WRPS
February 2024

Life (a) Lincoln

Junior ACT Testing Tuesday, March 12, 2024

All juniors will be taking the ACT test during the school day on Tuesday, March 12th.

All junior students MUST be in their assigned testing room by 7:30 a.m.

Bussing will run at normal times on testing day. Students can be dismissed from school after testing is complete if the parent/guardian completes this <u>form</u>.

Juniors will have a presentation about this test during RPT on Monday, Feb. 19th. On Thursday, Feb. 22nd at 7:30 a.m. they will complete the pre-fill information in their RPT classroom. This will take approximately one hour. All students will have an extended RPT on this day.

More information on the ACT Assessment is available on our website at https://www.wrps.org/schools/lincoln/ academics/LHS ACT.cfm

Testing Schedule for March 12:

7:30 a.m. - 12:51 p.m. - ACT Testing

11:21 - 11:51 a.m. - Lunch (Between multiple-choice and writing sections)

1:00 p.m. - Juniors Dismissed or Go to Study Hall (Commons)

2:53 p.m. - Buses Depart LHS

Seniors Reality Check March 12, 2024

Seniors will be participating in the "Reality Check" financial simulation requirement for graduation along with community engagement and round table discussions with business and industry professionals from 7:30 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. Students can be dismissed from school at 12:00 p.m. if the parent/guardian completes this form.



Ronald Rasmussen Principal

Nic Sydorowicz, Steve Thayer, Kelly Zywicki Associate Principals

Information for Seniors & Their Parents

This can be a very "interesting" time of the school year as a parent or guardian of a graduating senior. Keeping your teen on the right track in school and making good decisions can be a challenge, especially the second and third trimester of their senior year. As a parent or guardian, please keep your standards and expectations high. We realize this may be difficult because seniors start spreading their wings in preparation for their future. Despite their tendency to want to slow down at the end, please help us emphasize the need to finish strong. Colleges continue to monitor academics to make sure students are not "slacking off" so please communicate with your student the need for them to continue to strive for excellence.

Class Reunion Zero

A graduation party for the entire 2024 graduating class

Next Parent Planning Meeting: Wednesday, February 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the LHS main office conference room. Parents of current and future seniors are welcome! Watch the <u>LHS Class Reunion Zero</u> Facebook page for updates.

Interested in Donating: Do you want to help the Class of 2024 celebrate their graduation? But NOT interested in... Buying anything? Delivering anything? Then you can opt-out. Donations can be made payable to Lincoln High School CRZ and sent to Lincoln High School, Attn: CRZ, 1801 16th Street S, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. See page 10 of this newsletter for more information.

Senior Mandatory Meeting

All seniors who plan to participate in this year's graduation ceremony will attend a mandatory meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024, in the PAC. It is mandatory that seniors allowed to walk in graduation attend this meeting.

Caps/Gowns/Tassels

Caps/gowns/tassel and graduation orders will be delivered on Monday, April 15th immediately following the meeting in the PAC. If you have not yet ordered your cap/gown/tassel, please do so as soon as possible at <u>Jostens.com</u>. Jostens will have some caps/gowns/tassels available for purchase on April 15th, paid with cash only. To avoid paying a late fee, place your order as soon as possible.

Fees/Fines

In order for your child to receive their diploma and participate in graduation, all fees, fines, and other money obligations must be paid in full. Please contact Mrs. Wefel at 715-424-6751 if you have any questions.



Graduation Ceremony

The 2024 graduation ceremony will be held at the WoodTrust Bank Field in SWC Stadium on Sunday, June 2nd. In the event of bad weather, the ceremony will be held in the field house.

All seniors participating in graduation **MUST** attend the mandatory graduation practice on Friday, May 31st at 10:00 a.m. at the WoodTrust Bank Field. Students must arrive on time or they will not be allowed to practice or be in the graduation ceremony.

If your student is **not** participating in the graduation ceremony, they must have a <u>form</u> signed by a parent/guardian and filed with Mr. Rasmussen by Tuesday, May 28th. The form can be found on our website.

Please refer to the <u>Parent's Guide to Graduation</u> on our website for more specific information. If you have any questions about graduation or ordering a cap, gown, and tassel, contact Mrs. Wefel at 715-424-6751.

Class of 2024 Yard Signs

The Class Reunion Zero committee is selling "Class of 2024" yard signs for seniors. You can purchase them from Mrs. Wefel in the main office for \$20.00 each. See the design to the right. Proceeds will be donated to the Class of Reunion Zero event.

Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards

The committee is also selling Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards for \$36.00 each. The card includes 5-count Ultimate Car Washes. The proceeds will also be donated to the Class Reunion Zero event. Orders can be placed in the main office with Mrs. Wefel or call 715-424-6751.





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@uwswac.org.







Grading Dates

End of Term 2 - February 29

End of Progress 3 - April 18

End of Term 3 - June 4

LHS Volunteer Program

- Open to all students grades 9-12
- This is a voluntary program. No academic credit is given.
- 100 hours of service by the spring of Senior Year earns special recognition at graduation
- Current 12th grade students must enter their hours using the <u>Student Volunteer</u> Hours log form

Students will receive a copy of their form submission from "No reply" and should hold onto these to help them keep track of their entries.

