




# GRANT ELEMENTARY

# GRIZZLY NEWS February 2024

## CONTACT US

8511 County Rd WW  
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

Phone: 715-424-6766

 Grant Elementary-WRPS

### From the Desk of Mrs. Calteux....

Dear Grant Grizzly Families,

Happy February! As we settle into the rhythm of the new year, I am delighted to share some exciting news and important reminders with you in this month's newsletter.

#### **\*\*Winter Gear for Outdoor Recess\*\***

Wisconsin winters can be unpredictable, and despite the varying amounts of snow, we want to ensure the comfort and well-being of our students during outdoor recess. Please continue sending your child to school with all necessary winter gear, including jackets, hats, gloves, and boots. Even on days with minimal snow, students are expected to wear their winter gear to prevent mud and sand from entering the classrooms. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated and contributes to a clean and inviting learning environment.

#### **\*\*Absence Reporting\*\***

A friendly reminder to please notify the school office by calling 715-424-6766 if your child is unable to attend school. Timely reporting of student absences helps us keep our records current with excused absences and ensures the well-being of all our students. Thank you for your ongoing support in this regard.

#### **\*\*Academic Achievements\*\***

I am thrilled to announce the achievements of some outstanding students at Grant Elementary:

- Spelling Bee Champion: Congratulations to Caroline, our Spelling Bee champion, with Oakley as the first runner-up. Caroline will represent our school at the district level competition this spring.

- Math 24 Winners: A big round of applause for our Math 24 winners, including 4th graders - Owen, Jack, Easton and Zeke (alternate) and 5th graders - Aiden, Amelia, Anna and Danica (alternate). We are proud of everyone's dedication and mathematical excellence. Way to go, grizzlies! Grant representatives will move on to the district Math 24 tournament in March.

- Junior Coaches of the Month: Join me in celebrating our January Junior Coaches of the Month, 4th graders Dawson and 5th grader Lillian. They have demonstrated outstanding responsibility and a genuine passion for supporting our youngest students at recess. Thank you, Dawson and Lillian, for your positive impact on our school community.

As always, I am grateful for your continued support and partnership in creating a positive and enriching learning environment for our students.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Calteux  
Principal, Grant Elementary School

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE 11 AM  
WITH AFTER SCHOOL CHANGES**



### February Calendar

- 16 National Random Act of Kindness Day

### March Calendar

- 01 NO SCHOOL  
PD day for staff  
04 Read Across America week begins  
13 Field Trip / 4th Grade to Sentry Theatre  
25- NO SCHOOL  
29 Spring Break

### MEALTIME PRICES

Check account via [Family Access](#)

#### Breakfast

Paid \$1.50  
Free/Reduced \$0.00

#### Lunch

Paid \$2.15  
Reduced \$0.40


#### Milk

\$0.45

Students who take milk w/cold lunch, or an extra milk w/hot lunch, will be **charged \$0.45**, regardless of pay status (i.e., Free, Reduced).



# Week of March 4<sup>th</sup> - March 8<sup>th</sup>

A stack of four colorful books (yellow, orange, purple, and green) is positioned to the right of the main title.

In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday, students are invited to dress-up during the school day, and enjoy a book together with their family at night.

Just click on the link provided for each day and enjoy a story together as a family.

## Monday, March 4, 2024

**Wear Stripes Day:** Wear clothes with stripes of all sizes and colors!



**BOOK:** Bad Case of the Stripes  
<https://rb.gy/uqefdg>

## Tuesday, March 5, 2024

**Wear Black Day:** Wear black and bring a flashlight to read your favorite nighttime stories!



**BOOK:** Flashlight  
<https://rb.gy/9ci96q>

## Wednesday, March 6, 2024

**Grant School Pride:** Wear your Grizzly apparel or Grant School colors!



**BOOK:** Bear's New Friend  
<https://rb.gy/ag312c>

## Thursday, March 7, 2024

**Silly Socks Day:** Wear fun, silly socks!



**BOOK:** Fox in Socks  
<https://rb.gy/zhiwkw>

## Friday, March 8, 2024

**Pajama Day:** Wear your P.J.s and bring a stuffed animal. Then read your favorite bedtime story!



**BOOK:** Llama, Llama Red Pajama  
<https://shorturl.at/ftMP6>



***From the CDC:*** Respiratory illness activity levels and emergency department visits have increased nationally.

### **Prevention:**

Influenza (flu), COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are highly prevalent during the fall and winter virus season.

