

Free Wi-Fi Program Policy

1. Purpose & Scope

The **Free Wi-Fi Program** aims to provide broadband internet access to eligible households. This service **does not include** telephone or TV packages such as cable. The program is designed to support students and families in need by ensuring reliable internet access for educational and essential purposes.

2. Eligibility Requirements

- Only **one free Wi-Fi service** is allowed per household.
- To qualify, at least **one student** from the household must be enrolled in one of the **four designated schools**.
- If multiple siblings attend the eligible schools, **only one student** will be selected as the program recipient. However, all members of the household may use the provided Wi-Fi service.
- Households that already have a **Wi-Fi router with Turtle Mountain Communications** may qualify for **payment assistance** if they meet the **poverty criteria**.

3. Service Duration & Compliance Checks

- The **free Wi-Fi service** will be provided for a period of **36 months**.
- Routine compliance checks will be conducted every **3 to 6 months** to verify continued eligibility and ensure the service is being used properly.

4. Equipment & Responsibilities

- The program provides a **Wi-Fi router** for use within the household.
- The **recipient is responsible** for the router's safekeeping. If the router is **stolen, lost, or damaged**, the recipient must **cover the full replacement cost**.
- If the router is **removed from the household** or used outside the designated location, the **service will be terminated immediately**.

5. Termination of Service

- The Wi-Fi service **will be immediately terminated** if:
 - The router is **stolen, lost, or removed** from the household.
 - The recipient **fails to comply** with routine checkups.
 - The household no longer meets the program's eligibility criteria.
- The program provider is **not responsible** for any damage to the router or interruptions in service.

By accepting this service, the recipient agrees to comply with all terms and conditions outlined in this policy.

Free Wi-Fi Router Distribution Program

Providing digital access to students in need

Program Overview

To support students facing financial hardship, 200 free Wi-Fi routers will be distributed across four schools within the reservation. Each school will receive **50 routers**, ensuring equitable access for families with the greatest need.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Tribal & School Enrollment

Tribal Membership – The applicant must be a verified enrolled tribal member.

Student Enrollment – The household must have a student currently attending one of the following schools:

- Turtle Mountain Elementary School
- Turtle Mountain Middle School
- Turtle Mountain Community High School
- Ojibwa Indian School
- Jollies mall (old cricket space)

2. Financial Need

Income-Based Qualification – Applicants must demonstrate financial need through:

- Participation in federal assistance programs (SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, etc.)
- Household income **at or below** the federal poverty level (see chart below)

One Router Per Household – Only **one router** will be provided per household.

Limited Availability – Only **50 routers per school** will be allocated based on the **greatest need**.

Income Eligibility Chart (2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines)

Household Size	Income Limit (150% of FPL)
1	\$23,475
2	\$31,725
3	\$39,975
4	\$48,225
5	\$56,475
6	\$64,725
7	\$72,975
8	\$81,225

Each Additional Person +\$8,250

Application Process

Step 1: Complete the Application – Forms are available at the **Tribal Broadband Office** or participating schools.

Step 2: Submit Required Documents

Proof of Tribal Enrollment – Tribal ID or official documentation

Proof of School Enrollment – Verification letter from the school

Proof of Household Income – Pay stubs or federal assistance verification

Proof of Physical Address – Confirmation of residency within the service area

Step 3: Review & Selection – Applications will be evaluated, and routers will be distributed based on **demonstrated financial need**.

Important Notice: *Due to limited availability, routers will be distributed based on financial need and eligibility criteria.*

This initiative is designed to **bridge the digital divide** by providing essential internet access to students, ensuring they have the resources needed for academic success.

Broadband Assistance Program Application

Applicant Information

Full Legal Name

- Last Name: _____
- First Name: _____
- Middle Name: _____
- Suffix (Jr./Sr./I/II/III): _____

(The name you use on official documents)

Contact Information

- Phone Number: _____
- Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____
- Email Address: _____
- Tribal Identification Number: _____

Preferred Method of Contact (Check One):

☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ Text Message ☐ Mail

Address Information

Home Address:

Physical Address (if different from home address):

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

☐ This is a temporary address

☐ I live on Tribal Land

Proof of Income Letter

Date: _____

Subject: Verification of Income

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to verify that **[Applicant Name]** has been employed by **[Employer Name]** since **[Start Date]**.

- **Current Position:** _____
- **Salary/Wages:** \$_____ per month

(Please include a copy of a payroll stub, SSI/SSDI statement, or any other proof of income.)

Program Eligibility

You may qualify for broadband assistance if you or someone in your household participates in one of the following programs:

Federal Programs (Check All That Apply):

- ☐ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ☐ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- ☐ Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Program

Tribal-Specific Programs (Check All That Apply):

- ☐ Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- ☐ Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- ☐ Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Income-Based Eligibility (150% of 2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines)

If you do not participate in any of the above programs, you may still qualify based on your household income.

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8	\$81,225

Each Additional Person +\$8,250

Household Size (Including Yourself): _____

☐ My income is at or below the limit listed above for my household size.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

