



North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance
MEU

1985 Umstead Drive • 2501 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2501
(919) 855-4000

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

William W. Lawrence, Jr., M.D., Acting Director

December 20, 2007

Re: ID Card Inserts for January 2008

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Enclosed is the text for an insert that will be included with the January 2008 Medicaid ID cards. The insert describes the Lifeline/LinkUp discount telephone service for recipients of SSI, Food and Nutrition Services (Food Stamps), Work First, Medicaid, or recipients of a one time check this year from the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) or the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP).

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative. For any issues that are not able to be handled through that venue, Mrs. Angela Floyd, Assistant Director for Recipient and Provider Services, will be your point of contact and can be reached at (919) 855-4000.

Sincerely,

William W. Lawrence, Jr., M.D.

Enclosure

DISCOUNT TELEPHONE SERVICE

If you get SSI, Food Stamps, Work First, Medicaid benefits, or received a one time check this year from LIEAP or CIP, you can also get a discount on hooking up local telephone service and a discount on your local monthly phone bill. **(Telephone service must be in your name).**

Link-Up gives a 50% discount, up to \$30 off telephone hook-up and Lifeline gives up to \$13.50 off monthly service for people who receive SSI, Food Stamps, Work First, Medicaid, LIEAP, or CIP. Here is how to apply for discounts:

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE TELEPHONE SERVICE NOW:

Contact your telephone company to apply for service. Ask them to mail you a Lifeline/Link-Up Application form. Take the form to your caseworker at the local department of social services or if you receive SSI to your local SSA representative for verification. The agency will mail the form to your local telephone company.

When the telephone company receives the completed form, your Lifeline discount will begin. The Link-Up discount will appear on your first bill. (If you request service to be installed before the completed form is received, service will be provided without the Link-Up credit.)

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE TELEPHONE SERVICE :

Contact your caseworker at the local department of social services or if you receive SSI contact your local SSA representative. Have them complete the Lifeline/Link-Up form and mail it to your telephone company.

When the telephone company receives the completed application, the Lifeline discount will begin.

Note: If your telephone service has been disconnected for unpaid bills, you may still be able to get local service and use these discounts. Ask your telephone company for details.

Attorney General Roy Cooper, Chair of Lifeline/Link-Up Task Force, urges you to contact your local telephone company to learn more about these discounts.

January 2008