

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 10, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Broadband and Digital Equity Strategic Plan Briefing Follow-up**

At the August 4, 2021 City Council Briefing meeting, staff and CTC Technology & Energy presented the draft Broadband and Digital Equity and Strategic Plan (Digital Equity Plan). The purpose of the Digital Equity Plan is to identify the extent of the digital equity challenges and broadband gaps and develop actionable strategies the City and Dallas Independent School District (DISD) can undertake to help Dallas residents, including households with students, to access affordable, high-speed home broadband service – and possess the devices and skills necessary to make the fullest use of broadband.

The updated Digital Equity Plan that includes a fiscal analysis of the 180-mile fiber ring and updated federal funding guidelines is posted on [bit.ly/dallasdigitaldivide](https://bit.ly/dallasdigitaldivide).

The following questions were posed during the briefing and required staff to follow up with additional information.

**1. Can the review and comment period be extended?**

Yes. The review and comment period has been extended to September 17, 2021.

**2. Provide the number of permit requests submitted by AT&T in southern Dallas.**

There are a total of 502 permitted cell sites in southern Dallas and AT&T has 224 of those permits. There are 3 permitted sites in 75237 and 11 permitted sites in 75241. For reference, please see the attached spreadsheet of permit data.

**3. Can WIC/SNAP staff provide information to clients about the availability of low-cost programs and/or subsidy internet programs?**

WIC and SNAP staff can provide information related to low-cost or subsidized options for a quality-of-life issue but cannot assist in enrolling clients or collecting information for vendors. Connecting residents to services and resources will be the role of the Digital Navigators when the program is re-launched.

**4. Provide a list of digital divide projects in District 4.**

Current digital divide projects funded by the City in District 4 are as follows:

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- Community WiFi Pilot Project
  - o Beckley Saner Recreation Center – wifi coverage from Seevers to Hobson to Elmore
  - o Fire Station #23 – wifi coverage from Iowa to Corinth to Bruck
  - o Fire Station 38 – wifi coverage from Cicero to Wilhurt to Ann Arbor
  - o Eloise Lundy Recreation Center – wifi coverage from Denley to Hutchins to Reverend CBT Smith
- WiFi Signal Extender
  - o Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest Branch Library
- Laptop and Hotspot Bundles
  - o All Dallas Public Library Locations

For additional information and locations related to digital divide projects, please visit [bit.ly/dallasdigitaldivide](https://bit.ly/dallasdigitaldivide).

As previously communicated, staff has prepared social media graphics and templates for your use to communicate the availability of the Emergency Broadband that provides households with a subsidy of up to \$50 for internet connection (see attachment).

Should you have additional questions or need further information, please contact me or Genesis D. Gavino, Resilience Officer at [genesis.gavino@dallascityhall.com](mailto:genesis.gavino@dallascityhall.com).



Liz Cedillo-Pereira  
Chief of Equity and Inclusion

[Attachment]

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Directors and Assistant Directors

# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE EMERGENCY BROADBAND BENEFIT



## What is it?

A temporary FCC program to help households struggling to afford internet service during the pandemic.

The benefit provides:

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

## Who is eligible?

A household is eligible if one member of the household:

- Has an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or participates in certain government assistance programs;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch or breakfast program;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.



## How do I apply?

There are three ways to apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit.

### 1 Contact your Preferred Participating Provider Directly

Ask your provider if they participate in the EBB, or use our online tool to find a participating company near you.



### 2 Online

Use the online application at [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.getemergencybroadband.org)



### 3 By Mail

Print an application in English or Spanish. Complete the application and send with proof of eligibility to:

Emergency Broadband Support Center  
P.O. Box 7081  
London, KY 40742

For additional information, Call **833-511-0311**, or visit [fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](https://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit)



# LO QUE DEBES SABER SOBRE EL BENEFICIO DE EMERGENCIA PARA INTERNET (EBB)



## ¿Qué es?

Es un programa temporal de la FCC que ofrece ayuda a los hogares con problemas para pagar sus servicios de Internet durante la pandemia.

Este beneficio te proporciona:

- Máximo \$50 de descuento al mes para tu servicio de Internet.
- Máximo \$75 de descuento al mes para hogares elegibles en Territorios Tribales.
- Un descuento único de hasta \$100 por una computadora portátil, computadora de escritorio o una tableta electrónica a través de un proveedor participante.

## ¿Quién es elegible?

Podrás participar en este programa si un miembro de tu hogar:

- Tiene un ingreso igual o menor al 135% del nivel federal de pobreza o participa en ciertos programas de asistencia social.
- Recibe beneficios en la escuela bajo el programa de almuerzo o desayuno gratuito o reducido.
- Recibió una beca Federal Pell Grant para la Universidad durante el año en curso.
- Experimentó una pérdida sustancial de ingresos debido a la pérdida de su empleo o a la suspensión de su trabajo, sin sueldo, desde el 29 de febrero de 2020.
- Cumple con los criterios de elegibilidad exigidos por un proveedor participante en un programa de bajos ingresos o en un programa COVID-19 ya existente.



