

March 19th, 2024

Dear ACP Household,

I am writing you because you are an active Affordable Connectivity Plan (ACP) household that is currently receiving a discount on your SandyNet broadband service. This is the second notice required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to notify and communicate to active ACP enrolled households about the current state of the ACP program. The first letter of notice went out to enrolled households in January 2024. ACP has already begun its wind-down, starting in February 2024. Funding for the ACP program is nearly exhausted from its original allocation in 2021, and at the time of this letter, Congress has not established additional funding to keep the program operating. Currently, funding for ACP is expected to run out in May of 2024.

In 2021, Congress established the ACP program in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, appropriating \$14.2 billion to the program. Since then, over 22 million households have enrolled in the ACP program and receive a monthly benefit. Before the ACP was created, the Emergency Broadband Benefit provided a similar discount to households during the COVID-19 pandemic. SandyNet joined the ACP in late 2022 and began enrolling households.

With the current unknown future of the ACP program and its funding, I regret to write to you and inform you that unless Congress chooses to fund and save the program, ACP will exhaust its remaining funds and shut down in May 2024. The FCC is currently expecting April 2024 to be the last month for full reimbursement. Those who are eligible for the benefit in May 2024 will receive only partial reimbursement. We expect to know the full amount in April 2024 and will notify enrolled households of that amount in April. Once the reimbursement is established, SandyNet will adjust the amount due for the household to reflect the full cost of the service. You will receive prior notice before that change takes effect.

Below is a table of common plans and their rates reflected with and without the ACP discount. The follow up letter in April will provide the expected May ACP discount rate and expected rate due for SandyNet, as well as the rate that the service will be set to after the program ends.

Package Plan	Current ACP Discount (Including April)	Current SandyNet Rate (Including April)	SandyNet Rate Without ACP Discount	ACP Discount for May
Fiber 500/500 Mbps	\$30	\$14.95	\$44.95	TBD
Fiber 1000/1000 Mbps	\$30	\$24.95	\$59.95	TBD
Wireless 25/5 Mbps	\$30	\$9.95	\$39.95	TBD
Wireless 50/10	\$30	\$19.95	\$49.95	TBD

* Please note that this table reflects the four most common rate plans. The April letter will be individualized with the exact rates for each household.

Additionally, the FCC has made the following resources available to help communicate the status and any upcoming changes to ACP:

<http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov>

<http://www.fcc.gov/acp>

Frequently asked questions are available from the FCC to help answer any common or program specific questions. Households can call the ACP Support Center at **877-384-2575** and speak with someone about the wind-down. SandyNet staff is also available to help communicate and provide information or options that can help make the transition smoother. Please reach out to our support team at **503-668-2923** or send an email to **support@sandynet.org**.

When SandyNet enrolled in the ACP program in 2022, it enabled us to offer a low-income broadband option to the community, that did not require households to suffer from speed reductions or poor technical support. With the upcoming shutdown of ACP, SandyNet has started the process of exploring options that would point towards a sustainable and equitable ACP alternative for qualifying households. The notice of the ACP wind-down from the FCC was announced less than two weeks ago, and it will take time to identify and set up a new plan.

Unfortunately, this means that there will be a gap in service after the ACP ends. The exploration and discussion of this topic will be a recurring item on upcoming SandyNet Advisory Board meetings.

Please reach out to the SandyNet support team with any questions or clarification of the ACP wind-down process.

Thank you,



Gregory Brewster

SandyNet General Manager