Tools that will help people protect themselves, their families, and their communities include:

- Safe, updated immunizations are available for all three major fall and winter respiratory diseases - flu, COVID-19, and RSV.
- Widely available, effective treatments - Treatments are available for flu and COVID-19. Consult with your doctor for treatments.
- Testing - Tests, some of which can be done at home, can quickly detect these respiratory viruses to prevent delayed treatment and other actions that can protect their family, friends, and coworkers.
- Everyday actions - Other tools like masking, physical distancing, washing hands, and improving airflow.
- Immunization against flu, COVID-19, and RSV remains the best safeguard against hospitalizations, long-term health impacts, and death.

### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that everyone 6 months and older receive the seasonal influenza vaccine and the updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine. In addition, all infants should be protected against severe RSV through vaccination. Some children aged 8-19 months are at increased risk for severe RSV and may need a second RSV vaccine-consult with your physician. Adults 60 and older may receive the RSV vaccine if their provider thinks it's right for them. Click the following link for full information on [Respiratory Illnesses](#).

As a general rule of thumb, please keep your student home if:

- They are not feeling well enough to attend school;
- They have a fever of 100.4 degrees or above, or until fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications;
- They have diarrhea or are vomiting, and until diarrhea/vomit-free for 24 hours past the last episode.

Anytime your student is seen by a healthcare provider for any illness or medical appointment, please ask for a doctor's note to excuse them. Students are allowed 10 absences per year before a doctor's note is required.

### **Reminder:**

When the weather is extremely cold, stay indoors, and if you must go outside, dress properly to avoid frostbite or other serious health problems.

# HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FLU, RSV, COVID-19, AND THE COMMON COLD

Common symptoms may include cough, headaches, sneezing, runny nose, and congestion. Different symptoms may include:

	Rarely
	Sometimes
	Often

	COLD	FLU	COVID-19	RSV
ACHES				
DIFFICULTY BREATHING				
FATIGUE				
FEVER				
LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL				
SORE THROAT				
WHEEZING				

## With **POWER UP SWEET POTATO**



**Select** – Choose sweet potatoes that are firm and smooth.

**Store** – Store in a cool, dark place for 3-5 weeks.

**Prepare** – Rinse under cool, running water and scrub to remove dirt.

## Sweet Potatoes are the Harvest of the Month!

Add sweet potatoes to your favorite family meals:

- Slice, toss with oil and seasonings, and bake to make sweet potato fries.
- Mash with butter and cinnamon for a sweet side dish.
- Bake whole and top with black beans & salsa or maple syrup & toasted pecans.

*Make meals and memories together. It's a lesson kids will use for life.*

### Did you know?

Sometimes people call sweet potatoes yams, but yams and sweet potatoes are different vegetables! Sweet potatoes are root vegetables that came from the tropical regions of Central and South America. Yams are large, starchy roots from Africa and Asia.



Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin!  
#WIHarvestOfTheMonth



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension is an EEO/AA institution committed to diversity among its employees and in its programs.



# WRPS

## 2024-2025

### 4- AND 5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration will be held at the WRPS Enrollment Center, 311 Lincoln Street (enter through the front door)

#### WHAT TO BRING

- Child's certified birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or passport for verification
- Immunization record

REGISTRATION STARTS:

FEBRUARY 28  
12:00 - 6:00

FEBRUARY 29  
12:00 - 6:00

After the initial registration dates, registration will be available at the Enrollment Center. Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm



#### QUESTIONS ABOUT 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN?

Attend an Information Session Tuesday, February 20 5:00-6:00 pm

Pitsch Early Learning Center 501 17th Street S 715.424.6779

#### 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

- Child must be 4 years old by **September 1, 2024**.
- At the time of registration you will be able to indicate your site preference.

#### 5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

- Child must be 5 years old by **September 1, 2024**. If you have a question about early admission, call our Pupil Services Office at 715.424.6724.
- If your child is currently enrolled in a WRPS 4K program you DO NOT need to register for 5K.

4K Community Partners

Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc.



# WARR

## Questions about 4-Year-Old Kindergarten?

Attend an  
Informational Session

**Tuesday, February 20**

**5:00 - 6:00**

**Pitsch Early Learning Center**

501 17th Street S  
715.424.6779

**REGISTRATION  
STARTS  
FEBRUARY 28**

### Community Partners



Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc.



