

# Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Wind-Down Fact Sheet

In 2021, Congress established the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, appropriating \$14.2 billion. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was tasked to develop and implement the ACP as well as ACP outreach and awareness activities.

Effective February 8, 2024, the ACP is no longer accepting new enrollments. As of the date of the enrollment freeze, there are over 23 million households enrolled and receiving the ACP monthly benefit.

For more general information about the ACP, visit <u>GetInternet.gov</u> .	

### What's happening?

Without additional funding from Congress, the allotted \$14.2 billion to fund the ACP is projected to run out in April 2024. (This date is an estimate and may change.) As a result, the FCC has begun taking steps to wind down the ACP, which means:

- ACP applications and enrollments are no longer being processed as of February 8, 2024.
- Households who have applied, been approved, and are receiving the monthly internet discount before February 8, 2024 will continue to receive their ACP benefit until ACP funds run out, as long as the household remains enrolled in the program.
- After the ACP funds run out (projected in April 2024), households participating in the ACP will no longer receive the ACP discounts.

## How does wind-down impact enrolled ACP households?

- Households that are enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive monthly discounted internet service through the end of the ACP as long as they remain enrolled in the program and eligible for the benefit.
- During the ACP wind-down period, ACP households will receive notices from their internet company about the impact of the end of the benefit on the household's bill and service. The notices will tell households:
  - (1) that the ACP is ending,
  - (2) the impact on their bill,
  - (3) the date of the last bill they will receive that includes the ACP benefit, and
  - (4) that they may change their service or opt-out of continuing service after the end of the ACP
- ACP households may also switch their internet plans without penalty.

## **ACP households should:**

- Consistently check their emails, text messages and/or mail for more information and for further updates regarding the ACP benefit. Also visit <a href="http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov">http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov</a> and www.fcc.gov/acp.
- Contact their internet company for questions about how the end of the ACP will affect their monthly bill and to ask about available options.
- Visit <a href="www.fcc.gov/acp">www.fcc.gov/acp</a> to access answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and other guidance about the ACP wind-down process, including what households need to know about retaining internet service after the end of the ACP.
- Contact USAC directly for any other questions about the ACP wind-down. Households can call the ACP Support Center at 877-384-2575 for information about their benefit.

#### What are the important dates I should be aware of regarding the ACP wind-down?

- **February 7, 2024**: This is the last day that the ACP accepted new applications and enrollments. Eligible households needed to be approved and enrolled with an internet company by 11:59 PM ET on February 7th to receive the ACP benefit. After this date, there will be no more enrollments into the ACP.
- January 25, 2024: Households receiving a monthly ACP benefit prior to this date received notices from their internet company with information about the end of the ACP benefit. This information included timing of the end of the program and the impact of the loss of the benefit on the household's bill and service.
- March 2024: Households enrolled in the ACP are expected to start receiving additional notices
  from their internet company about the last month households will see the benefit applied to their
  broadband bill and the impact of the loss of the benefit on their household's bill and service.
  Providers are required to start sending notices 15 days after the FCC confirms that final fully
  funded month of the ACP.
- April 2024: The FCC anticipates existing ACP funding to run out in April 2024 if Congress does not provide additional funding. Consumers that are enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive their benefit on their internet service through April 2024. This date is an estimate and may change.

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