

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (CONT'D)

5.2.4 FLAT RATE SERVICE

A. Description

Flat Rate Service is an exchange service for which a specified rate is charged, regardless of the amount of usage.

B. Rates and Charges

1. Nonrecurring charges apply for connecting or moving telephone service. Equipment charges apply separately unless specified according to components of work required.

	USOC	NON- RECURRING CHARGE	MONTHLY RATE[1] MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL OUTSTATE METROPOLITAN
• Residence - Per line	1FR,AFH	\$18.35	\$14.96 (I) \$15.76 (I)
• Business - Per line	1FB,7FB	47.90	34.61 43.29

[1] In addition to these rates, EAS charges apply as described in 5.1.1, preceding, where applicable.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (CONT'D)

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS

A. Hunting Service

1. Description

Hunting Service is an optional arrangement available to customers with two or more line services at the same location, same system. Where facilities permit, lines are arranged so that incoming calls to a busy line overflow to another line in the hunting arrangement.

- Hunting

Hunting starts with the called line and tests for busy on each line in a prearranged group of lines until either an idle line is found or the end of the group is reached.

- Circular Hunting

Hunting starts with the called line and tests for busy on each line in a prearranged group of lines. When the end of the group is reached, circular hunting continues to the first line of the hunt group and hunts until the line just preceding the dialed number is hunted.

- Preferential Hunting

This arrangement allows incoming calls to a specific number within a hunting group to hunt over a unique hunting sequence of lines. Preferential hunt group will consist of two or more lines that are part of the same hunting group.

2. Terms and Conditions

- a. The rates for hunting services are in addition to the rates for the basic exchange line.
- b. Hunting is not offered between grades or classes of service, e.g., business to residence, flat to measured, business to trunks.
- c. Hunting arrangements offered will vary by the type of central office equipment serving the customer.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS

A.2. (Cont'd)

- d. Preferential hunting is not offered on residential lines.
- e. Any existing hunting arrangements between accounts will be grandfathered and any changes to these arrangements will be migrated to appropriate services.
- f. While Hunting services are optional arrangements, customers for whom Hunting services have been provided with basic exchange lines immediately preceding February 15, 1993 have received them as an integral part of the customer's telephone system and its operation. The Company shall continue to provide, and the customer shall pay for such Hunting services effective February 15, 1993 unless and until the customer notifies the Company to discontinue such Hunting services.

3. Rates and Charges

	USOC	NONRECURRING CHARGE[1]	MONTHLY RATE
a. Business			
• Hunting, per line[2]	HTG	\$10.00	\$4.00
• Circular hunt, per group[3]	HCKPG	10.00	3.00
• Preferential hunt, per line[3]	HSHP	10.00	1.00
• Charge to rearrange, per line[4]	AAV	10.00	–

[1] Only one nonrecurring charge applies, per line when Hunting services are installed at the same time, regardless of the number of arrangements on the line.

[2] One Hunt charge applies, per line except to the last line in the hunting arrangement/group.

[3] Circular and Preferential hunting charges apply in addition to the basic hunt charge. Preferential hunting charges apply to each line in the Preferential hunt list except the last line.

[4] One rearrangement charge applies, per line to rearrange existing hunting arrangements.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS

A.3. (Cont'd)

	USOC	NONRECURRING CHARGE[1]	MONTHLY RATE
b. Residence			
• Hunting, per line[2]	HTG	\$6.00	\$0.30
• Circular Hunt, per group[3]	HCKPG	6.00	0.75
• Charge to Rearrange, per line[4]	AAV	6.00	–

[1] Only one nonrecurring charge applies, per line when Hunting services are installed at the same time, regardless of the number of arrangements on the line.

[2] One Hunt applies, per line except to the last line in the hunting arrangement/group.

[3] Circular Hunting charges apply in addition to the basic hunt charges.

