

Common Sense's Guide to Low-Cost Internet

High-speed internet at home can make a big difference. Fast internet can make it easier to do schoolwork, apply for jobs, and use government services. But what if you can't afford the internet? There are now several affordable options for high-speed internet. It can be confusing to locate the best option. This guide can help, but check the details carefully before you sign up. Common Sense can't guarantee these offers.

To get started, visit EveryoneOn.org, a nonprofit organization that helps locate low-cost internet service, computers, and basic computer training in your neighborhood. Type in your ZIP code to see what's available in your area. You can also text "Connect" to 21-545 (carrier charges may apply) for more details.



Access from AT&T: AT&T offers low-cost internet access to households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through its Access from AT&T program.

BENEFITS:

- No commitment, no deposit, no installation fee, and no charge for an in-home Wi-Fi gateway.
- Service availability and speed may vary by address. AT&T will assign you the fastest of the speed tiers available where you live:
 - 10 megabits per second, for \$10 per month
 - 5 megabits per second, for \$10 per month
 - 3 megabits per second, for \$5 per month

TO QUALIFY:

- At least one resident must participate in the U.S. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or, for California residents ONLY, receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.
- You must live at an address in AT&T's **21-state** service area at which AT&T offers **wireline home internet service**.
- You may not have outstanding debt to AT&T for **fixed internet service** within the last six months or outstanding debt incurred under this program.

NEXT STEPS: Check details carefully at www.att.com/shop/internet, or call 1-800-288-2020



Comcast Internet Essentials: Comcast provides a low-cost broadband option. They also have new programs for seniors.

BENEFITS:

- \$9.95/month + tax, with no credit check, a no-term contract, no installation or monthly equipment-rental fees, 10 Mbps, and in-home Wi-Fi included.
- Internet Essentials provides low-cost internet service; the option to purchase an internet-ready computer for less than \$150; and access to free digital literacy training available in print, online, and in person.

TO QUALIFY YOU MUST:

- Live in an area where Comcast internet service is available.
- Not have subscribed to Comcast internet within the last 90 days.
- Not have outstanding debt to Comcast that is less than one year old.
- Have at least one child eligible for the National School Lunch Program OR receive HUD housing assistance such as public housing, housing choice vouchers, or multifamily assistance.
- A form of ID is required.

(Special pilot eligibility programs are available for senior citizens and community college students, in limited locations.)

NEXT STEPS: You can learn more and apply by visiting <https://InternetEssentials.com> or by calling 1-855-846-8376.

BENEFITS:

- Cox offers Connect2Compete internet service for \$9.95/month plus tax and equipment fees for families living in the Cox service area. It includes: speeds up to 10 Mbps download/1 Mbps upload, free in-home Wi-Fi equipment, access to Cox Wi-Fi/cable Wi-Fi hot spots, and free professional installation.

TO QUALIFY:

- Requires proof of immigration status but no Social Security number.
- You may be eligible to participate if your household has at least one K-12 child and you receive at least one of the following government-assisted benefits: SNAP, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), public housing assistance, or a child enrolled in the National School Lunch Program.
- In addition, you cannot be a current subscriber or have subscribed to Cox internet service within the last 90 days or have any outstanding debt or unreturned equipment with Cox.

NEXT STEPS: Visit <http://connect2compete.org/cox/>For great tips on using the internet with your family, visit commonsense.org.