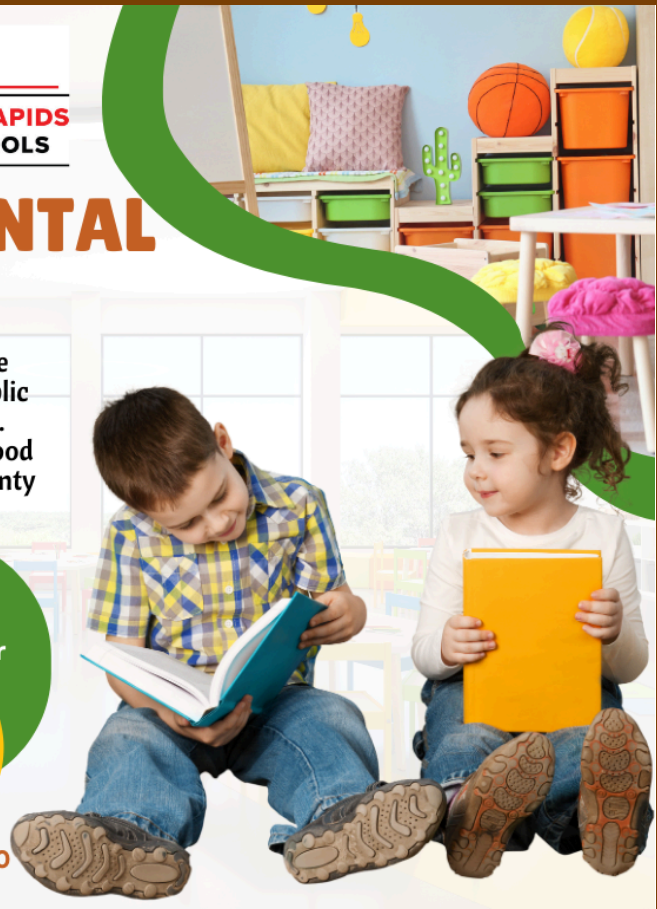
**FREE**  
**DEVELOPMENTAL**  
**SCREENING**



For ALL children 0-5 years of age living in the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools district attendance area. Screenings provided by WRPS, Wood County Head Start, and Wood County Birth to Three program.

**Thursday,  
February 29, 2024**  
Pitsch Early Learning Center  
501 17th St. So.  
**Must register by Friday,  
February 23**

**TO REGISTER:**  
Call Paula Tesch at 715-424-6700  
or email [paula.tesch@wrps.net](mailto:paula.tesch@wrps.net)



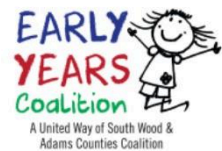
Bright by   **SCAN TO SIGN UP!**

**Kids don't come with instructions.** Bright by Text sends helpful parenting tips, activities & resources right to your phone—for free! Text 'BADGER' to 274448 to sign up!

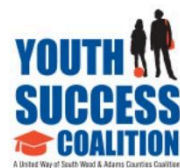
Bright by Text supports a 'whole child, whole family' approach to early childhood that improves parents' confidence, competence, and connections with their children.

Each message links to age-appropriate resources (short videos, articles, books, games, & activities) with content from trusted sources like Bright by Three, Cooking Matters, Delta Dental, PBS, Sesame Street, Vroom, and partners like local libraries, museums, and health organizations.

**Questions?** Contact Ben at United Way at 715-421-0390 or [ben@uwsvac.org](mailto:ben@uwsvac.org).



United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties



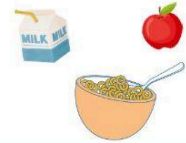
# FEBRUARY


## BREAKFAST MENU

GRANT, THINK ACADEMY & WOODSIDE

Starting the day with a healthy school breakfast is a simple way to help kids get the nutrition they need to learn, grow, and be healthy.

To learn more about the benefits of breakfast, check out this video from USDA's Team Nutrition: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/kids-are-stronger-school-breakfast>.



