

19.9 LINK-UP AMERICA

A. Introduction

Link-up America is a national consumer education and outreach program designed to promote universal service to low-income households and get individuals who currently do not have telephone service onto the telephone network. The Department's activity in this program is limited to the State Office.

B. State Administration

The program is administered at the State level by the Office of Family Support, Projects Unit.

C. Area Administration

The local office will refer inquiries regarding Link-up America to the local telephone company or to the State Office Projects Unit. A limited number of forms will be provided to the local offices.

D. Eligibility Requirements

- The individual must have an active WV WORKS, Food Stamp, Medicaid, or SSI case, or
- Monthly gross income not to exceed current SSI income maximum for one or two person households plus the \$20 unearned income disregard

NOTE: The individual does not have to be elderly or disabled.

E. Application Procedure

Applications should be obtained from the telephone company or by request to the State Office Projects Unit, completed, and returned to the appropriate telephone company business office.

- The telephone company sends the completed form to the State Office of Family Support for verification.
- The approval/denial is noted on the form and returned to the appropriate telephone company.

F. Form

Link-up America Application Form - furnished by the telephone company.