[4] One rearrangement charge applies, per line to rearrange existing hunting arrangements.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (CONT'D)

B. Combined Main Line Service

1. To the extent that facilities and equipment for the purpose are available, two flat rate individual main lines with identical outgoing service privileges may be combined, i.e., permanently bridged, in a manner permitting answering of calls for either at the other location.
2. If two main lines thus combined are located within the same central office area, and served by a central office of such central office area, the flat rate for individual main line business service applies to each business main line and the flat rate for individual main line residence service applies to each residence main line.
3. Where one or both of the main lines so combined are not located within the area of the central office which serves the, but are within the same exchange area, foreign area or foreign central office mileage charges, as specified in Section 10, apply in addition to the main line charges specified above.
4. Combined main line (USOC BLS1X, BLS2X, BLS3X, BLS4X, BLS5X) service is ordinarily provided only when both main lines are contracted for by the same customer, or when one customer is in business with, or is an employee or agent of, the other customer concerned.
5. To establish Combined Main Line Service on existing accounts, a nonrecurring charge applies as specified in 2.2.7, preceding.

If Combined Main Line Service is ordered at the same time as the initial installation of residence and business service, an additional nonrecurring charge does not apply. Rates and charges for main line service and/or any associated services would apply.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (CONT'D)

C. Inward Lines

1. Customers with flat rate business service may be provided with one or more inward lines.
2. The telephone numbers assigned to inward lines must be in hunting sequence with respect to the telephone number of the service with which they are associated. Refer to 5.2.5.A., preceding, for Hunting rates.
3. Rates

	USOC	MONTHLY RATE
• Each	7FB	[1]

[1] Equal to business flat rate as specified in 5.2.4, preceding.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (CONT'D)

D. Classroom Service

1. Classroom Service is a business flat rate local exchange access line service offered to public schools that conduct classes within the range of Kindergarten through Twelfth grade pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 237.065. This service is available to ensure access to telephone service from each classroom and other areas within the school, as determined by the school board.
2. Upon approval by the school board, this service must be provided on a similar basis for all classrooms within the school, as determined by the school board, within the time period specified by the Company. When the customer states that their current service qualifies for Classroom Service, existing services will be converted to the appropriate Classroom rate. This service is not available in areas within the school where telephone service is used for purposes of business administration of the school.

3. Rates and Charges

Nonrecurring charges apply for connecting or moving telephone service. Equipment charges apply separately unless specified according to components of work required.

		NON- RECURRING CHARGE	MONTHLY RATE[1] MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL OUTSTATE METROPOLITAN
• Per line	USOC 1SL, 1SV	\$47.90	\$28.10 \$34.53

[1] In addition to these rates, EAS charges apply as described in 5.1.1, preceding, where applicable.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (CONT'D)

E. *STAND-BY* Line

1. Description

STAND-BY Line is an offering which will allow business customers to expand access to their business and expand their capacity to make outgoing calls as needed. This service is designed for customers that experience periodic peaks and valleys in calling volumes to and from their business.

2. Terms and Conditions

- a. This service will be offered to business customers only.
- b. *STAND-BY* Line measures both incoming and outgoing calls on a per minute of use basis. The incoming and outgoing call capability is always active.
- c. Any mandated charges or special surcharges, e.g., 911, TDD, EUCL, Telephone Assistance Plan, will apply under the same terms as a measured business line.
- d. *STAND-BY* Line Service may be suspended only when the main service with which it is associated is suspended. This service will remain at the full rate while the customer's local exchange service is on full suspension.
- e. Directory Assistance and long distance service will apply under the same terms as a measured business line.
- f. Customers must have flat rate business service at the location for which they are ordering *STAND-BY* Line service. *STAND-BY* Line cannot be used as the primary business line.
- g. A listing will not be provided with the *STAND-BY* Line.
- h. Terms and conditions, rates and charges as described elsewhere in the Company's tariffs and/or price lists, apply as appropriate.
- i. *STAND-BY* Line Service will be provided where technically and economically feasible.
- j. Customers are not charged to change from *STAND-BY* Line Service to an individual business line.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS

E. *STAND-BY* Line (Cont'd)

3. Rates and Charges

	USOC	NONRECURRING CHARGE[1]	MONTHLY RATE	PER MINUTE OF USE[2]
• Per line				
- Minneapolis/ St. Paul	1TM	\$47.90	\$23.96	\$0.05
- Outstate	1TM	47.90	18.35	0.05

[1] Same charge as established measured business line.