- Current 9th 11th grade students must enter their hours in their Xello profile under "Experiences" in the ABOUT ME section of their profile
- More information and current volunteer opportunities can be found by visiting: https://www.wrps.org/schools/lincoln/academics/volunteerprogram.cfm
- Volunteer hours for the 2023-2024 school year are due Friday, April 26, 2024 by 3:15 p.m.

Concert Dates

Tuesday, February 13 - 3:10 p.m. Chamber Players

Library/Learning Commons



Monday, February 12 - 7:00 p.m. Band Concert

Performing Arts Center



Monday, February 19 - 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Orchestra Concert

Performing Arts Center

All concerts will be livestreamed at RapidsTV.org

UPCOMING STATE ASSESSMENTS

Sophomores Mark Your Calendar:
PreACT Exam - April 9, 2024 (AM)
Forward Exam - Week of March 18th

Freshmen Mark Your Calendar: PreACT Exam - April 9, 2024 (AM)



ASVAB Test

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a heavily researched and well-respected aptitude test developed by the Department of Defense.

The ASVAB is a multiple choice test, administered by the United States Military Entrance Processing Command, and is used to determine qualification for enlistment in the United States Armed Forces.

Lincoln High School will be hosting the ASVAB exam to any students who wish to take it. The test will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2024. Details of where to sign up and the start time will be provided in the future.

Students interested in taking the ASVAB are encouraged to explore the Student Resource Guide.

Important Dates

February Early Release Dates - Feb 14 & 28

Professional Development Day - No School - March 1

Start of Term 3 - March 4

Spring Break - No School - March 25 - 29

Professional Development Day - No School - April 19

Senior Scholarship Night - May 22

Memorial Day - No School - May 27

Academic & Career Planning (ACP)

Our Community Candles fundraiser was a tremendous success. A huge thank you to the LHS clubs/organizations, WRPS staff, students, and community for raising \$2,185.48, which helped 38 high school students receive a gift this holiday season.



WRPS Pupil Nondiscrimination Statement ... The School District of Wisconsin Rapids is committed to equal educational opportunity for all District students. The District will not deny any person admission to, participation in, or the benefits of any curricular, extra-curricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of a person's gender, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other characteristic protected under State or Federal civil rights laws. Please review Board Policy 411 for additional information. Incidents of discrimination or harassment should be reported to a teacher, administrator, supervisor or other District employee to be addressed or forwarded on to District Compliance Officer Brian Oswall

WRPS Sex Discrimination Under Title IX In compliance with the federal Title IX statutes and regulations set forth in Chapter 106 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the District does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that the District operates. Title IX's requirement not to discriminate in any education program or activity extends to cover, but is not limited to, District students, certain admissions processes, and District employment. Inquiries regarding how Title IX and the federal Title IX regulations apply to the District may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator (as designated below), to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, or to both. Please refer to Board Policy 411.11 for additional information.



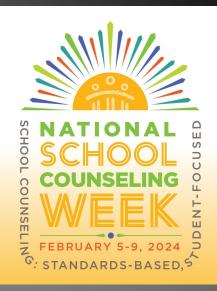
Important Information Regarding This Year's AP Testing

CollegeBoard Advanced Placement Program AP registration for trimesters 2 and 3 is quickly approaching. Students registered for the test when they joined the AP classroom with the join code. Students must complete and return the 2023-24 AP exam payment form/fee waiver request with payment no later than Monday, March 11, 2024. Forms and payments can be dropped off in Student Services or in the Success Center. Tests ordered after March 11, 2024 will be assessed a later fee of \$50.00.

The trimester 1 deadline to sign up and turn in payment was on November 8, 2023. If students chose "NO", a test was not ordered for them. If a student changes their mind to take a test for a trimester 1 class, there is an additional late fee of \$50.00 along with the cost of \$98.00 for the test.

The exam window is May 6-17, 2024. The testing schedule is available on the <u>LHS website</u>. Students will not be able to test if payment and completed forms have been received.

If you have any questions contact Kim Elgersma at kimberly.elgersma@wrps.net or 715-424-6750 x4031.





WIAA State Gymnastics held at LHS March 1-2 2024

2 FOR 1 NIGHT



03/18/2024 4:30-6:30 LHS Learning Commons

1. Apply to UWSP and/or MSTC No Application fee!! Complete and submit your FAFSA with help from Mid-State's financial department (no matter which college you're attending!)





*Your parent needs to attend with you

*Bring your chromebook

For seniors and their parents, this February will be hosting another "2 for 1 Night" with the assistance of the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and Mid-State Technical If your senior College. needs to apply for the FAFSA yet or would like to apply to UWSP or Midstate for FREE. please join us on March 18th from 4:30-6:30. You can register here. More information will be sent the date out as approaches.



Mark your calendar

Upcoming Graduation Dates

Class of 2025 - Sunday, June 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Class of 2026 - Sunday, May 31 at 1:00 p.m.



ACT Exam

LHS will be offering the official ACT With Writing on Tues., April 23rd in the morning. We are able to offer this benefit for a reduced cost of \$56.00. This is an official ACT test and accepted for college admission.

This ACT administration is a pencil and paper administration.

You must sign up using this <u>Google form</u> by Friday, February 16th and pay the fee in Student Services in order to be scheduled for this ACT test date.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Rasmussen at 715-424-6751 x1 or ronald.rasmussen@wrps.net.

