

**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 Connectivity Benefit Programs 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 Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), 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.¹

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

¹ On February 8, 2024, the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau froze new applications and enrollments into the ACP, due to projections of the depletion of remaining funds and the lack of immediate additional funding from Congress for the program. See *Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Order, DA 24-23, at 8, para. 21 (WCB Jan. 11, 2024) (available at: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-23A1.pdf>).

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 TRACS and IMS/PIC systems under: Section (d) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3535(d); the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1437; The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601–3619); The Housing Community Development Act of 1981 (Pub. L. 97– 35, 85 stat., 348,408); Section 904 of the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1988, as amended by Section 239 of the 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); Sections 165 and 166 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 100-242, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3543 and 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 maintains the case records and confidential personally identifiable information (PII) of individual applicants and recipients for TRACS and IMS/PIC.

V. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE MATCHING AGREEMENT

The current effective period of the matching agreement is October 30, 2023 through April 29, 2025.

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 April 30, 2025 through April 29, 2026.

VII. CHANGES

By this renewal, USAC, FCC, and HUD make the following non-substantive changes:

- I. In Section IV. A., bullet point 4 of the CMA, DESCRIPTION OF THE DATA TO BE EXCHANGED, HUD's IMS/PIC system of records, which HUD has designated as HUD/PIH.01, has been updated to the following:
 - HUD's Inventory Management System/Public Housing Information Center-Housing Information Portal (IMS/PIC-HIP) system of records that HUD has designated as HUD/PIH.01, published in the Federal Register on January 9, 2024 (89 FR 1121). Routine Use No. 14 supports HUD's disclosures under this Agreement.

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VIII. 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

DOMINIQUE BLOM
Digitally signed by DOMINIQUE BLOM
Date: 2025.02.18 18:21:33 -0500

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

Date

DONALD BILLINGSLEY
Digitally signed by DONALD BILLINGSLEY
DN: cn = DONALD BILLINGSLEY C = US O =
U.S. Government OU = Department of Housing
and Urban Development Office of Housing
Date: 2025.02.18 11:04:04 -0500

Donald A. Billingsley
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Multifamily Housing (MFH)
Office of Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development

Date

Ashley L. Sheriff
Digitally signed by Ashley L. Sheriff
DN: cn = Ashley L. Sheriff ou = Ashley L. Sheriff@h
U.S. Government OU = Department of Housing and Urban
Development
Date: 2025.02.19 10:07:17 -0500

Ashley L. Sheriff
Chief Strategy Officer for the
Office of Strategic Initiative
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development

Date

Signed by:
Christina Addison 2/20/2025
889076FA760E4F2

Christina N. Addison
Acting Chief Information Security Officer
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development

Date

JEFFREY LITTLE
Digitally signed by JEFFREY LITTLE
Date: 2025.03.02 15:50:18 -0500

Jeffrey D. Little
General Deputy Assistant Secretary (GDAS)
Office of Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development

Date

DocuSigned by:
Sarah Ijaz 4/17/2025
889076FA760E4F2

Sarah Ijaz
Acting 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

02/12/2025

Date

Mark Stephens
Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission

Date

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IX. 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
Chairperson, Data Integrity Board
Federal Communications Commission

Date

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X. 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.

Trent D. Nickels
Chairperson, Data Integrity Board
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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