 7.2.2 The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
- 7.2.3 When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation within sixty (60) days, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.
- 7.2.4 As a reseller providing Lifeline service from this tariff, the Company is responsible for determining proof of eligibility prior to requesting the service. As set forth in 47 C.F.R. S 417(a) and (b), a reseller must provide a certification, upon request to the Commission, the Administrator or the ILEC that it is complying with all FCC and applicable State requirements governing Lifeline programs, including certification and verification procedures. The Company is required to retain the required documentation for three (3) years and be able to produce the documentation to the Commission or its Administrator to demonstrate that they are providing discounted services only to qualified low-income customers as outlined in 7.1.2 above.

Disclosure requirements described in 7.2.2 preceding are applicable to resellers of Lifeline service.

7.3 Rates & Charges

7.3.1 General

- A. Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
- B. Service charges are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
- C. The secondary service charge is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline service.

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SECTION 7 – LIFELINE, CONTD.

7.3 Rates and Charges, contd.

7.3.2 The total Lifeline credit consists of one federal credit plus one Company credit.

A. Federal Credit	(D)
All programs	Monthly
	\$ 9.25
B. Company Credit	
One per Lifeline service	\$ 3.50

7.3.3 Tribal Lifeline

A. Description of Service

Qualified residents of federally recognized tribal lands may receive up to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month in addition to federal Lifeline support for their residential service. (F)

B. Regulations (T)

1. Tribal Lifeline support is in addition to traditional Lifeline support. (M, D)
2. All Lifeline regulations are applicable to Tribal Lifeline.

C. Eligibility

To qualify, in addition to meeting the tribal land residency requirement, the customer may be a current recipient of any of the programs identified for Lifeline, or may be a recipient of one of the following federal programs: (M, D)

1. BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) General Assistance
2. Tribally Administered TANF
3. Head Start Program (income eligible)
4. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

SECTION 7 – LIFELINE, CONTD.

7.4 General

- 7.4.1 The Lifeline program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service for qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket No. 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket No. 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and with the FCC's Lifeline Reform Order (FCC 12-11) in WC Docket No. 11-42.
- 7.4.2 Lifeline is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- 7.4.3 Federal support of nine dollars and twenty-five cents (\$9.25) is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to the subscriber.

7.5 Regulations

- 7.5.1 One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only.
- 7.5.2 A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residence customers. Since the Lifeline credit is applicable to the primary residential connection only, it may not be applied to a multiple line package local service offering.
- 7.5.3 Toll blocking, if elected, will be provided at no charge to the Lifeline subscriber. A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of regulated toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local service in accordance with Section 2. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of regulated tolls. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges
- 7.5.4 No deposit requirement is applicable to a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required. When applicable, advance payments will not exceed the connection and local service charges for one month. (N)
- 7.5.5 The Federal Universal Service Charge will not be billed to Lifeline customers.
- 7.5.6 At no time shall a Lifeline customer's rate go below zero.

SECTION 8 – LINK-UP

8.1 Tribal Link-Up

8.1.1 Description of Service

Tribal Link-Up Connection Assistance is available for eligible residents of Tribal lands and provides a 100% reduction, up to \$100, of the charge for establishing new telecommunications service for a single telecommunications connection at a subscriber's principal place of residence.²

Tribal Link-Up also lets the customer defer interest on any service initiation fees for establishing service up to \$200 for up to one year

8.1.2 Eligibility

To qualify, in addition to meeting a tribal land residency requirement, the customer may be a current recipient of any of the programs identified for Lifeline or may be a recipient of one of the following federal programs:

- A. Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- B. Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- C. Head Start (only those households meeting its income qualifying standards)
- A. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

(M)

² Note 1: The Tribal Link Up Connection Assistance benefit may be received for a second or subsequent time only for an otherwise qualified establishment of service at a principle place of residence with an address different from the address for which the benefit was previously provided

Pages 30-31 have been deleted

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