## ¿Cómo solicito el beneficio?

Tres formas de solicitar el beneficio:

### 1 Contacta a tu proveedor de Internet preferido directamente

Pregunta si participa en el programa EBB o utiliza nuestros servicios en línea para encontrar una empresa participante en tu localidad.



### 2 En línea

Usa la solicitud en el sitio web:  
[GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.fcc.gov/GetEmergencyBroadband.org)



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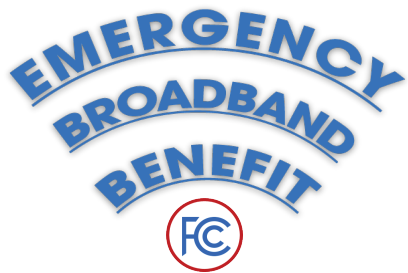
### 3 Por correo

Imprime la solicitud en inglés o español. Complétala y envíala con tu comprobante de elegibilidad a:

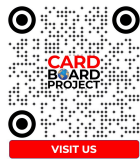
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Para obtener más información, llama al 833-511-0311 o visita [fcc.gov/bandaanchaprestacion](https://www.fcc.gov/bandaanchaprestacion)



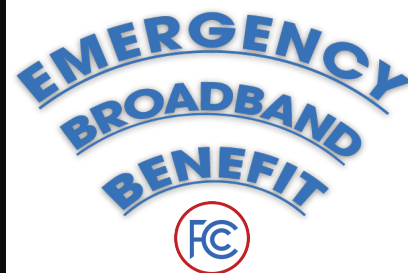
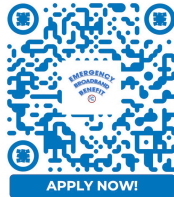


City of Dallas



The Emergency Broadband Benefit is a temporary FCC program to help households struggling to afford internet service during the pandemic.

**See if You Qualify and Apply**  
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Visit: [fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](https://fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit)

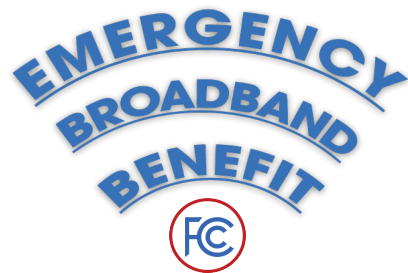


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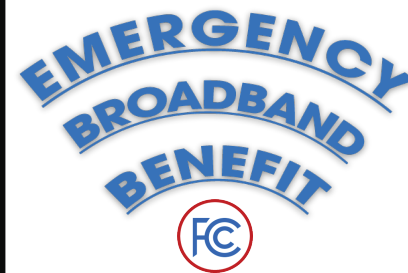
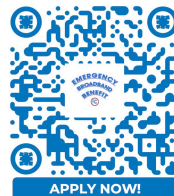


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The Emergency Broadband Benefit is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.



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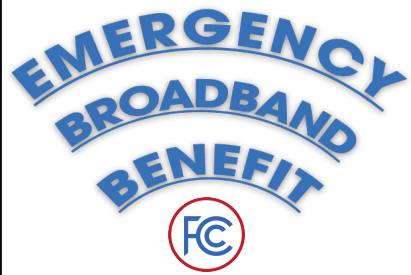


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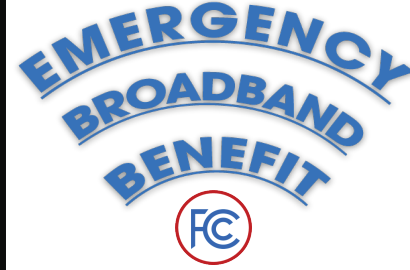


La Prestación de emergencia para banda ancha es un programa temporal de la FCC para ayudar a los hogares que tienen dificultad para pagar servicios de internet durante esta pandemia.

**Averigüe si usted es elegible y solicite la prestación**

llamando al: 833-511-0311

o vea: [fcc.gov/bandaanchaprestacion](http://fcc.gov/bandaanchaprestacion)

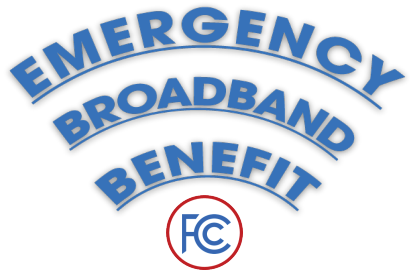


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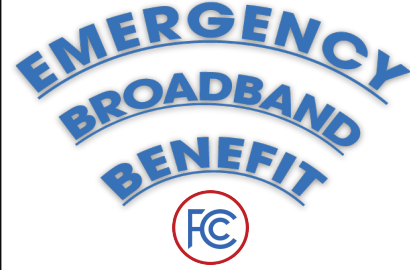


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- Un descuento mensual de hasta \$50 para el servicio de banda ancha.
- Un descuento mensual de hasta \$75 para hogares elegibles en Territorios tribales.
- Un descuento, por una sola vez, de hasta \$100 por la compra, a alguno de los proveedores participantes, de un computador portátil, un computador de escritorio o una tableta electrónica.

La Prestación de emergencia para banda ancha se limita a un solo descuento mensual por servicios y a un solo descuento en la compra de equipos, por cada hogar.



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