More information can be found at https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html

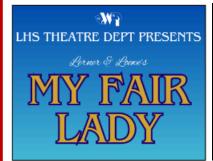


Student Drop Off

For safety issues, we ask that students are dropped off in the south student parking lot before 7:30 a.m. Please avoid the front parking lot as this is for busses only.







Mark Your Calendars

Last Weekend in April
Stay Tuned for
Ticket Information
Coming Soon!

Musical Boot Camp

The LHS theatre department is offering a "Musical Boot Camp" for all 3rd-8th grade students on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Students will learn the foundations of a musical through workshops. Cost is \$15.00 if registered by February 16th or \$20.00 at the door. For more information contact daniel .krommenakker@wrps.net or sara.danke@wrps.net





Career and Technical Education (CTE) - adds value to our students' education success. (Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers)

February is Career and Technical Education Month, and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Department of Workforce Development (DWD), and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) are encouraging students, schools, parents, and

educators to discover the high standards, innovation, and excellence offered through the state's CTE programs.

CTE at WRPS / LHS is both a collection of educational programs and content areas and a system of preparing students to be career and college-ready. Our comprehensive CTE programs are delivered through six specific content areas that include:

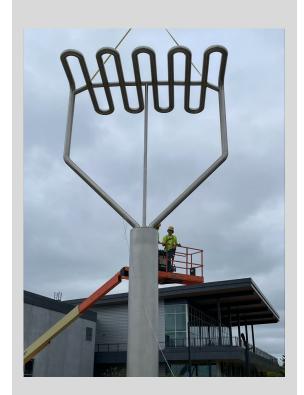
Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
Business and Information Technology
Family and Consumer Sciences
Health Science
Marketing, Management, and Entrepreneurship
Technology and Engineering

The WI Department of Public Instruction states, "To achieve a rigorous academic and technical skill attainment, a CTE program **must** have the following: dual enrollment options, equivalent options, work-based learning opportunities, and a career and technical student organization."

We are proud to meet all the abovementioned requirements and constantly strive to improve our CTE programming.

Eric Siler
WRPS Career and Technical Education Coordinator

Youth Apprenticeship



Lincoln High School's Trent Rattle was able to help rig up and set up the World's Largest Potato Masher at the Food + Farm Exploration Center in Plover. Trent was tasked with signaling the operator to set the 40-foot tall, 10,000 pound sculpture! Trent participates in our Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program, working for Hooper in the Architecture and Construction career cluster. #CTEWorks



Educational Opportunity for Students

Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln students can earn a Global Scholar designation on their diploma and transcript. The Global Education Achievement Certificate, or GEAC, will allow students to focus on becoming more aware of the world around them. According to Governor Tony Evers, "We need students who are knowledgeable about the world and who have an understanding of how other cultures work and how other people think." This policy offers a diploma endorsement to graduating high school students who have demonstrated a strong interest in global citizenship by successfully completing a global education curriculum and engaging in cocurricular activities and experiences that foster the development of global competencies.

To earn the Global Scholar designation, students must complete eight (8) credits of globally focused courses, including four years of a foreign language. Students must also complete eight (8) reviews of cultural books, movies or

art or music exhibitions. Finally, students must participate in four (4) co-curricular, globally focused activities, and complete a 20-hour community service project.

This Global Education Achievement Certificate supports student literacy as defined by the Common Core State Standards and provides a pathway for 21st Century Skills. It also focuses and validates the excellent global education learning opportunities already in place in our school district, encourages students to enroll in classes with global content in the arts, sciences, and humanities, and prepares globally competent students who are career-ready in Wisconsin and beyond.

For more information, contact a World Language teacher, or the Global Education Coordinator, Jake Wendtland at jake.wendtland@wrps.net.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

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

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 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.
- <u>Everyday actions</u> 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:

- Everyone 6 months and older should receive the seasonal influenza vaccine and the updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine.
- All infants should be protected against severe RSV through vaccination.
- Some children aged 8 through 19 months at increased risk for severe RSV and may need a second RSV vaccine-consult with your physician.
- Adults 60 and older may receive RSV vaccine if the provider thinks it's right for them.
- The 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 or until fever-free (less than 100.4 degrees) for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications. Please keep your student home 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 (they are allowed 10 days per year before a doctor's note is required).



Are you a parent or guardian of a junior student?? We are in need of a coordinator for Class Reunion Zero 2025 for next year to keep the tradition going for graduating seniors. We

would like this person to shadow our current CRZ coordinator and get some ideas and direction on how it is run and what needs to be done. The 2024 committee is meeting and organizing this event and now would be a great time to see if this is for you. You will not need to do work on this year's event, just observe. If you are interested in coordinating this parent run event for the 2025 graduating class or have any questions, please contact Mr. Rasmussen at ronald.rasmussen@wrps.net or 715-424-6751.

Boundary Exception/Open Enrollment

The timeframe to apply for open enrollment or to request a boundary exception for your child for the 2024-25 school has begun. All applications are due to the Director of Human Resources no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, March 8, 2024. For more information go to www.wrps.org and follow the "Parents" dropdown tab on the top.

FACEBOOK

F

S

WR Lincoln High School January 16 at 459 PM - A

JANUARY 2024



















1801 16th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 Phone: (715) 424-6750 Main Office Fax: (715) 424-6749 Student Services Fax: (715) 424-6754



www.wrps.org/schools/lincoln



wr_lincolnhs

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WRLincolnHighSchool

To Parents of Lincoln High School Seniors;

Please help us create a special night celebrating academic success for Lincoln High School graduating seniors!

