

On Nov. 24, 1997, the South Carolina Public Service Commission designated Farmers Telephone Cooperative (FTC) the “Eligible Telecommunications Carrier” for its service area for universal service purposes. The goal of universal service is to provide all citizens access to essential telecommunications services.

FTC provides the supported services – voice telephony service and broadband Internet access service – throughout its designated service area. These supported services include:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network;
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge;
- Access to emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in FTC’s service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- Broadband Internet access service which includes the capability to send data to and receive data from the Internet, but excludes dial-up service.

Voice telephony service is provided at rates which start at \$20 per month for residential customers and \$28.70 per month for business line customers. Broadband Internet access service is provided at rates which start at \$34.95 per month for residential customers and \$44.95 per month for business customers. FTC would be pleased to provide you with specific rates for voice and broadband for your area upon request.

- A household is eligible for the Lifeline discount if the customer’s annual household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. You may also qualify for the Lifeline program if a customer, a dependent, or the customer’s household participates in one or more of the following programs:
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit.

Please call FTC at 888-218-5050 if you have any questions.