[2] Applies to incoming and outgoing usage to connections of one minute or any fraction thereof.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (CONT'D)

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan

1. Description

The Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP), or Lifeline, provides for a credit against the recurring monthly rate for the provision of local residential service for eligible residential customers. Residents living on reservations can also qualify for the Federal portion of the Lifeline program based on terms and conditions for Tribal Lifeline.

2. Eligibility for and Application of the Credit

- a. The TAP credit is only available to residential customers who meet the eligibility criteria.
 - (1) The household must not be receiving assistance for telephone service under any other state public assistance program. Link-Up recipients, however, may be eligible for the TAP if they meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (2) The customer must reside in Minnesota or have moved to Minnesota and intends to remain; and

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A.2.a. (Cont'd)

- (3) The applicant must sign a document certifying, under penalty of perjury, that the customer receives benefits from at least one of the following programs:
- Medicaid;
 - Food Support (food stamps);
 - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance;
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
 - National School Lunch Program (NSL);
 - Meet Income-Based Criterion for Telephone Assistance, as defined by the FCC
- a. Individuals who do not qualify under any of the above but live on a federally recognized reservation may qualify if the applicant signs a document certifying, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant receives benefits from at least one of the following programs:
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance;
 - Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families;
 - Head Start (only for those meeting its income qualifying standard); or
 - National School Lunch Program's free lunch program;
 - Meet Income-Based Criterion for Telephone Assistance, as defined by the FCC
- b. Applicants will self-certify their eligibility by sending to Qwest a signed application declaring, under penalty of perjury, participation in one or more qualifying federal program(s).
- c. Applicant agrees to notify Qwest when the applicant ceases to participate in any of the listed federal assistance programs.
- d. The monthly credit will be an amount no greater than the FCC's end user common line charge. The credit shall apply to all residential Local Exchange Service.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan (Cont'd)

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. The Telephone Assistance Plan credit will begin at the customer's earliest possible billing cycle but no later than the second billing cycle after the date the TAP application is received by the Company.
- b. Nonrecurring charges shall not apply to the recipient to establish this program on existing service.
- c. The Company shall provide Telephone Assistance Plan credits against monthly charges for each customer enrolled in the Telephone Assistance Plan.
- d. If the Company discovers that conditions exist that disqualify the recipient of TAP, local service will be billed at the full rate. The customer will be billed retroactively to whichever is the most recent of the dates TAP assistance commenced or the recipient no longer qualified for the service, not to exceed 12 months.
- e. When a customer enrolls in the Telephone Assistance Plan, the Company is reimbursed for the cost of the service order activity. The reimbursement comes from the Telephone Assistance Plan Surcharge Fund in the amount of \$3.08 per service order.

4. Funding

This program shall be funded through a Telephone Assistance Plan surcharge on residence and business access lines which pay the 911 surcharge, pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 7817.0300.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan (Cont'd)

5. Rates

	USOC	MONTHLY RATE
• Telephone Assistance Plan Surcharge[1]	LXSMN	\$0.07
	CREDIT USOC	MONTHLY CREDIT
• Telephone Assistance Plan Credit		
- State Credit	ASGSA	\$1.75
- Federal Credit[2]	ASGFX	4.95 (R)
- Federal Credit[2]	ASGF2	2.63

B. Tribal Lifeline

1. Description

Tribal Lifeline provides additional lifeline support of up to \$25.00, in addition to the baseline Federal Lifeline support for qualifying low-income individuals living on reservations as defined by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regulations.

[1] Rate effective August 1, 2008.

