

Helping Households Connect During the Pandemic



WCHA is pleased to announce that Housing Choice Voucher households are eligible to enroll in the **Emergency Broadband Benefit**.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) subsidy program to help families and households struggling to afford internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

EBB provides a discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households. Eligible households may also be able to receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 toward the purchase price.

A household is eligible for EBB if a member of the household meets *one* of the criteria below:

- Has an income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, or <u>Lifeline</u> (Note: Households receiving federal Public Housing assistance, including Housing Choice Vouchers, are <u>eligible</u> for Lifeline);
- Approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020, and the household had a total income in 2020 at or below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating Internet Service Provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

Eligible households can enroll through an approved Internet Service Provider or by visiting <u>GetEmergencyBroadband.org</u>.

Here are three ways you can enroll:

- Enroll online at <u>GetEmergencyBroadband.org</u>
- Connect directly with participating Internet Service Providers
- Download and print mail-in applications (in <u>English</u> or <u>Spanish</u>, with instructions available in <u>9 other languages</u>, or you can call 833-511-0311 to receive applications in the mail)

WCHA hopes you find this information useful. We encourage you to stay connected with us, with your community, and with your children's school during this COVID-19 pandemic.