

Comparison chart of Lifeline cell phone programs

	Prepaid		Plans	
	Assurance Wireless	SafeLink Wireless	AT&T Lifeline	Sprint Lifeline
Basic Minutes	250 free minutes	250 free minutes <i>or</i> 125 free minutes that carryover monthly <i>or</i> 68 free international minutes (carryover)	300 anytime minutes for \$16.74 month	200 anytime minutes for \$16.49/month
Night/Weekend Minutes	None—all minutes are the same	None—all minutes are the same	1000 minutes before 6:00 am & after 9:00 pm Mon.-Fri., & all day Sat. & Sun.	Unlimited minutes before 7:00 am & after 9:00 pm Mon.-Fri., all day Sat./Sun.
Additional Minutes (overage fees)	\$5 for 250 additional minutes <i>or</i> \$20 for 750 additional minutes and 1000 texts	\$0.20 per minute	\$0.15 per minute	\$0.45 per minute
Within-Network Minutes	none	none	none	100 minutes to other Sprint customers
Roaming (travelling out of network)	none	none	\$0.25 per minute	\$0.45 per minute
Text Messaging	\$5 for 200 texts <i>or</i> \$20 for 1000 minutes & 1000 texts	\$0.20 per text message sent/received	Not available	Not available
Activation Fee	none	none	none	\$18 activation fee
Contract Required	none	none	1 year contract	2 year contract
Special Application Requirements	none	Last 4 of Social Security #, DSHS client ID # (if DSHS client)	Credit check (Social Security #, driver's license number)	Credit check (Social Security #, driver's license number)
Application Process	Apply over the phone, mail or fax application	Apply online or by mail	Mail application to phone company	Mail application to phone company
Estimated Monthly cost 250 minutes	free	Free (with 250 minutes option)	\$21 (\$16.74 + taxes/fees)	\$20 (\$16.49+ taxes/fees)
Estimated Monthly cost 500 minutes	\$6 (\$5 + taxes)	\$56 (with 250 option) (\$50 + taxes)	\$25 (\$20 + taxes/fees)	\$95 (\$77 + taxes/fees)
Estimated Monthly cost 1000 minutes	\$22 (\$20 + taxes)	\$167 (w/ 250 option) (\$150 + taxes)	\$107 (\$87 + taxes/fees)	\$280 (\$228 + taxes/fees)

Important Notes

- Only one Lifeline benefit (either cell phone or landline) is allowed per residential mailing address. P.O. boxes or commercial addresses are not accepted.
- To be eligible for Lifeline you must either receive DSHS benefits or your income must be below 135% of poverty level.
- Washington State taxes on prepaid cell phone minutes average 11%.
- Estimated costs of plans are based on 33% night/weekend minutes and 25% in-network minutes.
- Washington State taxes/fees on cell phone plans average 23%.
- The Average American cell phone customer uses 459 total minutes a month.

To Apply

Assurance Wireless: 1-800-395-2108 www.assurancewireless.com, PO Box 7600, Mattoon, IL 61938-9953

SafeLink: www.safelinkwireless.com, 1-800-977-3768, PO Box 220009, Milwaukie, OR 97269-0009

AT&T: 1-800-377-9450, www.wireless.att.com/about/community-support/lifeline-link-up.jsp 1215 W. Cherry St., Vermillion, SD 57069

Sprint Lifeline: 1-888-408-3306, www.nextel.com/en/services/calling/universal_lifeline_program.shtml ACS, 2432 Fortune Drive, Lexington, KY 40509



1501 North 45th Street, Seattle, WA 98103 ♦ (206) 694-6771 ♦ fax (206) 694-6777
cvm@solid-ground.org ♦ www.solid-ground.org/Programs/Housing/CVM



What if I'm not eligible for a Lifeline cell phone? *
What's the best deal on a prepaid cell phone that I can get for my money?

	Virgin Mobile PayLo	Virgin Mobile Beyond Talk	Net 10 Easy Minutes	Straight Talk	T-Mobile	Jitterbug	TracFone	Verizon	Boost Mobile	AT&T Go Phone
\$15			<u>200 minutes</u>			50 minutes				
\$20	<u>400 minutes</u>					100 minutes				
\$25		<u>300 minutes, unlimited text, unlimited data</u>								
\$30	<u>1500 minutes, 500 texts</u>		500 minutes	1000 minutes, 1000 texts	1500 minutes, 30 MB data		200 minutes			
\$40		<u>1200 minutes, unlimited text, unlimited data</u>				400 minutes, unlimited night/weekend				
\$45				<u>Unlimited minutes, unlimited text</u>				450 minutes, unlimited night/weekend		
\$50					<u>Unlimited minutes, 100 MB data</u>				Unlimited minutes	
\$60		<u>Unlimited minutes, unlimited text, unlimited data</u>								Unlimited minutes, unlimited text

***Reasons someone may be not eligible for a Lifeline cell phone program (i.e. SafeLink or Assurance):**

- 1) You do not have a unique residential mailing address (you are homeless)
- 2) Somebody else at your address (i.e. family member or roommate) is receiving telephone assistance
- 3) You receive telephone assistance for a landline phone (Washington Telephone Assistance Program)
- 4) Your household income is above %135 of poverty level and you do not receive any DSHS benefits

IF THESE CONDITIONS DO NOT APPLY TO YOU, APPLY FOR A LIFELINE CELL PHONE PROGRAM (other side).

To sign up for these prepaid cell phone plans:

Virgin Mobile: 1-888-322-1122 www.virginmobileusa.com/
 Net10: 1-800-323-2366 www.net10.com/
 Straight Talk: 1-877-430-CELL www.straighttalk.com
 T-Mobile: 1-800-T-MOBILE www.t-mobile.com/prepaid
 Jitterbug: 1-800-733-6632 www.greatcall.com
 TracFone: 1-800-867-7183 www.tracfone.com
 Verizon: 1-800-256-4646 www.verizonwireless.com/prepay
 Boost Mobile: 1-866-402-7366 www.boostmobile.com
 AT&T Go Phone: 1-888-333-6651 www.att.com/prepaid

Important Notes:

- Underlined entry is the best deal for the price.
- These are all prepaid (no-contract/ month-to-month) plans.
- If you use all the allotted minutes you will need to buy more minutes from the phone company in order to make or receive calls. Most companies have multiple plans available (i.e. pay-by-minute or pay-by-day) so make sure you sign up for the plan listed in the chart.
- Cost of phone is not included.