Lincoln High School parents of graduating seniors have established a tradition called **Class Reunion Zero**. **CRZ** is a graduation party held in a well-chaperoned, substance-free, environment as a way for seniors to make final memories together as a graduation class. This year's event will be held on Friday, May 31st, 2024 at Lincoln High School.

This event has been made possible in the past through donations from parents, student organizations, and community businesses. Cash donations will be used to fund entertainment for the evening including a hypnotist, inflatables, and carnival games. These donations will also be used to purchase food and grand prizes such as laptops, televisions, dorm-sized refrigerators, microwaves, and gift cards. Prize donations are also welcome and will be used as additional items for drawings throughout the evening. If you would like to help with CRZ, or just want to find out a little bit more about the event, watch for more information about future parent planning meetings.

I would like to be on the CRZ committee, but I cannot attend the informational meeting I am not interested in being a part of the CRZ committee but I am willing to volunteer to help the night of the event.
<u>AND</u>
 I want to support Class Reunion Zero 2024, but do not want to do any fundraising. Here's my \$25 instead. I am really busy, but want to help the class of 2024 celebrate! Here's my \$50 instead. I'm making this donation in appreciation for not having to do anything except complete this form. Here is my donation of \$
Contact information:
Name
Phone number
Email

We appreciate any support you can provide for this event. Please have your senior drop this form off along with your donation to the high school office or mail a check payable to **Lincoln High School - CRZ** to:

Lincoln High School ATTN: Class Reunion Zero 1801 16th Street South Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

If you have questions, you may contact Abbe Bredl at (715) 459-3845 or email abbew@wctc.net.

Thank you in advance for your contribution of time, cash, or prize donations. We would not be able to host this event without your support!

Sincerely, Your Class Reunion Zero Committee Members

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, <u>416,630 Wisconsin households</u> 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 <u>Affordable Connectivity</u> <u>Program Extension Act</u> (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 <u>ACP Wind-Down Fact Sheet</u> and <u>ACP Wind-Down Frequently Asked Questions</u> 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 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 <u>GetInternet.gov.</u>

What's harsoening?

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 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.
- 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 <u>www.fcc.gov/acp</u> 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 7th 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)

<u>Purpose</u>: 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 <u>released an Order laying out wind-down processes and important</u>
 <u>dates</u> 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 7th 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:

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- (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 and 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 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 <u>GetInternet.gov</u> 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 <u>Lifeline Program</u> 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 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 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) <u>have not</u> 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.

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.

El Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP, por sus siglas en inglés) está llegando a su fin

Las familias deben tener en cuenta que la FCC ha comenzado a reducir el "Programa de Conectividad Asequible", que permite a los hogares elegibles recibir un descuento de hasta \$30 por mes para el servicio de banda ancha, y de hasta \$75 por mes para los hogares en tierras tribales que califiquen.

A partir de enero, <u>416,630 hogares de Wisconsin</u> estaban inscritos en el ACP. Eso es aproximadamente 1 de cada 6 hogares en Wisconsin. Se espera que los 14 millones de dólares en fondos ACP se agoten, probablemente en abril o mayo, a menos que el Congreso asigne fondos adicionales.

Situación de la continuación de la financiación ACP

La semana pasada, el DPI, junto con otras 400 organizaciones a nivel nacional, respaldó la <u>Ley de Extensión del Programa de Descuentos para Internet</u> (HR 6929/S 3565), que fue presentada tanto en la Cámara de Representantes como en el Senado. Este proyecto de ley proporcionaría \$7 mil millones para mantener el ACP financiado hasta finales de 2024. Este proyecto de ley aún no ha llegado al pleno para su votación.

Una segunda vía para obtener fondos adicionales es como parte de un proyecto de ley de asignaciones más amplio que podría no ser votado por el Congreso hasta el 8 de marzo. Por lo tanto, podría pasar algún tiempo antes de que sepamos si el programa se extenderá más allá de abril.

Lo que pueden esperar los hogares ACP

Debido a que se proyecta que los fondos del programa se agotarán pronto, a menos que haya nuevos fondos, la FCC está comenzando a tomar medidas para reducir el programa. La semana pasada, <u>la FCC emitió una orden (DA 24-23)</u> para ordenar los pasos iniciales del proceso de liquidación. La FCC proyecta que los hogares que ya están inscritos en el ACP continuarán recibiendo el beneficio en su servicio de Internet hasta abril de 2024. Esta fecha es una estimación y puede cambiar.

No se aceptarán nuevas inscripciones de ACP después del 7 de febrero de 2024.

Antes del 25 de enero de 2024, los hogares que actualmente reciben el beneficio del ACP recibirán el primero de tres avisos de su compañía de Internet que brindan información sobre el final del ACP, incluido cuándo se proyecta que finalice el programa y cómo se verá afectada su factura de banda ancha. Los proveedores pueden incluir información sobre cualquier plan de bajo costo en su aviso a los hogares inscritos. Los hogares de la ACP también recibirán notificaciones de la Compañía Administrativa de Servicio Universal (USAC), el administrador de la ACP.

La Hoja Informativa sobre la Liquidación de la ACP y las <u>Preguntas Frecuentes sobre la Liquidación de la ACP</u> incluidas en este boletín proporcionan información útil adicional.

