



Rick Snyder, Governor
Sally Talberg, Chairman
Norm Saari, Commissioner
Rachael Eubanks, Commissioner

Contact: [Judy Palnau](mailto:judy.palnau@mpsc.com)
517-284-8300
www.michigan.gov/mpsc

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Charter Communications now offering low-cost broadband service for eligible low-income customers, including seniors for first time in Michigan

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today noted that Charter Communications is now offering a low-cost broadband program -- [Spectrum Internet Assist](#) -- for eligible low-income families with K-12 students and low-income seniors on Supplemental Security Income (SSI). With download speeds up to 30 megabits per second (Mbps), its program meets the Federal Communications Commission's definition of high-speed broadband and is the first to include senior citizens. Spectrum Internet Assist is available in Charter's legacy service area and will continue to be rolled out market by market in the rest of the company's service area by mid-2017.

"Internet service providers in Michigan play an important role in providing broadband service for low-income customers throughout Michigan," said MPSC Chairman Sally Talberg. "Charter Communications, which operates across much of Michigan, is the latest internet service provider to offer such a service and is the first to offer a low-cost option for eligible seniors. These programs are helping to shrink the digital divide for more and more Michigan families."

With the addition of Charter Communications' Spectrum Internet Assist program, Michigan has at least four such low-cost broadband programs.

Other low-cost broadband programs in Michigan include AT&T's [Access from AT&T](#), Comcast's [Internet Essentials](#) and CenturyLink's [Internet Basics](#). Eligibility varies by company. Other internet service providers may also offer programs for low-income customers.

Chairman Talberg said the MPSC encourages individuals and families to contact their internet service provider to find out more about the programs for which they may be eligible.

The MPSC, in its public-private partnership with [Connect Michigan](#) and Connected Nation, is working with local governments, businesses and citizens to increase broadband access, adoption and use.

For more information about the MPSC, please visit www.michigan.gov/mpsc or sign up for one of its [listservs](#) to keep up to date on MPSC matters.

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Michigan Public Service Commission
7109 W. Saginaw Highway
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909
www.michigan.gov/mpsc