

FCC Under Fire

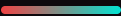
Federal connectivity programs in transition: the ACP has ended, BEAD has been restructured, and the FCC has proposed Lifeline reforms.

Dr. Troy Nash & Arielle Nash, Co-Founders



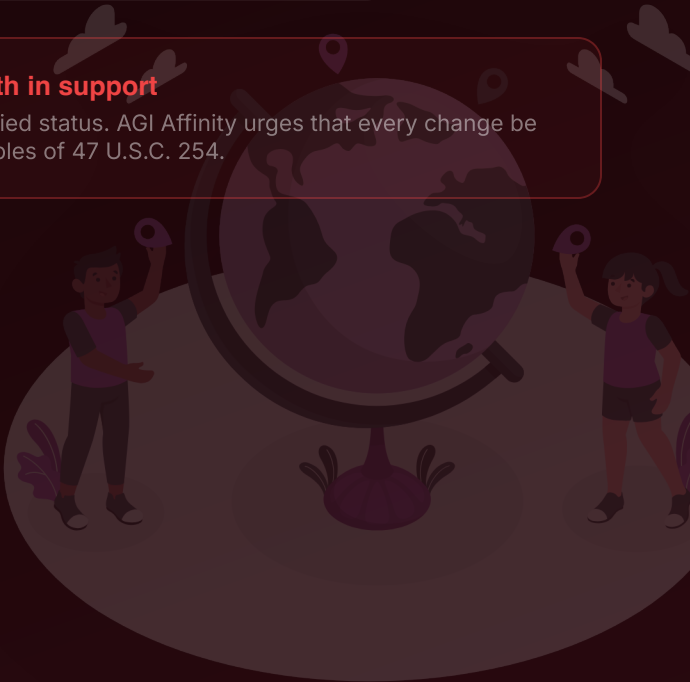
Programs in Transition. Universal Service Under Pressure.

Status of federal connectivity programs, September 2026



Lifeline provides just \$9.25/month in support

The FCC proposes limiting Lifeline to U.S. citizens and persons with qualified status. AGI Affinity urges that every change be weighed against the universal service principles of 47 U.S.C. 254.



Restoring the FCC's Universal Service Mission

- **Demand congressional oversight** of FCC program decisions, requiring the Commission to justify program eliminations and demonstrate compliance with statutory mandates.
- **Reaffirm the universal service mandate** through updated legislation that explicitly includes broadband as an essential service under the Telecommunications Act framework.
- **Protect Lifeline access for eligible households** as the FCC weighs its February 2026 reform proposals, documenting the program's role for low income Americans.
- **Complete and publicly evaluate the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot** so its results can guide long-term support for school and library cybersecurity.
- **Require FCC impact assessments** before any program modification or termination, measuring effects on connectivity rates, affordability, and equity outcomes.

How AGI Affinity Can Help

AGI Affinity helps stakeholders navigate the shifting federal regulatory landscape through policy analysis, impact modeling, and advocacy support. Our **TSDOH Assessment Matrix** quantifies the community level effects of program changes, providing evidence based arguments for maintaining critical connectivity investments.

SOURCES

FCC, "FCC Proposes Accountability Reforms to Lifeline Program," news release, February 18, 2026 (Lifeline "accounts for nearly \$1 billion in spending every year") | FCC, "Lifeline Program for Low-Income Consumers" (\$9.25 monthly support amount) | FCC, "Affordable Connectivity Program" and Consumer FAQ | NTIA, BEAD Progress Dashboard, September 8, 2026; NTIA statement on BEAD savings, March 6, 2026 | USAC, "Cybersecurity Pilot Program" (last updated September 2025); FCC, "Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program" | Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. Section 254