



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES**  
*A Healthcare Service Agency*

NED LAMONT  
GOVERNOR

MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, Ph.D.  
COMMISSIONER

**MEMORANDUM**

To: All DMHAS Facilities & Private Non-Profit Providers

From: Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

Date: May 12, 2021

Subject: Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Communication

In further support of families during these challenging times, I would like to share the news that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has launched a temporary program to help households afford internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible households can receive:

- Up to \$50 per month discount on broadband internet service
- Up to \$75 per month for qualifying households on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 towards the purchase of a tablet, laptop or desktop computer (if the eligible purchaser contributes more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase through a participating broadband provider).

Households may qualify for the Emergency Broadband Program when any member of the household (related or not) meets the following criteria (click [here](#) for eligibility details):

- Has income below \$99,000 for single filers or \$198,000 for joint filers, or has income at or below 135% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)
- Participates in SNAP, Medicaid or [Lifeline](#)
- Approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program
- Received a federal Pell Grant during the current award year

(AC 860) 418-7000  
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 341431, Hartford, Connecticut 06134  
[www.ct.gov/dmhas](http://www.ct.gov/dmhas)  
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- Experienced a substantial loss of income through job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low income or COVID-19 program

Enrollment for this program begins on **May 12, 2021**. [Click here](#) to see ways you can apply. Additional information about the Emergency Broadband Benefit program is available at [www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](http://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit) (website includes ASL video), by calling 833-511-0311 from 9am to 9pm Eastern Time any day of the week, or by email: [EBBHELP@usac.org](mailto:EBBHELP@usac.org).

The Emergency Broadband program is scheduled to end when funding runs out or 6 months after the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the pandemic. [Click here for frequently asked questions](#) and a [listing of Connecticut Broadband Providers](#).