<p><b>Questions about school breakfast or lunch?</b> Contact us at <a href="mailto:schoolnutrition@wrps.net">schoolnutrition@wrps.net</a></p>			<p><b>TH 1</b></p> <p>WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT</p>	<p><b>F 2</b></p> <p>CHEESE OMELET WHOLE GRAIN TOAST</p>
<p><b>M 5</b></p> <p>COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK</p>	<p><b>T 6</b></p> <p>EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST SANDWICH</p>	<p><b>W 7</b></p> <p>BAGEL W/ CREAM CHEESE HARD BOILED EGG</p>	<p><b>TH 8</b></p> <p>HOMEMADE GRANOLA YOGURT</p>	<p><b>F 9</b></p> <p>EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST BURRITO</p>
<p><b>M 12</b></p> <p>COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK</p>	<p><b>T 13</b></p> <p>BLUEBERRY OATMEAL BAKE YOGURT</p>	<p><b>W 14</b></p> <p>BREAKFAST PIZZA</p>	<p><b>TH 15</b></p> <p>WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT</p>	<p><b>F 16</b></p> <p>CHEESE OMELET WHOLE GRAIN TOAST</p>
<p><b>M 19</b></p> <p>COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK</p>	<p><b>T 20</b></p> <p>EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST SANDWICH</p>	<p><b>W 21</b></p> <p>BAGEL W/ CREAM CHEESE CHEESE STICK</p>	<p><b>TH 22</b></p> <p>HOMEMADE GRANOLA YOGURT</p>	<p><b>F 23</b></p> <p>EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST BURRITO</p>
<p><b>M 26</b></p> <p>COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK</p>	<p><b>T 27</b></p> <p>EGG, CHEESE &amp; POTATO BREAKFAST BOWL W/ WG BISCUIT</p>	<p><b>W 28</b></p> <p>BREAKFAST PIZZA</p>	<p><b>TH 29</b></p> <p>WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT</p>	

### SELECTION OF MILK & FRUIT OFFERED DAILY

**BREAKFAST PRICES**

**PAID:** \$1.50

**FREE & REDUCED:** NO CHARGE

**ADULT:** \$2.60 **CHILD VISITOR:** \$2.00

MENU ITEMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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[WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE](http://WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE)

**REAL FOOD FOR RAPIDS KIDS**





\*DAILY ENTREE INCLUDES A CHOICE OF OPTION 1 OR OPTION 2  
\*ALL BREAD/GRAINS OFFERED ARE WHOLE GRAIN RICH

ELEMENTARY

On Thursday, February 22nd, we'll be participating in the annual [Wisconsin Chili Lunch!](#) We'll be serving a tasty chili made with some locally grown veggies! The goal of the Wisconsin Chili Lunch is to create strong connections between Wisconsin farmers and eaters and demonstrates how cafeterias can serve Wisconsin grown - even in winter. This statewide chili lunch event inspires nutritious school meals and supports farm to institution initiatives throughout the state, and encourages year-round purchases of local foods. [#WIChiliLunch](#) [#WISchoolMealsRock](#)



Questions about school breakfast or lunch?  
Contact us at [schoolnutrition@wrps.net](mailto:schoolnutrition@wrps.net)

<p><b>TH 1</b> ITALIAN MEATSAUCE SPAGHETTI BREADSTICK OR HAM &amp; CHEESE WRAP Steamed Corn</p>					<p><b>F 2</b> WENZEL'S FARM BEEF &amp; PORK HOT DOG OR BAKED POTATO W/ HAM &amp; CHEESE WHOLE GRAIN ROLL Steamed Broccoli</p>				
<p><b>M 5</b> WHOLE GRAIN PIZZA OR SUNBUTTER &amp; JELLY SANDWICH STRING CHEESE</p>		<p><b>T 6</b> HAMBURGER OR VEGGIE BURGER Taco Chips / Salsa</p>		<p><b>W 7</b> CHEESE QUESADILLA OR CHICKEN FAJITA Shredded Lettuce Salsa</p>		<p><b>TH 8</b> MACARONI &amp; CHEESE WHOLE GRAIN ROLL OR TURKEY BURGER</p>		<p><b>F 9</b> HOMEMADE LASAGNA OR YOGURT STRING CHEESE Whole Grain Roll</p>	
<p><b>M 12</b> CHICKEN STRIP WRAP OR HAM SANDWICH Steamed Corn</p>		<p><b>T 13</b> CARNITAS PORK NACHOS OR HOMEMADE BEAN &amp; CHEESE BURRITO Lettuce / Tomatoes Spanish Rice / Salsa</p>		<p><b>W 14</b> CHEESE RAVIOLI BREADSTICK OR GRILLED CHICKEN SANDWICH Whole Grain Choc. Chip Cookie</p>		<p><b>TH 15</b> CHEESE OMELET OR YOGURT STRING CHEESE French Toast Bake Deli Roaster Potatoes</p>		<p><b>F 16</b> WENZEL'S FARM BEEF &amp; PORK HOT DOG OR HAM &amp; CHEESE CHEF SALAD WHOLE GRAIN BUN</p>	
<p><b>M 19</b> BREADED CHICKEN SANDWICH OR BEEF TACO QUESADILLAS Sweet Potato Fries</p>		<p><b>T 20</b> WHOLE GRAIN TOASTED CHEESE SANDWICH OR TURKEY SANDWICH Tomato Soup Saltine Crackers</p>		<p><b>W 21</b> TURKEY IN GRAVY OR CRUNCHY FISH STICKS Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Whole Grain Roll</p>		<p><b>TH CHILI DAY! 22</b> CHEESE FILLED BREADSTICKS OR CHICKEN DRUMSTICK WHOLE GRAIN ROLL Wisconsin Chili</p>		<p><b>F 23</b> HOT HAM &amp; CHEESE ON PRETZEL BUN OR FALAFEL PITA</p>	
<p><b>M 26</b> TURKEY HOT DOG OR BBQ PORK SANDWICH Seasoned Potato Wedges</p>		<p><b>T 27</b> PORTESI CHEESE FRIES OR BREAKFAST POWER PACK</p>		<p><b>W 28</b> CHEESEBURGER OR BREADED FISH SANDWICH</p>		<p><b>TH 29</b> POPCORN CHICKEN BREADSTICK OR HAM SANDWICH</p>		<p><b>F March 1st</b> NO SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY</p>	

