

NEWS

GOVERNMENT OFFERS !

Government offers discounts for high-speed internet. Here's who's eligible and how to sign up

The government wants to cover high-speed internet for millions of low-income Americans.

The \$3.2 billion [Federal Communications Commission](#) program, the [Emergency Broadband Benefit](#), covers \$50 per month for high-speed internet service for eligible households, with a \$75 monthly discount for those in Native American [tribal areas](#). "High-speed internet service is vital for families to take advantage of today's health, education and workplace opportunities," Jessica Rosenworcel, acting chairwoman of the FCC, explained in an email.

More from Personal Finance:

[One million-plus Americans to lose supplemental unemployment benefits](#)
[New \\$1,400 stimulus checks include 'plus-up' and first-time payments](#)
[High cost of child care, lack of paid leave hold back many parents](#)

There program also offers a one-time \$100 subsidy to help families buy a new laptop, desktop computer or tablet. The FCC said Wednesday that eligible households may now [apply for the program](#), available while funding lasts or until six months after the pandemic ends.

How to qualify

Households that qualify for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medicaid, Lifeline, Pell Grants or free and reduced school lunches may apply. Those with a "substantial loss of income" from a job loss or reduced hours since Feb.

29, 2020, may also qualify.

There is an income limit, however. Single applicants may qualify with 2020 income at or below \$99,000, and the cut-off for married couples is \$198,000.

How to apply

Eligible households have three ways to apply for the program.

They may contact one of 825 [broadband providers](#) directly and apply through Another choice is to [apply online](#) and select the sign-up option that matches their eligibility type.

Households may also call for a [mail-in application](#). However, they may need to provide additional documents to verify eligibility.

Those with a past due internet bill or balance in collections may still be eligible, according to the program's [FAQ page](#). Once approved, eligible households will receive an internet discount every month while funding lasts. Families may also apply the subsidy to monthly charges for rented equipment, such as routers or modems.

When the program expires, households must opt-in or request to keep using the services, covering the full cost of monthly internet on their own.

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The 'digital divide'

The pandemic has highlighted the "digital divide" — the millions without affordable internet access — in the U.S. as many shifted to virtual work and homeschooling. Although 93% of American adults use the internet, only 75% have broadband access at home, according to a Pew Research [report](#).

The gap is more prominent among households of color, however.

Only 71% of Black households have internet access at home, and the percentage drops to 65% for Hispanic families.

The disparity is even wider in Native American homes, with only 61% with access for those living in tribal areas, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis [reported](#).

Funded in December by the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021](#), the Emergency Broadband Benefit aims to help more Americans get connected to the internet during the pandemic.

"This program will have a tremendous, positive impact on so many American households," Rosenworcel said. "It's an investment in American families and a vote of confidence in the economic power of getting us all online." The FCC has also established the \$7.2 billion [Emergency Connectivity Fund Program](#), making it easier for schools and libraries to buy laptops, tablets, Wi-Fi hotspots and broadband internet access.

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[Kate Dore@KATEDORE](mailto:Kate.Dore@KATEDORE)

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Kirk Basefsky
 President

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 Fax: 303.649.9890
kirkb@burstvideo.com

KTSM.com
 ph: 915.532.5421

3801-D Constitution
 El Paso, TX | 79922

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KEVIN LOVELL
 General Manager

KVIA-TV 7
 4140 Rio Bravo
 El Paso, Texas 79902
 Tel. (915) 496-7777
 Fax. (915) 532-0070

Website
kvia.com
 e-mail
kvia@kvia.com

abc 7

MARSAND, INC.
 Consulting Engineer

AFCEE
 SBE-PBE

Matthew A. Sanderford, Jr., P.E.
 President

tvcowboy@marsand.com
 PO Box 485 • 6100 IH-35W
 Alvarado, TX 76009

www.marsand.com
 Office: 817-783-5566
 FAX: 817-783-5577

SBE CHAPTER 38 OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN

Antonio Castro
 SBE member # 11456.
 KFOX/COX retired Chief Eng.
 800 Arredondo dr.
 El Paso, TX 79912
 915-584-1220 home
 915-525-8507 cell
farahjac@sbcglobal.net

