



Getting Connected:

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

New federal initiative to cut the cost of high-speed internet

What is the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program?

The EBB is a \$3.2 billion federal initiative to help Americans access the affordable, high-speed internet they need during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a short-term program that will end once the funds have been utilized.

What Is the Benefit?

- Up to \$50/month discount for high-speed internet services.
- Up to \$75/month discount for high-speed internet services for households on Tribal lands.
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

Do I Qualify?

Americans who may have experienced financial setbacks during the COVID-19 pandemic or are struggling to get by may be eligible for the EBB program, including those who:

- Qualify for the Lifeline program, as well as those who participate in certain federal assistance programs, such as Medicaid, SNAP, and SSI benefits.
- Experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020, and the household had a total income in 2020 below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers.
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, or did so in the 2019-2020 school year.

How Do I Sign Up?

- Eligible households will enroll through participating broadband providers or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC).

Where Do I Go to Learn More?

See the latest information and participating providers in your state:

- Website: aarp.org/EBB
- Text: **INTERNET to 22777**
- Call: **1-833-511-0311**



End the Digital Divide

If the COVID-19 pandemic has shown us anything, it's that access to high-speed internet is not a luxury; it's a necessity. AARP fought for the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB) because too many Americans do not have access to the affordable, high-speed internet they need.

High-Speed Internet Deployment in GA

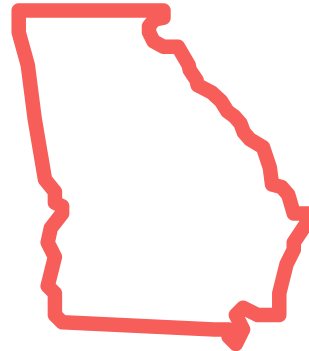
Total Population
Unserviced:

7%

Rural Population
Unserviced:

20%

Data as of December 2019, released by the FCC on Jan. 19, 2021
High-Speed Internet Deployment (ADSL, Fiber, Cable), 25/3 Mbps and above



Improve Communities Across the State

Without access to high-speed internet, communities suffer, losing out on opportunities for people to learn, find jobs, stay healthy—and for local businesses to prosper. Georgians without access to high-speed internet are losing out and being left behind when it comes to:



Teleworking and finding new jobs



Connecting with family and friends



Accessing virtual classrooms for kids and adults



Finding new customers for their small business



Virtual visits with doctors and nurses

Avoid Isolation for Seniors

High-speed internet helps older Americans avoid isolation from family and friends and helps them remain independent as they age. Virtual visits keep residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities connected when in-person visits are limited.



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