**MILK, FRESH FRUIT + VEGETABLES OFFERED DAILY**

**KNOW YOUR FOOD**  
 VEGETARIAN  
 FARM TO SCHOOL  
 HARVEST OF THE MONTH

**LUNCH PRICES**  
 PAID: \$2.15    REDUCED: \$0.40  
 FREE: NO CHARGE  
 ADULT: \$4.65    CHILD VISITOR: \$3.00



FOLLOW US @WRSCHOOLNUTRITION  
[WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE](http://WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE)

**REAL FOOD FOR RAPIDS KIDS**

MENU ITEMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



# Kiwaniis®

Youth Outdoors Day

**Free  
to  
Attend**



**BROOM BALL**



**REGISTER ONLINE: <http://bit.ly/KYOD20W>**  
Visit [WRKiwaniis.org](http://WRKiwaniis.org) for complete details

**Nepco Lake County Park**  
**Griffith Ave, Wisconsin Rapids**



Scan me  
Employee E-clips

**Saturday, February 24th**  
**Activities: 10am - 3pm**

**Enjoy Fun, Food & Prizes**

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian all day.

## Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is Winding Down

Families should be aware that the FCC has begun to wind down the “Affordable Connectivity Program,” which allows eligible households to receive a discount of up to \$30 per month for broadband service, and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

As of January, [416,630 Wisconsin households](#) were enrolled in ACP. That’s about 1 in 6 households in Wisconsin. The \$14 million in ACP funds are expected to run out, likely in April or May, unless Congress appropriates additional funding.

### Status of Continued ACP Funding

Last week DPI, along with 400 other organizations nationally, endorsed the [Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act](#) (HR 6929/S 3565), which was introduced in both the House and Senate. This bill would provide \$7 billion to keep the ACP funded through the end of 2024. This bill has not yet made it to the floor for a vote.

A second pathway for additional funding is as part of a larger appropriations bill that might not be voted on by Congress until as late as March 8. Thus it could be some time before we know whether the program will be extended past April.

### What ACP Households Can Expect

Because program funds are projected to run out soon, unless there is new funding, the FCC is beginning to take steps to wind down the program. Last week, [the FCC released order \(DA 24-23\)](#) to mandate the initial steps of the wind-down process. The FCC projects that households already enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive the benefit on their internet service through April 2024. This date is an estimate and may change.

*No new ACP enrollments will be accepted after February 7, 2024.*

Before January 25, 2024, households that are currently receiving the ACP benefit will receive the first of three notices from their internet company providing information about the end of the ACP, including when the program is projected to end and how their broadband bill will be affected. Providers may include information on any low-cost plans in their notice to enrolled households. ACP households will also receive notices from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), the administrator of the ACP.

The [ACP Wind-Down Fact Sheet](#) and [ACP Wind-Down Frequently Asked Questions](#) included in this newsletter provide additional helpful information.

