



ADVOCATE

NAVIGATE

EVALUATE

Alexicon *insider*

JANUARY 17, 2017

SPECIAL BULLETIN

Annual Lifeline Recertification Form 555 Due January 31, 2016

Recertification Process for 2016 is Unchanged

[While the FCC adopted a substantial change to the way the Lifeline customer recertification process is handled, the process for 2016 remains the same as in past years. Beginning in 2017, Lifeline customers must be recertified on a rolling basis—see USAC’s [web-site](#) for more information.]

All Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs) that provide Lifeline service and receive reimbursement from USAC are required to annually recertify all Lifeline customers, and to report the results of this recertification to USAC and the FCC on Form 555. The recertification results being reported this month relate to Lifeline customers in existence as of the February 2016 Form 497 filing. Thus, all such Lifeline customers were to be recertified by December 31, 2016.

A paper Form 555 is attached to this Special Bulletin for your convenience. In addition, USAC’s [online Form 555](#) information provides further guidance.

ETCs can file the Form 555 via USAC’s [E-file system](#), or file an electronic version of the Form and email it to LiVerifications@usac.org.

A copy of the completed Form 555 is also to be filed with the FCC, via its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), in WC Docket No. 14-171.

For *state*-designated ETCs, a copy of the completed Form 555 is also to be filed with the state commission/other governmental authority. It is advisable to contact your state legal counsel, state association, or state commission staff to verify how this information is to be provided.

Rolling Recertification Begins in 2017

It is important to note that the FCC’s “rolling recertification” process begins in 2017. ETCs should be aware of the transition period—the process starts for 7/1/2017 anniversary customers, and must begin 65 days prior to the anniversary (or April 27). We will issue further updates on this topic closer to the implementation date(s).

Please let us know if you have any questions.



Alexicon

Questions? Comments?
Contact Chris Barron

chris@alexicon.net