[2] Minnesota TAP customers who are eligible for the FCC Lifeline plan of \$7.58 (ASGFX and ASGF2), which includes the baseline support of \$4.95, an additional \$1.75 for Lifeline support and 50% of the Federal Lifeline match, \$0.88. They also receive \$1.75 (ASGSA) from the Minnesota TAP fund.

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5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

B. Tribal Lifeline (Cont'd)

2. Terms and Conditions

- a. Tribal Lifeline support is provided to applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established within the guidelines for the Minnesota Telephone Assistance Program described in 5.2.6.A., preceding.
- b. Residents living on reservations who qualify for Lifeline based on the requirements listed below are eligible for the Tribal Lifeline benefit if they participate in one or more of the following programs or one or more of the programs identified in paragraph 5.2.6.A.2.a.(4), preceding, as identified by the FCC:
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance program,
 - Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program,
 - Head Start programs (only for those meeting its income-qualifying standard),
 - National School Lunch Program's free lunch program,
 - Medicaid,
 - Food Stamps,
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI),
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance,
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program,
 - Meet Income-Based Criterion for telephone assistance, as defined by the FCC.
- c. The Company must obtain the customers signature on a document in which the eligible customer certifies, under penalty of perjury, that such customer receives benefits from at least one of the programs above, and lives on a reservation. In addition to identifying the program or programs from which that customer receives benefits, the customer must also agree to notify the Company if that customer ceases to participate in the qualifying program or programs.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

B. Tribal Lifeline (Cont'd)

- d. Tribal Lifeline benefits apply to the primary flat local residential access line, including Extended Area Service (EAS), mileage charges, zone charges, or other non-discretionary charges associated with basic residential service. The benefit may not bring the basic local residential access line rate below \$1.00 per month.

3. Monthly Credit[1]

	CREDIT USOC	CREDIT AMOUNT [2]
• Flat individual line (1FR)		
- Bemidji	ASGFT	\$11.82
- Carlton	ASGFT	15.27
- Cass Lake	ASGFT	12.37
- Cloquet	ASGFT	13.20
- Cohasset	ASGFT	12.00
- Detroit Lakes	ASGFT	11.52
- Hinckley	ASGFT	14.21
- Mahnomon	ASGFT	11.61
- Morton	ASGFT	12.26
- Park Rapids	ASGFT	11.92
- Redwing	ASGFT	11.65
- Redwood Falls	ASGFT	11.44
- Shakopee	ASGFT	12.36

[1] The ASGFX and ASGF2 total credit of \$7.58 applies in addition to the Tribal Lifeline credit. The FCC Tribal Lifeline Program consists of monthly federal baseline support of \$4.95 (ASGFX). For Tribal Lifeline Customers, the ASGF2 reflects a \$1.75 additional credit plus the first \$0.88 of the Tribal Lifeline Credit. The remainder of the Tribal Lifeline Credit is reflected in the ASGFT amount. The Tribal Lifeline Credit is up to \$25.00, but no more than necessary to reduce the Tribal Lifeline rate to \$1.00. (C)

[2] The credit amount is calculated by adding the outstate 1FR rate of \$14.96 and any applicable EAS charges plus the \$4.95 subscriber line charge together. The ASGFX and ASGF2 total credit of \$7.58 is subtracted from the total and the remaining difference less \$1.00 which is the minimum Tribal Lifeline rate allowed, is the credit amount. For example: Tribal Lifeline customer living on a reservation in the Cloquet exchange, ($\$14.96 + \$1.87 + \$4.95 = \$21.78 - \$7.58 = \$14.20 - \$1.00$) = \$13.20 credit. (C)

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

C. Link-Up Service Connection Program

1. Description

The Link-Up Service Connection Program is a federally sponsored lifeline assistance program designed to make telephone service accessible to low-income residential households who are currently not on the public switched network. Through this program, the nonrecurring charge for the initial installation of the main access line will be discounted to the applicant at a rate of 50 percent, not to exceed \$30.00.