Any WRPS households impacted should contact their internet company for information about when they should last expect to see an ACP benefit on their monthly internet bill. Households will also need to contact their internet company to discuss options if they do not wish to receive undiscounted internet service after the end of the ACP or if they would like to change their service plan.

In addition to working with their internet provider, households can contact the ACP Support Center (877) 384-2575 with any questions about the wind-down process and for other information about their benefit.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Phillip Bickelhaupt, our Director of Technology by email at [phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net](mailto:phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net) or by phone at 715-424-6715.





## Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Wind-Down Fact Sheet

In 2021, Congress established the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, appropriating \$14.2 billion. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was tasked to develop and implement the ACP as well as ACP outreach and awareness activities.

As of January 2024, over 22 million households are enrolled and receiving the ACP monthly benefit.

For more general information about the ACP, visit [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov).

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### What's happening?

Without additional funding from Congress, the allotted \$14.2 billion to fund the ACP is projected to run out in April 2024 (this date is an estimate and may change). As a result, the FCC has begun taking steps to wind down the ACP, which means:

- ACP applications and enrollments will not be processed after February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET.
- Households who have applied, been approved, and are receiving the monthly internet discount before February 8, 2024 will continue to receive their ACP benefit until ACP funds run out, as long as the household remains enrolled in the program.
- After the ACP funds run out (projected in April 2024), households participating in the ACP will no longer receive the ACP discounts.

### What does this mean for low-income households not in the ACP?

- Because of the wind down of the program, the ACP will need to stop new enrollments. Starting February 8, 2024, no new enrollments will be accepted.
- Eligible households that are not already enrolled and who wish to receive the ACP benefit should complete an application at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov) as soon as possible to allow time for the processing of your application. Once your application is qualified, you must sign up with an internet company by February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET to start receiving your benefit.
- If you qualified for the ACP but you did not sign up with an internet company before February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET, then you can no longer enroll in the ACP.

### How does wind-down impact enrolled ACP households?

- Households that are enrolled in ACP will continue to receive monthly discounted internet service through the end of the ACP.
- During the ACP wind-down period, ACP households will receive notices from their internet company about the impact of the end of the benefit on how the household's bill and service. The notices will tell households:
  - (1) that the ACP is ending,
  - (2) the impact on their bill,
  - (3) the date of the last bill they will receive that includes the ACP benefit, and
  - (4) that they may change their service or opt-out of continuing service after the end of the ACP
- ACP households may also switch their internet plans without penalty.

#### ACP households should:

- Consistently check their emails for more information and for further updates regarding the ACP benefit. Also visit <http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov> and [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp).
- Contact their internet company for questions about how the end of the ACP will affect their monthly bill and to ask about available options.
- Visit [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp) to access answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and other guidance about the ACP wind-down process, including what households need to know about retaining internet service after the end of the ACP.
- Contact USAC directly for any other questions about the ACP wind-down. Households can call the ACP Support Center at 877-384-2575 for information about their benefit.

#### What are the important dates I should be aware of regarding the ACP wind-down?

- **February 7, 2024:** This is the last day that the ACP will accept new applications and enrollments. Eligible households must be approved and enrolled with an internet company by 11:59 PM ET on February 7<sup>th</sup> to receive the ACP benefit. Starting February 8, 2024, there will be no more enrollments into the ACP.
- **Starting late January 2024:** Households that are currently receiving a monthly ACP benefit will start to receive notices from their internet providers with information about the end of the ACP benefit. This information will include timing of the end of the program and the impact of the loss of the benefit on the household's bill and service.
- **April 2024:** The FCC anticipates existing ACP funding to run out in April 2024 if Congress does not provide additional funding. Consumers that are enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive their benefit on their internet service through April 2024. This date is an estimate and may change.

## Affordable Connectivity Program Wind-Down Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**Purpose:** Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was tasked to develop and maintain the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) – a federal program that offers eligible households a discount on their monthly internet bill and a one-time discount off the purchase of a laptop, desktop or tablet computer. Since launching in December 2021, the ACP has helped over 22 million eligible households gain access to online internet service, allowing subscribers to take advantage of educational and career building resources, telehealth services and more. However, the of \$14.2 billion Congress initially appropriated for the ACP is approaching depletion. Without additional funding, the Commission must begin a wind-down process for the ACP.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions about the ACP wind-down process.

