

City joins campaign to expand internet access

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Wave Staff Report



LOS ANGELES — Federal Communications Commission Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel joined Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass in expanding efforts to drive awareness and enrollment in the newest and largest broadband affordability program in the nation's history.

The chairwoman and the mayor announced the campaign to increase enrollment in the Affordable Connectivity Program in Los Angeles during a news conference March 9 at the Pio Pico-Koreatown Branch Library. They are working in collaboration with the Los Angeles Public Library and EveryoneOn, a national nonprofit organization working to connect underserved communities to affordable internet service, computers and digital skills trainings.

"For many households, the cost of groceries, gas and rent can eat up the monthly budget, putting internet access out of reach," Rosenworcel said. "We want to do more to get out the word about this powerful program and reach families that may not know about this benefit."

Qualifying households are eligible for a discount of up to \$30 a month for internet service and discounts on devices through the Affordable Connectivity Program. Qualifying households can also get a one-time discount of up to \$100 to buy a laptop, desktop computer or tablet from qualifying providers.

Californians with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines — \$55,500 for a family of four — are eligible. Households can also be deemed eligible if one or more members participates in SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, federal public housing assistance, veterans pension and survivors benefits, free or reduced-price school lunch, Federal Pell Grant or Lifeline.

The mayor said she wants to expand program awareness to close the digital divide.

"I look forward to a continued partnership with the FCC and our community partners as we stay committed to creating a more equitable city for all," Bass said.

To enroll in the program or for more information, visit <https://www.internetforallnow.org/>.