

E911

The E911 surcharge is used for the implementation and maintenance of the E911 emergency reporting service. The surcharge applies to each access line, .45 per line per month, for up to 25 lines, per customer's account. This surcharge is a state mandated charge.

If you have additional questions regarding E911, you may visit www.maine911.com or call the Emergency Services Communication bureau, the state agency responsible for E911 implementation and maintenance at 207-877-8050.

End-User Carrier Line Charge / Subscriber Line Charge

The Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) is regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which supports several telecommunication programs. The FCC created the SLC to compensate local telephone companies for a portion of the cost of providing the local telephone lines, which includes such costs associated with telephone wires, underground wires, telephone poles and other facilities that link each telephone customer to the telephone network. The charge is 6.50 for residential and single line business customers and 9.20 for multi-line business customers per month.

Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC)

The Universal Service Fund (USF) helps make phone service affordable and available to all, including those with low incomes, those living in remote areas, schools and libraries and health care providers. Congress mandates that all telephone companies providing interstate services must contribute to this fund. The amount of the monthly surcharge varies depending on your choice of services and the number of telephone lines you have.

Federal Taxes

The 3% Federal Excise Tax on Long Distance services was enacted in 1898. The IRS announced on May 25, 2006 that it (and telephone companies) would stop collecting the 3% Federal Excise Tax on long distance telephone services portion of the customer's bills dated on and after August 1, 2006. Excise tax continues to be assessed on local telephone service that is not bundled with long distance service.

Maine Service Provider Tax

The Maine Service Provider Tax, imposes a 5% tax on telecommunications services in Maine. The state tax applied to basic, ancillary and in-state toll charges, as well as fees for labor, materials and equipment and the costs associated with processing service orders.

Maine Telecommunications Educational Access Fund (School & Library Fund)

MTEAF was established to collect funds from telephone and wireless carriers and distributes it to vendors on behalf of Maine's schools and libraries. It was established to help public schools and libraries gain or improve access to telecommunications networks in general. This .6% fee is assessed on basic, ancillary and in-state toll charges.

Maine Universal Service Fund (MUSF)

This fund was implemented by the Maine Public Utilities Commission to help make phone service affordable and available to all, including consumers with low incomes. This surcharge is at the state level and is comparable to the FUSC charge. The fee is 1.37% assessed on basic, ancillary, and in-state toll charges (before taxes and additional surcharges).

CONNECT ME

The State of Maine, ConnectME Authority (Committee) has implemented the ConnectME Fund. The funds collected will be used to expand or improve the deployment of broadband availability and wireless service in unserved or underserved areas of Maine. Beginning September 1, 2007 an assessment in the amount of .25% will be charged to the total monthly revenue on your phone bill and listed as a separate line item on your bill.