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### FAQs: For ACP Households

#### 1. What is the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)?

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal program that offers eligible households a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 toward the purchase of a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if the household contributes more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

#### 2. What does wind-down mean for the ACP?

In 2021, Congress established the ACP in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and appropriated \$14.2 billion for the program. Current ACP funding is projected to run out at the end of April 2024. As of January 2024, Congress has not appropriated additional funding for the ACP to keep the program going beyond April 2024. As a result, the FCC has begun taking steps to wind down the ACP. Wind-down steps will result in ending the ACP at which time enrolled households will no longer receive the program discounts.

Wind-down steps will include, but are not limited to:

- A freeze on new ACP applications and enrollment. The last day to enroll in the ACP is February 7, 2024 by 11:59 PM ET.
- Households that are enrolled by 11:59 p.m. ET on February 7, 2024 can continue receiving monthly discounted broadband service from their internet company through the end of the ACP, which is currently projected to be April 2024.
- Outreach with national and local representatives and organizations to help raise awareness about the ACP coming to an end.

### **3. When will the ACP stop accepting new applications and enrollments?**

The last day for eligible households to apply for and enroll in the ACP is **February 7, 2024, by 11:59 PM ET**. Households that are enrolled with an internet company by this date and remain enrolled in the program will continue to receive their ACP benefits during the wind-down period.

### **4. What are the important dates I should be aware of regarding the ACP wind-down?**

- **January 11, 2024:** The FCC [released an Order laying out wind-down processes and important dates](#) including the enrollment freeze and the impacts on consumers, internet companies, and ACP Outreach Grant recipients.
- **February 7, 2024:** This is the last day the ACP will accept new applications and enrollments. Eligible households must be approved and enrolled with an internet company by 11:59 PM ET on February 7<sup>th</sup> to receive the ACP benefit. Starting February 8, 2024, there will be no more enrollments into the ACP.
- **Starting late January 2024:** Households that are currently receiving a monthly ACP benefit will start to receive notices from their internet companies with information about the end of the ACP benefit. This information will include timing of the end of the program and the impact of the loss of the benefit on the household's bill and service.
- **April 2024:** The FCC anticipates existing ACP funding to run out at the end of April 2024 if Congress does not provide additional funding. Consumers that are enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive their benefit on their internet service through April 2024. This date is an estimate and may change.

### **5. What does the “last fully funded month of the ACP” mean?**

The phrase “last fully funded month of the ACP” refers to the last month ACP households will receive the full ACP benefit received in prior months. As funds for the ACP deplete, any remaining funds after the last fully funded month may be distributed the following month to benefit recipients on a reduced basis. This means that households may not receive the full \$30 benefit. Your internet company will decide whether it will provide a reduced benefit. Contact your internet company for information on when you should last expect to see an ACP benefit on your monthly internet bill.

### **6. What happens if Congress provides additional funding for the ACP?**

If Congress decides to provide more funding for the ACP, the FCC will provide further guidance and instructions on how the ACP will proceed at that time.

### **7. As a current household receiving the ACP benefit, what will the notices from internet companies to ACP households look like?**

- **Timing:** Internet companies will send three (3) required written notices to their ACP households:
  - (1) The first will be by January 25, 2024;
  - (2) The second will be within 14 days after announcement by the FCC of the last fully funded month of the ACP; and
  - (3) The third will be simultaneous with the last bill/billing cycle in which the full ACP benefit is applied before the program ends.
- **Format:** Internet companies are encouraged to send notices in the same way they usually communicate with the household, including in the household's preferred language. You may receive these notices from your internet company by e-mail, text, in the mail, or along with your bill.
- **Content:** The first notice households will receive in January 2024 will tell households about the possible upcoming end of ACP and its potential impact to the ACP households' bills. The second and third notices must inform ACP households of the following:

- (1) that the ACP is ending,
- (2) the impact on their bill,
- (3) the date of the last bill they will receive that includes the ACP benefit, and
- (4) that they may change their service or opt-out of continuing service after the end of the ACP.

**8. Are internet companies allowed to send more than three (3) notices to their consumers?**

Yes, internet companies are welcome to send additional notices and are strongly encouraged to include additional information on any low-cost internet plans or how to obtain information on low-cost plans.

**9. What other ways can I expect to learn about the ACP coming to an end?**

ACP households will also receive direct notices from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), the administrator of the ACP. Households can also visit [fcc.gov/acp](https://fcc.gov/acp) and [AffordableConnectivity.gov](https://AffordableConnectivity.gov) for more information about the status of the ACP.

