



EMPLOYMENT &
HUMAN SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

Kathy Gallagher, Director

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To: All Staff (Code 2A)

Date: December 10, 2021

From: Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director

Subject: Emergency Broadband Benefit Program to Be Replaced – Sign up by December 31, 2021

EHSD is committed to shoring up digital access for all Contra Costa residents, and offering information and tools to help enhance digital equity and access for every individual and family in our community. Please share this latest update about the [Emergency Broadband Benefit \(EBB\)](#) with our customers.

In January, 2022, the EBB will transition into the [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#), a new long-term program providing assistance for low-income consumers to afford high-speed internet access.

To receive the maximum benefit of \$50 per month (\$75 for households on qualifying Tribal Lands) for two additional months during ACP implementation, **households should enroll in EBB by December 31, 2021, if they meet one of these criteria:**

- Have an **income that is at or below 135%** of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#), or participates in certain assistance programs, such as CalFresh and Medi-Cal, or [Lifeline](#).
- Approved to **receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program**, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year;
- **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 and the household had a **total income in 2020 at or below \$99,000** for single filers and **\$198,000 for joint filers**; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

Eligible households can also receive a **one-time discount of up to \$100** to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

To enroll or find participating EBB providers, and to learn about other affordable internet and computer offers for eligible County residents, visit: [Get Connected Contra Costa](#) at ehsd.org (EBB Button) or [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](#).