The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed a harsh reality for low-income consumers, particularly in communities of color—broadband internet is essential but unaffordable. To help families and households struggling to afford broadband internet service, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) launched the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB), a temporary program to address a digital divide exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

What is the Emergency Broadband Benefit?

Limited to one broadband service benefit and one device benefit per household, the EBB provides:
- Up to $50/month for broadband service;
- Up to $75/month for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time connected device benefit of up to $100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider if the household contributes more than $10 but less than $50 toward the purchase price.

Who is Eligible?

A household is eligible if a member of the household:
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, or Lifeline;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, or did so in the 2019-2020 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’s income for 2020 was at or below $99K for single filers or $198K for joint filers;
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider’s existing low-income or COVID-19 program; or
- If the household has an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

How to Apply?

- Contact your preferred participating broadband provider directly to learn about their application process, or
- Go to GetEmergencyBroadband.org to apply online and to find participating providers near you, or Call 833-511-0311 for a mail-in application, and return it along with proof of eligibility to: Emergency Broadband Support Center, P.O. Box 708, London, KY 40742.

Program resources and Consumer FAQ’s are available at EBBHelp.org.