VICE CHAIRMAN

Bruno Cruz
 SBE member # 25867
 200 E. Alto Mesa
 El Paso, TX. 79912
 915-757-7898
 915-526-1842 cell
Bruno.cruzJR@kfoxtv.com

TREASURER

Walter Hanthorn
 SBE member # 18307
 KSCE TV
 4461 Gen. Maloney
 El Paso, TX. 79924
 915-269-7583 home
 915-532-8588 office

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

David Halperin.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro
 Warren Reeves

FREQUENCY COORDINATION COMMITTEE:

Warren Reeves
 Owen Smith

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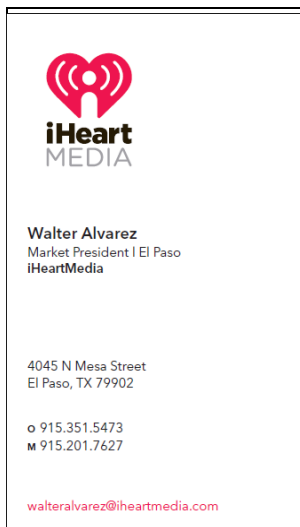
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EAS CHAIRMAN:

David Halperin

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro
 Bruno Cruz
 Walter Hanthorn



EL PASO, TX SBE CHAPTER 38 MEETING MINUTE

DATE 7/13/2021

LOCATION: ZOOM MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:00 AM, BY ANTONIO CASTRO.
THERE WERE 14 (FOURTEEN) ATTENDANTS

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: NO MINUTES IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER. ACCEPTED BY MARIO TELLEZ, SECONDED BY NORBERT MILES.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: \$ 5,285.88 IN THE BANK, ACCEPTED BY WARREN REEVES, SECONDED BY MARIO TELLEZ.

REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE: NOE RODRIGUEZ (KFOX-TV) GOT THE CERTIFICATION OF CBNE.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: NO CONTEST IN THE APPLICATION OF NORTH VAN HORN FOR A TELEMETRY FREQUENCY.

REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF THE WEBSITE COMMITTEE: NOW 3254 VS. 3194 EQUAL 60 HITS.

REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN: TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO-MONTHLY TEST WERE FINE. ANOTHER NATIONAL TEST ON AUG 11, 12:15 PM

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: ALONG WITH THIS CHAPTER MEETING, WE HAD THE PRESENTATION OF CHUCK BERRY FROM STACO ENERGY SOLUTIONS.

NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTEREST:
THE GROUP AGREED TO REQUEST THE ENNES WORKSHOP PERSON TO PERSON LIVE. WILL TALK TO CATHY OROZ TO FIND OUT THE POSIBILITIES..

OTHER IN AUGUST, POSSIBLE LUNCH MEETING AT KVIA BACK YARD.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION: AUGUST 10, 2021. PLACE AND TIME T.B..D.

ENNES WORKSHOP ????
NOVEMBER.5, 2021
OR JANUARY 14, 2022
THINK ABOUT IT !!!!!

AUGUST PROGRAM

LAST MONTH OF JULY, WE HAD OUR REGULAR CHAPTER MEETING IN "ZOOM" MODE, AND ALONG WITH THAT, WE HAD A PRESENTATION OF **STACO ENERGY SOLUTIONS**.

CHUCK BERRY WAS THE SPEAKER OF AN EXCELENT AND EDUCATIVE PRESENTATION

FOR AUGUST, THERE IS NO PRESENTATION, BUT INSTEAD, WE ARE GOING TO MEET "LIVE", THE OLD FASHION, WHICH INCLUDES LUNCH AT THE BACK PATIO OF KVIA, RIO BRAVO. TACO-TUESDAY ???

WHEN: TUESDAY AUGUST THE 10th.

WHERE: KVIA TV 7.

TIME: 12 PM.

INVITATION WILL FOLLOW!!