2. Eligibility Requirements

- a. This discount applies on a single line at the principal place of residence for the applicant.
- b. The consumer can receive the benefit of the Link Up Program for a second or subsequent time only for a principal place of residence with an address different from the residence address at which Link Up assistance was provided previously.
- c. An applicant may defer payment of the service connection charges. Payment may be deferred up to 12 months with a payment schedule of equal payments for up to \$200.00 assessed for commencing service. Interest will not be charged on deferred payments.
- d. Applicant meets income requirements under criteria e. or f. below.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

C.2. (Cont'd)

e. Applicant can show current participation in one of the following assistance programs to his or her local exchange company:

- Medicaid;
- Food Stamps;
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF);
- National School Lunch Program (NSL);

Proof of eligibility must accompany the completed application form. Proof of eligibility can be made either in person at the local exchange company's business office or by mailing a copy of the applicant's proof of participation and enclosing that with a completed application to the local exchange company's business office.

3. Eligibility Determination

- a. In determining an applicant's eligibility, the eligibility criteria in a. through e. needs to be fulfilled.
- b. Criterion e. must be certified by the applicant's local exchange company.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

C. Link-Up Service Connection Program (Cont'd)

4. Credit and Collections

a. Credit Reference

The credit verification procedures used for all applicants who apply for service with the Company will also be used for applicants who apply for service under the Link-Up program.

b. Deposits

The deposit standards used for all applicants who apply for service with the Company will also be used for applicants who apply for service under the Link-Up program.

EXCEPTION: Qualifying applicants for the TAP may initiate service without paying a deposit if they voluntarily elect to have Toll Restriction on their line. Toll Restriction will be provided at no charge to TAP customers.

c. Collection Standards

Once service has been established for a Link-Up applicant, he or she will be expected to adhere to the same bill payment policies expected of any other Company customer.

EXCEPTION: Lifeline service may not be disconnected for nonpayment of toll.

D. Expanded Link-Up Program

1. Description

Residents living on reservations who qualify for Tribal Lifeline, are eligible for an additional Expanded Link-Up benefit of up to \$70.00, in addition to the Link-Up Program. The additional benefit will apply towards 100% of the connection charges between \$60.00 and \$130.00 which are assessed to begin service at the principle residence of the eligible resident. Eligible charges include any charges customarily assessed to connect the subscriber to the network, including line extension charges, zone connection charges and special construction charges.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. Expanded Link-Up Program (Cont'd)

2. Nonrecurring Charge Credit

**CREDIT
USOC**

- Expanded Link-Up

LNKEL

E. Application of Telephone Assistance Programs to Concessionable Accounts

1. Description

Concession groups: These individuals will receive 100% TAP benefits less the amount of concessionable discount. For example, if the person receives a 50% discount on their End User Common Line Charges, they will receive 50% of their TAP benefits.

5.2.11 COMPETITIVE RESPONSE

A. Residence Customer Incentive Program

For terms, conditions and applicable rates and charges, see 5.2.11, Competitive Response in the Exchange and Network Services Price List No. 2.

B. Business Customer Incentive Program

For terms, conditions and applicable rates and charges, see 5.2.11, Competitive Response in the Exchange and Network Services Price List No. 2.

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5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.3 PRIVATE BRANCH EXCHANGE TRUNKS AND NETWORK ACCESS REGISTERS

- A. General - Private Branch Exchange (PBX) Trunks
1. Mileage charges, as shown in Section 10, following, apply to lines terminated in the same exchange except they do not apply to local (or equivalent direct routed) channels serving secondary locations of systems utilizing switching equipment located on Company premises.
 2. The minimum service period for PBX Service furnished at a given location at full service rates is three years.
 3. The charges for a main line termination is applicable to each main line terminated in the PBX common equipment.
 4. All facilities and services offered in other sections of this Tariff which are compatible with this offering of PBX Service are provided at the rates and charges set forth for such facilities and services.