

## Objective 2

# Accessing Internet Affordability

## GETTING STARTED — WITH — TECHNOLOGY



### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Digital equity refers to the accessibility of the internet. Unfortunately, there is a wide gap between those with access to high-quality network coverage and individuals in areas with no coverage. A major step for individuals looking to get access to the treasure trove of information online is to get access to an affordable connection. There are programs that aim to help people find affordable connection options in their area. For someone getting started in an online environment at home, or someone moving to a new area, understanding the providers available and connection options will help reduce some of the uncertainty getting online.

#### **Digital Equity Act**

Allows for large-scale broadband adoption in communities to become more feasible.

#### **Affordable Connectivity Program**

A U.S. government program that helps many low-income households pay for broadband service and internet connected devices. Through this program, individuals or families can receive a service discount or in some instances even a discount on the purchase of a device.

#### **Everyoneon.org Programs**

Works to bring low-cost internet and computer offers to those who need them. Check out their Digital Learning Center to access free online resources.

### HOW THIS HELPS YOU

You may be eligible for government assistance in paying for internet services and connected devices like a laptop or tablet. Check to see if you are eligible if your household's income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, or if you or someone you live with currently receives a government benefit like SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, or Free and Reduced-Price Lunch.

### THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

If your household is eligible, you could receive:

- Up to a \$30/month discount on your internet service
- Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)
- A low-cost service plan that may be fully covered through the ACP

Only one monthly service discount and one connected device discount is allowed per household.

## RESOURCES

### *Affordable Connectivity Program*

To check eligibility:

1. Check if you qualify: See if your household fits into any eligible categories
2. Apply for the ACP: You can apply online, by mail, or by contacting your current internet company
3. Find a company near you: search tool to find a company that offers ACP discounts

Additional information about the ACP can be found online through the White House Get Internet site devoted to providing a thorough explanation of the program.

### [White House Get Internet](https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet)

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet>

### [Affordable Connectivity Site](https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov)

<https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov>

### [Everyoneon.org](https://www.everyoneon.org)

<https://www.everyoneon.org>