

CONSTRUCTION CHARGES

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CONSTRUCTION CHARGES

A. General

Construction charges are non-recurring charges applicable under certain conditions or for extending company facilities in order to provide telecommunication services. These charges are in addition to applicable charges for the class of service furnished, service connection charges, charges for moves and changes, and other charges that may be applicable.

B. Definitions

1. Applicant
A residential customer applying for telecommunication services at a location that currently does not have facilities established.
2. Application
A request to the Company for telecommunication services, as distinguished from an inquiry as to the availability or charges for such service.
3. Construction Allowance
The portion of new construction and facilities that is provided at no charge.
4. Costs
Costs associated with the construction of new facilities include, but are not limited to, engineering, labor, materials, equipment, government fees and charges, right-of-ways, road crossings, road boring, trenching, etc.
5. Developer
An Applicant who is responsible for requesting placement telecommunications services in a new area for permanent residential and/or business telecommunications services prior to, or in conjunction with, a request for telephone service by a customer located in that new area. The area to be developed is defined as land which is divided or is proposed to be divided into 5 or more lots, parcels, or units.
6. Easement
A right given to another person or entity to trespass upon land that person or entity does not own. Easements are used for roads, private property, etc. given to utility companies for the right to bury cables or access utility lines.
7. Group Application or Project
A request for telecommunications services to 4 or less premises which are located one-half mile or less between each other by individuals who wish to establish telecommunications services at the same time.
8. Line Extension
Company outside plant that is required to extend Company facilities and service beyond the existing facilities of the Company.
9. New Construction
The placement of those additional facilities required to extend telecommunications services from the nearest existing working facility within the wire center to the Applicant(s) premises.

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B. Definitions (continued)

10. Permanent Service
Service provided at premises that has a permanent foundation and permanent connections to basic utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
11. Right of Way
Legal access to land not owned by the Company for the purpose of digging trenches, laying cable or planting poles.
12. Service Drop
Service conductor six-pair or smaller delivering service to the customer premise from the service provider's last network access point.
13. Special Construction
When an Applicant requests specific and/or unusual plant, equipment, or services to be installed.
14. Temporary Construction
Service provided is for a limited time and there is no immediate prospect of reusing the plant.

C. Terms and Conditions

1. This tariff applies to requests for extension of residential basic local exchange service.
2. This tariff does not apply to the application requests listed below. The terms and conditions of these requests shall be governed by an individual contract to be developed between the prospective applicant and the Company:
 - a. Applications for Extension of Service for Business Service;
 - b. Applications for Extension of Service by residential customers for other than residential basic local exchange service, unless the Company chooses to treat such application under this tariff;
 - c. Applications from Developers requesting service to developments.
3. The Company will determine the location and type of plant facilities required to provide the quantity and class of service, and to meet quality of service standards unless other arrangements have been agreed upon.
4. New construction is based on actual route and average conditions that will enable the Company to extend service to Applicant(s) at a reasonable cost without adding an undue burden to the general body of existing customers.
5. Where new construction is required, the Company will consult with other utilities to minimize construction costs (e.g., sharing trenches, poles, etc.).
6. The Company will construct, own, and maintain outside plant facilities using standard specifications, engineering, design, and materials standards unless other arrangements have been agreed upon.

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C. Terms and Conditions (continued)

7. Reinforcement of existing physical plant will be provided at the Company's expense except where facilities on private property are provided by the Applicant.
8. Upon request by an Applicant for service; the Company will provide, without charge, a preliminary sketch and rough estimate of the construction costs to be paid by the Applicant(s).
9. Any construction performed by the Applicant must be authorized and approved by the Company.
10. The Company must receive a Service Order plus payment of any agreed upon construction charges before construction begins.
11. An Applicant(s) ordering service at more than one premise is treated as separate Applications.
12. The start and completion time will depend on when the Company can coordinate for joint engineering and construction with other utilities; and obtain the material, labor and facilities necessary to complete the new construction.
13. When the Company receives a group application or project for telephone service, any applicable construction charges for shared facilities (less a Construction Allowance per premises) will be divided between the Applicants.
14. The Company will provide the Applicant(s) the estimated construction charges to be paid by the Applicant(s) in writing. The estimated construction charges will be good for thirty days after the Company provides a bill to the Applicant(s).
15. Construction Charges will be associated with the premises for which they were established rather than the Applicant(s). Credit for Construction Charges may not be transferred from one premise to another.
16. A single Applicant's request may be combined with another Applicant or added to a Group Applicant/Project when there is one-half mile or less of construction between Applicants and/or the grouping results in lower charges (or no increase in construction charges) for all Applicants involved.
17. If an Applicant disconnects service, no refund or adjustment is made to the Construction Charge applicable to the Applicant's premises regardless of any future reconnection of basic telephone service by the Applicant or upon connection of telephone service to a new Applicant. Upon disconnect, any outstanding construction charge amounts become due and payable immediately. Charges to remaining Group Applicants will not be affected by disconnects.

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D. Rates and Charges

1. General

- a. All Construction charges are payable at the time the application for service is signed or when the account is rendered based on estimated costs, unless other arrangements have been authorized by the Company.
- b. The initial NID will be provided at no cost to the Applicant(s).
- c. If a single or group applicant disconnects service, all outstanding construction charges will become due and payable immediately.

2. Construction Allowance

- a. Each Applicant with an active service order request will be provided with a one-time construction allowance per premises of 1000 feet, which includes a maximum of 300 feet on private property.

3. Charges

- a. The cost of construction above the allowance.
- b. The Applicant may be responsible for some or all the costs associated with the following:
 - Detail of the estimate, if requested prior to the start of construction;
 - Securing, clearing, and retaining right-of-ways;
 - Specific or unusual plant facilities not normally provided by the Company;
 - Establishment and removal of temporary facilities or seasonal in nature;
 - Rearrangement, change or move of facilities after construction begins;
 - Clearing the ground where facilities are to be laid of trees, stumps and other obstructions plus excavating and backfilling;
 - Removing rock or other abnormal conditions that are encountered;
 - Installation of lines after curb and sidewalks or other obstructions are in place;
 - Overtime work at the Applicant(s) request;
 - Rearrangement or relocation of existing facilities at the customer's request

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