**10. What should I do when my ACP benefit ends?**

After the ACP ends, you will no longer get the monthly internet discount. Here is what you as a consumer can do now:

- Contact your internet company if you have questions about how the end of the ACP will affect your monthly bill and ask about the options available to you.
- Visit [GetInternet.gov](https://GetInternet.gov) for more information and for further updates regarding your ACP benefit.

**11. If I have questions about the ACP wind-down process, who should I contact other than my internet company?**

Consumers should contact USAC directly for questions about the wind-down. Consumers can call the ACP Support Center at 877-384-2575 or go to [GetInternet.gov](https://GetInternet.gov) for information about the status of the program. Consumers can continue to file complaints through the FCC's Consumer Complaint Center at <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov> about ACP billing and service issues.

**12. What other FCC federal programs are available to me to receive a discount on my internet bill?**

If you currently receive ACP benefits, you may still qualify for the [Lifeline Program](https://LifelineProgram.gov) to save on internet service. The Lifeline Program is another federal program that makes phone and internet service more affordable. If you qualify for Lifeline, you can get a monthly benefit of:

- Up to \$9.25 off the cost of phone, internet, or bundled services
- Up to \$34.25 off the cost of phone, internet or bundled services if you live on qualifying Tribal Lands

**13. What if I applied for the ACP benefit and am waiting to hear back about my application?**

ACP applications will not be processed after February 7, 2024. If you have been asked to provide additional information or documentation, please make sure to do so as soon as possible to allow time for processing so that an eligibility determination can be made and you can sign up with an internet company by February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET. You are strongly encouraged to provide the missing information online at [GetInternet.gov](https://GetInternet.gov) to get your documents approved as quickly as possible. ACP applicants are advised that communicating via mail may result in processing delays and may result in missing the enrollment deadline.

**14. What happens if I qualified for the ACP but do not sign up with an internet company?**

If you have an active qualified application for the ACP, but have not enrolled, contact your preferred internet company to enroll with them by February 7, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET. To check the status of your application, log into your account at [GetInternet.gov](https://GetInternet.gov) or contact the ACP Support Center at 877-384-2575.



You MUST apply your benefit with an internet company as soon as possible – BEFORE the 11:59 PM ET deadline on February 7, 2024 – to ensure you can get your monthly internet discount until the program ends.

If you qualified for the ACP, but you do not sign up with an internet company by February 7, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET, then you will no longer be able to enroll in the Affordable Connectivity Program to receive the ACP benefit.

**15. Will my internet company automatically sign me up for a different plan without my authorization?**

Households that either 1) previously consented to receive internet service from their internet company after the end of ACP; 2) paid for service from their internet company before they started receiving discounted internet service; or 3) currently contribute to the cost of their internet service even with the ACP benefit applied will be able to continue to receive internet service from their internet company after the end of the ACP. If you do not wish to receive internet service after the end of ACP or would like to change your service plan, contact your internet company to discuss your options.

Households that 1) have not previously consented to receive internet service from their internet company after the end of ACP or 2) have not paid their internet company for service will not receive internet service from their internet company after the end of the ACP. If you do not want to lose your internet service after the end of the ACP, contact your internet company to opt in to continue to receive undiscounted service after the ACP ends.

After the ACP, households that will continue to receive internet service will be subject to their internet company's undiscounted rates, along with the internet company's general terms and conditions.

**16. What consumer protections are available to ACP households during wind-down?**

Existing ACP consumer protections remain in effect.

For more information, please visit <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/manage-my-benefit/protections-rules/>.

**FAQs: Outreach and Education**

**17. What resources will the FCC provide to outreach partners to also help inform consumers about the ACP coming to an end?**

The FCC and USAC have provided updated materials for consumers and stakeholders. In addition to this FAQs document, the FCC also has a Fact Sheet that is available in English as well as other languages. These consumer outreach materials are available for download at: [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp).

**18. What is the FCC doing to inform the households currently enrolled in the ACP?**

The FCC's priority in this wind-down process is to ensure ACP households are well-informed about the end of the program, its impact on their internet bills, and to help ACP households stay connected after the ACP ends. The FCC will continue its partnerships with national and local representatives and organizations to help educate ACP households about ways to keep their internet services as they navigate from the ACP.