Cualquier hogar de WRPS afectado debe comunicarse con su compañía de Internet para obtener información sobre cuándo es la última vez que debe esperar ver un beneficio de ACP en su factura mensual de Internet. Los hogares también deberán comunicarse con su compañía de Internet para analizar las opciones si no desean recibir el servicio de Internet sin descuento después del final del ACP o si desean cambiar su plan de servicio.

Además de trabajar con su proveedor de Internet, los hogares pueden comunicarse con el Centro de Apoyo de ACP (877) 384-2575 con cualquier pregunta sobre el proceso de liquidación y para obtener otra información sobre su beneficio.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, no dude en comunicarse con Phillip Bickelhaupt, nuestro Director de Tecnología por correo electrónico al phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net o por teléfono al 715-424-6715.





Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP) Hoja informativa sobre el fin del programa

En 2021, el Congreso estableció el Programa de Descuentos para Internet (Affordable Connectivity Program, ACP, por sus siglas en inglés) en la ley bipartidista de infraestructura (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), destinando \$14.2 mil millones al programa. La Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (Federal Communications Commission, FCC, por sus siglas en inglés) fue la encargada de desarrollar e implementar el ACP, así como las actividades de difusión relacionadas con el programa. A enero de 2024, más de 22 millones de hogares están inscritos y reciben el descuento mensual del ACP.

Para obtener más información sobre el ACP, visite AccedeaInternet.gov

¿Qué pasó?

Sin fondos adicionales del Congreso, se calcula que los \$14.2 mil millones destinados al programa alcanzan para financiar el ACP hasta abril de 2024 (esta fecha es solo una estimación y podría cambiar). En consecuencia, la FCC ha comenzado a adoptar medidas para poner fin progresivamente al ACP. Esto significa lo siguiente:

- No se procesarán solicitudes ni inscripciones en el ACP después de las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) del 7 de febrero de 2024.
- Los hogares que han solicitado descuentos ACP, que ya fueron aprobados y están recibiendo el descuento mensual en sus cuentas de internet desde antes del 8 de febrero de 2024, seguirán recibiendo sus descuentos ACP hasta que los fondos del programa se agoten, siempre y cuando el hogar (unidad familiar) siga inscrito en el programa.
- Cuando los fondos del ACP se agoten (lo que se calcula ocurrirá en abril de 2024), los hogares que participan en el programa dejarán de recibir los descuentos ACP.

¿Qué significa esto para los hogares de bajos ingresos que no están inscritos en el ACP?

- Debido a que el programa terminará progresivamente, el ACP deberá dejar de aceptar nuevas inscripciones. A partir del 8 de febrero de 2024, no se aceptarán nuevas inscripciones.
- Los hogares elegibles que aún no se han inscrito, pero quieren recibir el descuento ACP, deben llenar una solicitud en <u>AccedeaInternet.gov</u> lo antes posible, para dar tiempo al procesamiento de su solicitud. Una vez que su solicitud califique, es necesario que se inscriba en una compañía proveedora de internet a más tardar el 7 de febrero de 2024 a las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) para empezar a recibir su descuento.
- Si usted calificó para el ACP, pero no se inscribió en una compañía de internet antes de las 11:59
 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) del 7 de febrero de 2024, usted no podrá inscribirse en el ACP.

¿Cómo afecta a los hogares ya inscritos en el ACP el fin progresivo del programa?

- Los hogares que ya están inscritos en el ACP seguirán recibiendo su descuento mensual en el servicio de internet hasta que el ACP concluya.
- Durante el periodo de finalización progresiva del ACP, los hogares recibirán notificaciones de su
 compañía de internet sobre los efectos del fin del descuento en su cuenta y en el servicio de
 internet. Las notificaciones informarán a los hogares lo siguiente:
 - (1) Que se termina el ACP.
 - (2) El efecto en su cuenta.
 - (3) La fecha de la última cuenta que recibirán con el descuento ACP.
 - (4) Que los hogares pueden cambiar su plan de servicios o descontinuar el servicio cuando el ACP concluya.
- Asimismo, los hogares inscritos en el ACP pueden cambiar su plan de internet sin multas.

Los hogares inscritos en el ACP deberían hacer lo siguiente:

- Revisar frecuentemente su correo electrónico para obtener más información y nuevas actualizaciones sobre los descuentos ACP. Además, deberían visitar los sitios web http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov y www.fcc.gov/acp
- Contactar a su compañía de internet si tienen preguntas sobre la forma en que el fin del ACP afectará su cuenta mensual y para saber cuáles son las opciones disponibles.
- Visitar <u>www.fcc.gov/acp</u> para obtener respuestas a las preguntas más frecuentes y orientación adicional sobre el fin progresivo del ACP, incluyendo lo que los hogares necesitan saber sobre cómo mantener su servicio de internet cuando termine el programa ACP.
- Contactarse directamente con USAC para obtener respuestas a cualquier otra pregunta sobre la finalización progresiva del ACP. Para obtener más información sobre sus descuentos, los hogares pueden llamar al centro de soporte del ACP (ACP Support Center) marcando el 877-384-2575.

¿Qué fechas de importancia debo tener en cuenta sobre la finalización progresiva del ACP?

