

**RENEWAL OF COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY,
AND
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

Verification of Eligibility of Lifeline Program and Affordable Connectivity 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 and Other Federal Telecommunications Benefit Computer Matching Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- II. RECIPIENT AGENCIES:** Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)
- III. SOURCE AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- IV. PURPOSE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE MATCHING PROGRAM**

The purpose of this matching agreement is to provide the FCC's Lifeline program and the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP),¹ as administered by USAC, with information about whether an individual participates in federal public housing assistance. Since participation in such programs makes individuals eligible for the Lifeline program, 47 C.F.R. § 54.409(a)(2), and/or the ACP, 47 C.F.R. § 54.1800(j), the automated matching undertaken through this agreement is a cost-effective and efficient way to verify that an individual may receive the benefits of these programs.

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

¹ ACP is the successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBBP) referenced in the original matching agreement. See Letter from Mark Stephens and Pamela Huguet to Ashley Sheriff (Dec. 14, 2021) (*Computer Matching Agreement Letter*), <https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/cma-hud-acp.pdf> (advising that the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBBP) was modified and extended to the longer-term ACP and that effective December 31, 2021, data matching under the CMA for purposes of EBBP would cease, and data matching for ACP would commence).

of the federal Universal Service Fund support mechanisms, including the Lifeline program. 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.701-717. Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182, as amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58, 135 Stat. 429, and pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the FCC and USAC, USAC administers the ACP. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 1752(i)(5).

HUD may collect the utilized data in its IMS/PIC system under: Section (d) of the Housing of Urban Development Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3535(d); Section 904 Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1988, as amended by Section 239 Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2009 (Pub. L. 111-8, approved March 11, 2009) and Section 3003 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-66, approved Aug. 10, 1993); Section 166 Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 100-242, 42 U.S.C. § 3536 note); and Section 303(i) of the Social Security Act (42 USC § 503), as amended by Section 542(a)(1) of Departments of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Pub. L. 105-65, approved Oct. 27, 1997). HUD may disclose the data under Routine Uses (5) and (6) of HUD's "Routine Use Inventory Appendix I" system of records notice, 80 Fed. Reg. 81837 (December 31, 2015). HUD maintains the case records and confidential personally identifiable information (PII) of individual applicants and recipients for IMS/PIC.

V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

The current effective period of the matching agreement is September 10, 2021 through March 9, 2023.

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 March 10, 2023 through March 9, 2024.

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:
Dominique G Blom
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Dominique Blom
General Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

_____ Date

DocuSigned by:
Ashley L. Sheriff
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Ashley L. Sheriff
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC)
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

_____ Date

DocuSigned by:
Gregg R Kendrick
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Gregg R. Kendrick
Chief Information Security Officer
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

_____ Date

DocuSigned by:
Beth Mblock
51C49194D15120

Elizabeth Mblock
Chief Information Officer
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

_____ Date

B. Recipient Agencies



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

2/28/23

Date



Mark
Stephens

Digitally signed by Mark Stephens
Date: 2023.08.03 11:55:48 -05'00'

Mark Stephens
Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Date

VIII. DATA INTEGRITY BOARD APPROVAL (FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION)

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

Elliot S. Tarloff Digitally signed by Elliot S. Tarloff
Date: 2023.03.03 13:12:36 -05'00'

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

Date

IX. DATA INTEGRITY BOARD APPROVAL (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT)

On behalf of the Data Integrity Board of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, respectfully, I approve the renewal of the current agreement.

**BRADLEY
JEWITT**

Digitally signed by BRADLEY
JEWITT
Date: 2023.02.28 12:06:51
-05'00'

Bradley S. Jewitt
Chairman, Data Integrity Board
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Date