



Free Cell Phones and Service For Foster Youth



The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has approved a policy that will provide free cell phones for approved residents, age 18 and up with up to 250 free voice minutes and 250 text messages per monthly (more time is \$.10 cents per voice/text, sent or received). Those eligible must receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), food stamps, Medicaid (Medi-Cal), other public assistance programs OR who earn less than \$15,000 per year. Both current and former foster youth are eligible for Medicaid to age 21. As such, they should apply to participate in this program.

To apply for the program, Californians must first request a phone from Assurance Wireless by calling 800-395-2171 and following the prompts or visiting the website:

<http://www.assurancewireless.com/Public/CustomerInformation.aspx>

For online requests, follow the steps below:

- Click the Icon: *How to Qualify*
- Select your State
- Click the icon: *Check Availability*
- Input your Zip Code and hit submit
- Click on the icon to Download the Service Request
- Complete the Service Request and submit it
- Provide one copy of your documentation to prove you are eligible by services or by income (e.g. copy of your Medi-Cal card, check stubs) via online, mail or fax to 1-877-732-3018

You will receive your FREE phone in the mail with 250 FREE minutes and 250 FREE text messages that are good for **30 Days** (more time is \$.10 cents per voice/text, sent or received).

- Wait for your official federal application in the mail
- Complete and return your application
- Send the completed application with a copy of the same proof you submitted to get the phone
- Once you are approved, you will be notified by the State of California and Assurance Wireless and will get 250 Free voice minutes and 250 Free texts each month while eligible in the program and complete a yearly certification form.

Your service request form must be sent in before June 6, 2013 to be considered for this program.