

**RENEWAL OF COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY,
AND
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

Verification of Eligibility of Lifeline Program Subscribers

The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, provides that a matching agreement shall remain in effect only for such period, not to exceed eighteen (18) months, as the Data Integrity Board of the agency determines is appropriate.

Within three (3) months prior to the expiration of such an agreement, the Data Integrity Board of the agency may, without additional review, renew the matching agreement for a current, ongoing matching program for not more than one (1) year if: (i) such program will be conducted without any change; and (ii) each party to the agreement certifies to the board in writing that the program has been conducted in compliance with the agreement. 5 U.S.C. § 552a(o)(2)(D).

The following meets the conditions for renewal.

I. TITLE OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM: Lifeline Program Computer Matching Agreement with Minnesota Department of Human Services

II. RECIPIENT AGENCIES: Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)

III. SOURCE AGENCY: Minnesota Department of Human Services (The Department)

IV. PURPOSE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM

The purpose of this matching agreement is to provide the FCC's Lifeline program, as administered by USAC, with information about whether an individual participates in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid). Since participation in such programs makes individuals eligible for the Lifeline program, 47 C.F.R. § 54.409(a)(2), the automated matching undertaken through this agreement is a cost-effective and efficient way to verify that an individual may receive the benefits of the Lifeline program.

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the FCC to establish federal universal support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program for low-income consumers. 47 U.S.C. § 254(b). The FCC has appointed USAC as the permanent Administrator of the federal Universal Service Fund support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program. 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.701-717.

The Department is responsible for the oversight and supervision of SNAP and Medicaid eligibility under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subd. 2. The Department maintains the case records and confidential personally identifiable information (PII) of individual applicants and recipients for SNAP and Medicaid.

V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

The current effective period of the matching agreement is April 28, 2023 through October 27, 2024.

VI. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE RENEWAL OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

Upon execution of the certification by the parties and approval of the Data Integrity Board of the Federal Communications Commission, the effective period is renewed for the period of October 28, 2024 through October 27, 2025.

VII. AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As designated representatives of the agencies participating in the matching program, we certify that: (i) the matching program will be conducted without change; and (ii) the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the current agreement.

A. Source Agency

DocuSigned by:
Shireen Gandhi
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Shireen Gandhi
Deputy Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Human
Services

10/15/2024

Date

B. Recipient Agencies

Signed by:
Tim O'Brien
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Tim O'Brien
Vice President, Lifeline
Universal Service Administrative Company

10/17/2024

Date

Mark Stephens
Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Date

VIII. DATA INTEGRITY BOARD APPROVAL

On behalf of the Data Integrity Board of the Federal Communications Commission, respectfully, I approve the renewal of the current agreement.

This renewal agreement shall remain in effect from October 28, 2024 through October 27, 2025.

Elliot S. Tarloff
Chairperson, Data Integrity Board
Federal Communications Commission

Date