- 7 de febrero de 2024: Este es el último día en que el ACP aceptará nuevas solicitudes e inscripciones. Los hogares elegibles deben estar aprobados e inscritos en una compañía de internet a más tardar el 7 de febrero a las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) para recibir descuentos ACP. A partir del 8 de febrero de 2024, no se aceptarán nuevas inscripciones en el ACP.
- Hacia el fin de enero de 2024: Los hogares que reciben actualmente el descuento mensual ACP comenzarán a recibir notificaciones de sus proveedores de internet con información sobre el fin del descuento ACP. Esta información incluirá las fechas de finalización del programa y el efecto que la pérdida del descuento tendrá en la cuenta y en el servicio que recibe el hogar.
- Abril de 2024: La FCC anticipa que los fondos existentes para el ACP se agotarán en abril de 2024 si el Congreso no destina nuevos fondos al programa. Los consumidores que están inscritos en el ACP seguirán recibiendo su descuento mensual en la cuenta de internet durante el mes de abril de 2024. Esta fecha es solo una estimación y podría cambiar.



Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP) Preguntas frecuentes sobre el fin del programa

<u>Propósito</u>: Mediante la ley bipartidista de infraestructura (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), se encargó a la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (Federal Communications Commission, FCC, por sus siglas en inglés) el desarrollo y mantención del Programa de Descuentos para Internet (Affordable Connectivity Program, ACP, por sus siglas en inglés) – un programa federal que ofrece a los hogares elegibles un descuento en su cuenta mensual de internet y un descuento, por una sola vez, en la compra de una computadora portátil o de escritorio o de una tableta electrónica. Desde sus inicios, en diciembre de 2021, el ACP ha ayudado a más de 22 millones de hogares elegibles a obtener acceso a servicios de internet, permitiendo a los suscriptores aprovechar oportunidades y recursos educacionales y profesionales, servicios de atención médica y más. Sin embargo, los \$14.2 mil millones destinados inicialmente al ACP están por agotarse. Sin fondos adicionales, la Comisión debe iniciar la finalización progresiva del programa ACP.

A continuación, algunas respuestas a las preguntas más frecuentes relacionadas con el proceso de finalización del ACP.

Preguntas frecuentes para los hogares inscritos en el ACP
Preguntas frecuentes sobre difusión e información adicional

Preguntas frecuentes para los hogares inscritos en el ACP

1. ¿Qué es el Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP)?

El Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP) es un programa federal que ofrece a los hogares elegibles un descuento de hasta \$30 mensuales en el servicio de internet. El descuento es de hasta \$75 mensuales para hogares ubicados en tierras Tribales que califican. Los hogares elegibles también pueden recibir un descuento de hasta \$100 en el costo de una computadora portátil o de escritorio, o de una tableta electrónica, compradas a un proveedor participante, si el hogar contribuye con un mínimo de \$10 y un máximo de \$50 en la compra.

2. ¿Qué significa la finalización progresiva del ACP?

En 2021, el Congreso estableció la creación del ACP en la ley bipartidista de infraestructura (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) y destinó \$14.2 mil millones al programa. Se calcula que los fondos del ACP se agotarán cuando termine el mes de abril de 2024. A enero de 2024, el Congreso no ha destinado fondos adicionales para mantener el programa ACP después de abril de 2024. En consecuencia, la FCC ha comenzado a tomar medidas dirigidas a poner fin al ACP. Las medidas de finalización tendrán por consecuencia la extinción del ACP. Cuando esto ocurra, los hogares inscritos en el programa dejarán de recibir los descuentos ACP.

La finalización del ACP incluye, entre otras medidas, lo siguiente:

- Se suspende la aceptación de nuevas solicitudes o inscripciones. El último día de inscripción en el ACP es el 7 de febrero de 2024, hasta las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos).
- Los hogares que se hayan inscrito hasta las 11:59 p.m. ET del 7 de febrero de 2024 pueden seguir recibiendo un descuento mensual en su servicio de internet de banda ancha a través de su



