

Presentation for LIOB for December 10, 2020

California LifeLine: Updates on the iFoster Pilot Program and Program updates from Decision 20-10-006

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California Public
Utilities Commission

California LifeLine Pilot Program: iFoster Pilot

Mary Rottman, Senior Regulatory Analyst

iFoster Pilot

- Authorized by Decision 19-04-021 in April of 2019
- The iFoster pilot was one of two pilots launched in 2019
- Objective:
 - reducing barriers to and expanding LifeLine to unserved consumers
 - testing innovative partnerships & procedures for enrolling eligible consumers in the future
- iFoster, a non-profit with offices in Truckee, Sacramento, and Los Angeles, is the program administrator.
- Target population:
 - Current and former CA foster youth under age 26 and were in foster care on their 13th birthday

iFoster Pilot

- Boost Mobile provides phones and service at below-market prices, and back-end support to align their services with the privacy and legal requirements of working with foster youth.
- CA LifeLine Program provides financial support of up to \$70 per youth towards the costs of phones, and \$25 towards monthly service, as well as the operational costs incurred by iFoster and the costs of distributing the phones.
- Participation:
 - Potentially up to 33,000 foster youth can participate
 - Over 11,000 participating as of October 31, 2020 / 58 California counties

iFoster Pilot

- Petition for Modification – Decision 19.04-021 filed on August 25, 2020 and approved on November 5, 2020
 - Response to challenge of distance learning and student need for high-speed data
 - Current distance learning requires 2.5 times the amount of high-speed data than is available under current 3GB plan
 - Requested a reallocation of a portion of unspent funds from the first 8 months of the program to pay for upgrading data plans for the current school year increasing the data plan subsidy from \$25 to \$40/month (\$15 increase)

California LifeLine: Decision 20-10-006: Addressing Special Support Amount, Minimum Service Standard, and Wireline Federal Subsidy Make-up

Joanna Perez-Green, Senior Regulatory Analyst

Background Policies and Constraints

- FCC Order 16-38
 - Modernize broadband
 - Federal subsidy declines
 - Minimum service standards
- CPUC Decision 20-02-004
 - Expiration November 2020
 - Full \$2 Subsidy Make-up for wireline
 - Staff direction for further analysis
- LifeLine Fund Constraints
- COVID-19 and Governor Newsom Order N-33-20

Date	Mobile Voice	Mobile Broadband	Fixed Broadband	Voice Support Amount (Per Month)	Broadband Support Amount (Per Month)
December 1, 2016*	500 Minutes	Speed: 3G Usage Allowance: 500 MB	Speed: 10/1*** Usage Allowance: 150 GB	\$9.25	\$9.25
December 1, 2017	750 Minutes	Speed: 3G Usage Allowance: 1 GB	Speed: 15/2*** Usage Allowance: 250GB	\$9.25	\$9.25
December 1, 2018	1000 Minutes	Speed: 3G or Bureau Determination Usage Allowance: 2 GB	Speed: 18/2 Usage Allowance: 1000 GB	\$9.25	\$9.25
December 1, 2019	1000 Minutes	Speed: 3G or Bureau Determination Usage Allowance: 3 GB	Speed: 20/3 CA +\$2 Usage Allowance: 1024 GB	\$7.25	\$9.25
December 1, 2020	1000 Minutes	Speed: 3G or Bureau Determination Usage Allowance: Updating Mechanism	Speed: Mechanism Usage Allowance: CAF Standard or Bureau Determination	\$5.25	\$9.25
December 1, 2021	1000 Minutes**	Speed: 3G or Bureau Determination	Speed: Mechanism Usage Allowance: CAF Standard	\$0**	\$9.25

Program Analysis

- California LifeLine Fund constraints
 - Diminishing revenue stream
- Federal Subsidy Make-up impacts
- Renewal Freeze from COVID-19 response
 - More participants now rather than cycling out
- California-only LifeLine Participants
 - D.20-02-042 California will cover subsidy for participants which qualify under programs that the FCC eliminated from eligibility
- Measured rate plan for wireline
- State Comparison
- Customer Needs
 - Broadband, hotspots,
 - Choice of option

	2019 total monthly average participation	Annual California Fund to cover \$2	Annual California Fund to cover \$4
Total CaLL	1,680,551	\$40.3M	\$80.7M
Wireline	330,612	\$7.9M	\$15.8M
Wireless	1,349,938	\$32.4M	\$64.8M

Wireline



	Voice	Bundled: Voice + Broadband	Measured rate (Eliminated)
CA Subsidy	\$14.85	\$14.85	\$14.85 (fixed)
Federal Subsidy	\$5.25	\$9.25 (meets broadband req)	
CA replace Federal Subsidy reduction	\$2	\$0	\$0
Broadband (FCC MSS)	-	25/3 mbps, or at least 4/1; 1024GB allowance	-
Voice	Flat rate, Unlimited local	Flat rate, Unlimited local	-
Customer Copay	Exists (\$6-13)	Exists (\$20+)	Transition to Wireline voice *
Effective Date	Dec 1	Dec 1	Enrollments ceased Oct 8 th ; CA Subsidy Dec 1 st ; Transition by May 2021

*Customer impact is \$4 increase. To offset, CPUC Customer bill credit of \$2 for 6 months.

Wireless



	Basic Plan	Standard Plan	Family Plan (first line)	Upgrade Plan
CA Subsidy	\$12.85	\$14.85	\$14.85	\$14.85
Federal Subsidy	\$5.25	\$9.25	\$9.25	\$9.25
CA replace Federal Subsidy reduction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mobile Broadband (CA rule)	4GB*	6GB	12GB	12GB
Voice (CA rule)	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Customer Copay (CA rule)	\$0	\$0	Requires CPUC approval	Requires CPUC approval
Effective	Dec 1	Dec 1	Rolling basis	Rolling basis

*FCC MSS is 4.5GB. Service Providers may choose to increase their Basic Plan to 4.5GB to receive full Federal subsidy

Universal LifeLine Telephone Service Administrative Committee (ULTSAC) Openings

ULTSAC Member Roster

	Type	Assignment	Name	Organization
1	Large ILEC	Primary Alternate	Michael Foreman Charlie Born	AT&T California Frontier Communications
2	Small ILEC	Primary Alternate	Yvonne Wooster Lorrie Clark	Calaveras Telephone Company Sebastian
3	CLEC	Primary Alternate	Marcie Evans open	Cox Communications
4	Wireless	Primary Alternate	David Avila Alex Gudkov	TracFone Wireless, Inc. TruConnect
5	Deaf/Hearing Impaired or Disabled Rep	Primary Alternate	Kate Woodford open	Center for Accessible Technology
6	Consumer	Primary Alternate	Ken McEldowney open	Consumer Action (Chair of Committee;)
7	Consumer	Primary Alternate	Vinhcent Le open	The Greenlining Institute
8	CBO	Primary Alternate	Cesar Motts open	Southeast Community Development Corp.
9	CBO	Primary Alternate	open open	
10	CBO	Primary Alternate	open open	
11	CPUC's Public Advocates Office	Primary Alternate	James Ahlstedt open	Public Advocates Office

Questions?





California Public Utilities Commission

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<https://cpuc.ca.gov/lifeline/>