

SITUATION: A person with a low income is in need of a free wireless cell phone/air time/texts.

❖ **Free wireless services (cell phone, air time, texts) are available for low-income persons.** To qualify for a free government cell phone in Michigan, the client must be receiving assistance from one of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Section 8 Housing
- Food Stamps (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- National School Lunch (Free Lunch Program Only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

If the client does not receive assistance from any of the above programs, s/he may still be eligible if his/her household income is less than 135% of the national poverty level.

Access Wireless	https://www.accesswireless.com/lifeline/state?zipcode=48043
Assurance Wireless	www.assurancewireless.com
Budget Mobile	http://www.fast.org/free-cell-phone-providers/budget-mobile/
ReachOut	http://www.freegovernmentcellphones.net/free-cell-phone-providers/reachout-wireless
SafeLink Wireless	www.safelinkwireless.com/Enrollment/Safelink/en/Public/NewHome.html
Tag Mobile	https://www.tagmobile.com/

SITUATION: A low-income household needs help with telephone bills.

❖ **Affordable basic telephone assistance for low-income families (150% of the poverty guidelines).** The benefits vary depending on telephone service providers. On average, most customers save about \$100 off their annual telephone bills and approximately 50% off their local telephone installation charge, and have the option of blocking outgoing long distance calls free of charge. For more information, contact your local telephone company and ask for the “*Lifeline Telephone Assistance Program.*” <http://www.att.com/gen/general?pid=10273>

SITUATION: A person has a hearing loss and needs a captioned telephone.

- ❖ **A free captioned telephone that displays text of conversations in near real-time on a large color touchscreen so the person can see and hear what callers are saying is available to anyone with a hearing loss, regardless of their age, income, insurance or veteran status.** The phone and service is paid for with federal funding. Available from ClearCaptions. To get a free phone, call Tracy Salisbury at (810) 360-9364 or tracy.dunk-salisbury@clearcaptions.com

SITUATION: A person is in need of low-cost internet services/computer.

- ❖ **Low-cost internet services/computer is available:**

Cost	Eligibility
To qualify for \$9.95 a month plus tax internet service and a low-cost computer, your household must meet all the criteria.	a.) Live where Comcast offers internet service b.) Have at least one child eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program c.) Have not subscribed to Comcast internet service within the last 90 days d.) Not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment
Apply online at http://www.internetessentials.com/ or call (855) 846-8376.	
Once approved, Internet Essentials participants have the option to purchase an internet-ready computer for the reduced price of \$149.99 plus tax.	