- compañía, hasta que el ACP llegue a su fin, lo que se calcula ocurrirá cuando termine el mes de abril de 2024.
- Las actividades de difusión destinadas a fomentar la inscripción en el ACP, dirigidas a representantes y organizaciones a nivel nacional y local, están llegando a su fin.
- 3. ¿En qué fecha el ACP dejará de aceptar nuevas solicitudes e inscripciones? El último día para que los hogares elegibles soliciten descuentos ACP y se inscriban en el programa es el 7 de febrero de 2024 hasta las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos). Los hogares (unidades familiares) que se hayan inscrito en una empresa de internet hasta esa fecha, y sigan inscritos en el programa, continuarán recibiendo sus descuentos ACP durante el periodo de finalización.
- 4. ¿Qué fechas importantes debiéramos tener en cuenta, en relación con la finalización del programa ACP?
 - 11 de enero de 2024: La FCC publica una Orden (<u>Order</u>) describiendo el proceso progresivo de finalización del programa y las fechas importantes, incluyendo el día de suspensión de inscripciones y los efectos que esto tendrá en los consumidores, compañías de internet y receptores de subvenciones destinadas a la difusión del ACP (ACP Outreach Grant recipients).
 - 7 de febrero de 2024: Este es el último día en que el ACP aceptará nuevas solicitudes e inscripciones. Los hogares elegibles deben calificar e inscribirse en una compañía de internet antes de las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) del 7 de febrero para recibir descuentos ACP. A partir del 8 de febrero de 2024, no habrá nuevas inscripciones en el ACP.
 - Hacia el fin de enero de 2024: Los hogares que actualmente reciben un descuento mensual de ACP comenzarán a recibir notificaciones de sus compañías de internet, con información relacionada con el fin del descuento ACP. Esta información incluirá fechas sobre el término del programa y el efecto que la pérdida del descuento tendrá en la cuenta y en el servicio de internet del hogar.
 - Abril de 2024: La FCC anticipa que los fondos existentes para el ACP se agotarán cuando termine el mes de abril de 2024 si el Congreso no destina fondos adicionales para el programa. Los consumidores ya inscritos en el ACP seguirán recibiendo su descuento mensual en el servicio de internet, hasta que termine el mes de abril de 2024. Esta fecha es solo una estimación y podría cambiar.
- 5. ¿Qué significa "el último mes con descuento total de ACP"?
 - La frase "último mes con descuento total de ACP" se refiera al último mes en que los hogares recibirán el descuento total de ACP, similar al que recibieron en meses anteriores. A medida que los fondos para el ACP se agoten, cualquier remanente de fondos después del último mes con el descuento completo podría ser distribuido al mes siguiente para aplicar descuentos parciales a las cuentas de los hogares inscritos en el ACP. Esto significa que posiblemente los hogares no reciban el descuento total de \$30. Su compañía de internet decidirá si le otorga un descuento reducido. Contáctese con su compañía de internet para obtener información sobre la fecha en que debería recibir el último descuento total de ACP en su cuenta de internet.
- 6. ¿Qué ocurrirá si el Congreso destina fondos adicionales para el ACP? Si el Congreso destina fondos adicionales para el ACP, la FCC dará más información e instrucciones respecto al ACP, en el momento correspondiente.
- 7. ¿En qué consistirán las notificaciones que las compañías de internet enviarán a los hogares inscritos que reciben descuentos ACP?



- Fechas: Las compañías de internet enviarán tres (3) notificaciones escritas obligatorias a sus usuarios con descuentos ACP:
 - (1) La primera será el 25 de enero de 2024.
 - (2) La segunda será dentro de 14 días a partir del día en que la FCC anuncie cuál será el último mes que contará con pleno financiamiento ACP.
 - (3) La tercera será enviada de manera simultánea con la última cuenta en que el descuento ACP se aplique en su totalidad a la cuenta mensual de internet antes de que el programa termine.
- Formato: Se insta a las compañías de internet a enviar notificaciones a sus usuarios por la misma
 vía que usan regularmente, incluyendo en el idioma preferido por cada hogar. Usted podría
 recibir estas notificaciones de su compañía de internet por correo electrónico, mensaje de texto,
 por correo regular o junto a su cuenta de internet.
- Contenido: La primera notificación que los hogares recibirán en enero de 2024 les informará sobre el posible fin del programa ACP y los efectos que esto tendrá en sus cuentas de internet. Las segunda y tercera notificaciones deberán informar a los hogares inscritos en el ACP lo siguiente:
 - (1) Que se termina el ACP.
 - (2) El efecto en su cuenta.
 - (3) La fecha de la última cuenta que recibirán con descuento ACP.
 - (4) Que los hogares pueden cambiar su plan de servicios o descontinuar el servicio cuando termine el descuento ACP.

8. ¿Se permite a las compañías de internet enviar más de tres (3) notificaciones a sus consumidores?

Sí, las notificaciones adicionales de las compañías de internet son bien recibidas y se les insta a adjuntar información adicional relacionada con cualquier plan de internet de bajo costo o cómo obtener información sobre planes de bajo costo.

9. ¿Mediante qué otras vías podríamos recibir información sobre la finalización del ACP? Los hogares inscritos en el ACP también recibirán notificaciones directamente de la instancia administradora del programa ACP, Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC, por sus siglas en inglés). Los usuarios inscritos en el ACP también pueden visitar los sitios web fcc.gov/acp y AffordableConnectivity.gov para obtener más información sobre el estatus del ACP.

10. ¿Qué deberíamos hacer cuando nuestro descuento ACP se termine?

Cuando el programa ACP llegue a su fin, usted no obtendrá los descuentos mensuales en la cuenta de internet. Esto es lo que pueden hacer los consumidores que están en su caso:

- Contáctese con su compañía de internet si tiene dudas sobre la forma en que la finalización del ACP afectará su cuenta mensual y consulte sobre las opciones disponibles.
- Visite <u>AccedeaInternet.gov</u> para obtener más información y nuevas actualizaciones sobre su descuento ACP.

11. Si tengo preguntas sobre el proceso de finalización del ACP, ¿a quién más debo contactar, aparte de mi compañía de internet?

Los consumidores deberían contactarse directamente con USAC para consultas relacionadas con el proceso de finalización del ACP. Pueden llamar al centro de soporte del ACP (ACP Support Center) marcando el 877-384-2575 or visitando <u>AccedeaInternet.gov</u> para obtener más información sobre el estatus del programa. Los consumidores pueden continuar presentando quejas relacionadas con las cuentas y los servicios ACP, a través del centro de quejas del consumidor de la FCC (Consumer Complaint Center) en https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov



12. ¿Qué otros programas federales están disponibles para poder recibir descuentos en mi cuenta de internet?

