

## Spectrum

Spectrum is offering 60 days of free Internet access to any household in their service areas with K-12 and/or college students that currently do not have Internet access of at least 100 Mbps.

### Instructions for Gaining Access to this Offer

1. Call **1-844-488-8395**
2. When you get to the voice prompt tell the Voice Operated Attendant that you are calling about **NEW SERVICE**.
3. At this point you will either be transferred to a representative, placed on hold, or asked if you want to receive a call-back when the queue has reached you.
4. Please Note: There are long hold times currently so I would recommend the call-back option.
5. When you speak to a Representative, it is imperative that you mention the ***free Spectrum broadband and WiFi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription at any service level up to 100 Mbps.***

Once the Representative understands what you are asking for, he/she will guide you through the rest of the process.

The following LEAs are in Spectrum service areas. Please note that some neighborhoods or residences in these LEAs may not be in a Spectrum service area.

Agua Dulce	Driscoll	Port Aransas
Alice	Flour Bluff	Premont

Aransas County	M.L. Garza	Ricardo
Aransas Pass	George West	Robstown
Banquete	Gregory Portland	San Diego
Beeville	Ingleside	Seashore
Ben Bolt	La Gloria	Sinton
Benavides	London	Skidmore
Bishop	Mathis	Tuloso-Midway
Calallen	Odem-Edroy	West Oso
Corpus Christi	Orange Grove	St. Mary's
Richard Milburn	CC Montesorri	

## Other Providers

Unfortunately, I have not found any other providers making the same offer that Spectrum is making. However, some other companies are doing something.

Update: I have read that AT&T is offering free service. See the AT&T section below for more details. Also, Comcast is offering free service to new customers for 60 days. I don't know if they have service anywhere in Region 2.

## VTX1

VTX1 is a company with a strong presence in Region 2. At this time they are offering free Internet access ONLY to households that have college students. I explained to them that if this becomes a prolonged crisis, K-12 students will need access just as much as college students and I asked them to please consider expanding their offer. VTX1 serves some

neighborhoods in the following districts. (Please note: this may not be an exhaustive list.)

McMullen	Taft
Pettus	Three Rivers
Premont	

## Earthlink

At this time they are not making any type of offer, but I have reached out to them and will update this document when I hear back from them. They provide residential service in Freer. Update: They will NOT be able to offer free Internet access to students. Apparently they are a third party company that doesn't own lines or towers.

## RTC (Riviera Telephone Company)

Here is the latest information from RTC.

### Operation Connect our Students

Riviera Telephone Co., Inc. and Gulf Coast Broadband would like to announce our Connect our Students program. In light of the recent COVID-19 outbreak in our country, our educational institutions have been forced to adjust their delivery method to continue their students' education. As such, our public schools are actively working on a solution to convert curriculum to a distance-learning based platform.

As such, Riviera Telephone Co., Inc. and Gulf Coast Broadband have decided that as of Friday, March 13, 2020, any students in our service area will be offered internet connection at no charge during this time that campuses are closed. There will be no installation charges, nor monthly recurring service charges throughout the duration of these campus

closures. This will be available in both Riviera Telephone Co., Inc. as well as Gulf Coast Broadband service areas.

Students will need to obtain verification of enrollment from their respective schools. Understanding that schools are currently closed, and VOE may be difficult to obtain, we are working directly with local school districts to accomplish this requirement.

Contact Riviera Telephone Co., Inc at (361) 296-3232 or via email:  
rtc.ofc@rivnet.com

- Riviera
- Loyola Beach
- Riviera Beach
- Sarita
- Armstrong

Contact Gulf Coast Broadband at (361) 296-9434 or via email:  
gcb.ofc@rivnet.com

- Ricardo
- Kingsville (in limited areas)

In light of the requirement to maintain “social distancing” parameters, please confine as much contact with our business office to email and phone contact.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Billy Colston, III

General Manager

## CommZoom

CommZoom provides residential service in Three Rivers. They are not making any type of special offer at this time. However, they do have service for as low as \$9.95 per month.

## Sparklight

Sparklight provides residential service in Taft and possibly Aransas Pass. While they are not offering free access, they have opened WiFi hotspots for public use during the crisis. Hotspots can be accessed free of charge in Sparklight local office parking lots.

Additionally, they are making unlimited data available on all Internet services for the next 30 days (starting March 16th) and offering payment deferrals and waiving late fees for the next 60 days.

## AT&T

AT&T has a presence in many cities and towns in Region 2. At this time they are not offering free or reduced residential access, but they have announced that they have removed usage caps so there will be no extra charges if a residential customer exceeds their bandwidth allotment in a given month. It is unclear how long the usage caps will be removed.

***UPDATE: I have read that AT&T is now offering free Internet access for 60 days but I have not been able to verify that. If you have any information, please update this document.***

AT&T is also underwriting expenses for a “one-stop” resource center to support eLearning Days from the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA). It is available to all educators to help them handle school closures and increase in virtual learning. For more information see <https://tinyurl.com/att-covid19>.

The list below includes districts that are served by AT&T but not by Spectrum.

Kingsville	Ramirez
Pettus	Santa Gertrudis