Su usted recibe actualmente descuentos ACP, podría calificar para el programa Lifeline (<u>Lifeline Program</u>) y ahorrar en el servicio de internet. Lifeline también es un programa federal que permite obtener servicios de internet y telefónico a precios asequibles. Si usted califica para Lifeline, podrá obtener uno de los siguientes descuentos mensuales:

- Un descuento mensual de hasta \$9.25 en el costo de su cuenta telefónica o de internet, o de servicios combinados.
- Un descuento mensual de hasta \$34.25 en el costo de su cuenta telefónica o de internet, o de servicios combinados, si vive en tierras Tribales que califican.

13. ¿Qué pasa si solicité el descuento ACP y estoy esperando respuesta sobre mi solicitud? Las solicitudes ACP no serán procesadas después del 7 de febrero de 2024. Si a usted le han pedido agregar información o documentación, por favor, asegúrese de enviarla lo antes posible para dar tiempo a que sea procesada y que se pueda determinar si usted es elegible, y así pueda inscribirse en una compañía de internet antes del 7 de febrero de 2024 a las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos). Le recomendamos enviar la información adicional usando la vía electrónica, en el sitio web AccedeaInternet.gov para que su documentación sea aprobada lo más rápido posible. Se advierte a los solicitantes de descuentos ACP que las comunicaciones por correo regular podrían retrasar el procesamiento de solicitudes, quedando en consecuencia imposibilitados de inscribirse dentro de la fecha límite.

14. ¿Qué pasa si califiqué para el ACP, pero no me he inscrito en una compañía de internet? Si usted tiene una solicitud aprobada para el ACP y aún no se ha inscrito, contáctese con el proveedor de internet de su preferencia antes del 7 de febrero de 2024 a las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos). Para saber cuál es el estado de avance de su solitud, ingrese a su cuenta en AccedeaInternet.gov o contáctese con el centro de soporte del ACP (ACP Support Center) llamando al 877-384-2575. Es imperativo que usted aplique el descuento ACP inscribiéndose en una compañía de internet lo antes posible – ANTES de la fecha y hora límites del 7 de febrero de 2024, hasta las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos) – para asegurarse de obtener su descuento mensual en la cuenta de internet antes de que el programa termine.

Si usted calificó para el ACP, pero no se inscribe mediante una compañía de internet antes del 7 de febrero de 2024 a las 11:59 p. m. ET (hora del este de Estados Unidos), ya no podrá inscribirse en el Programa de Descuentos para Internet (ACP) para recibir el descuento ACP.

15. ¿Mi compañía de internet puede inscribirme automáticamente en un plan diferente sin mi autorización?

Los hogares que 1) autorizaron previamente seguir recibiendo servicio de internet de su compañía cuando el ACP se termine; 2) pagaban por servicios a su compañía de internet antes de empezar a obtener los descuentos en su cuenta de internet; o 3) actualmente contribuyen al pago de su servicio de internet incluso recibiendo el descuento ACP, podrán seguir recibiendo servicio de internet a través de su compañía cuando el ACP se termine. Si usted no desea recibir servicio de internet cuando termine el programa ACP o quiere cambiar su plan de servicios, contáctese con su compañía de internet para averiguar cuáles son sus opciones.

Los hogares que 1) no autorizaron previamente seguir recibiendo servicio de internet de su compañía cuando el ACP se termine o 2) no han pagado por servicios a su compañía de internet, no seguirán



recibiendo servicio de internet de su compañía cuando el ACP se termine. Si usted no quiere perder su servicio de internet cuando termine el programa ACP, contáctese con su compañía de internet para optar por seguir recibiendo el servicio sin interrupciones cuando el ACP se termine.

Cuando el ACP concluya, los hogares que sigan recibiendo servicio de internet estarán sujetos a las tarifas sin descuentos de sus compañías de internet, así como a los términos y condiciones generales dispuestos por las compañías de internet.

16. ¿Qué tipo de protecciones al consumidor están disponibles para los hogares inscritos en el ACP durante la finalización del programa?

Las actuales protecciones del programa ACP para el consumidor se mantienen vigentes.

Para obtener más información, por favor visite:

https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/manage-my-benefit/protections-rules/.

Preguntas frecuentes sobre difusión e información adicional

17. ¿Qué recursos dará la FCC a sus colaboradores de difusión para ayudarles a informar a los consumidores sobre la finalización del programa ACP?

La FCC y USAC han proporcionado materiales actualizados para los consumidores y otras partes interesadas. Además de esta lista de preguntas frecuentes, la FCC ha puesto a disposición una hoja informativa disponible en inglés y en español, y en otros idiomas. Estos materiales de difusión están disponibles para ser descargados del sitio web: www.fcc.gov/acp

18. ¿De qué manera está informando la FCC a los hogares inscritos actualmente en el ACP sobre la finalización del programa?

La prioridad de la FCC durante este proceso de finalización del programa es asegurarse de que los hogares inscritos en el ACP estén bien informados sobre el fin del programa, sobre el efecto que esto tendrá en sus cuentas de internet, así como ayudar a los hogares inscritos en el ACP a mantener su conexión cuando termine el ACP. La FCC continuará colaborando con representantes y organizaciones a nivel nacional y local para ayudar a los hogares inscritos en el ACP a informarse sobre formas de mantener su servicio de internet a medida que terminan los descuentos ACP aplicados a sus cuentas.