

ACCESS SERVICE

21. Volume Discount Plan

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21.1 Service Description

The Volume Discount Plan (VDP) provides percentage discounts to Ethernet circuits set forth in Section 17 based on the number of in-service circuits at a given time. The applicable percentage discounts are determined quarterly within each Plan Year as shown in Section 21.7 below. The VDP only applies to Ethernet circuits set forth in Section 17 that are purchased under a 60-month Discount Commitment Plan (DCP) as set forth in Section 7.3.9 (hereinafter referred to as "Qualifying Circuits"). The customer may only enter into a VDP at the beginning of its DCP term and the VDP and DCP must be of the same term.

The applicable percentage discounts shown in Section 21.7 below will be applied to the 60-month DCP tariffed rates for Qualifying Circuits set forth in Section 19.6 following.

If the Telephone Company introduces new Ethernet services not currently listed in Section 17 (New Ethernet Services), the in-service circuit counts for such New Ethernet Services committed to a DCP of like term as the VDP term will be added to the count of VDP Qualifying Circuits used to determine the discount percentages during the term of the VDP, but New Ethernet Services will not otherwise be treated as Qualifying Circuits and will not receive the VDP discounts.

All eligible rate elements for each committed circuit billed are applicable to the plan.

At the end of each 3-month period during the term of the VDP, a snapshot count of the customer's total Qualifying Circuits and New Ethernet Service circuits subject to a DCP will be taken. The discount percentage applicable to that circuit count will be used to determine the VDP discount level for the next 3-month period. For example, the circuit count made at the end of the fourth quarter of a Plan Year will determine the applicable discount percentage for the first quarter of the next Plan Year.

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ACCESS SERVICE

21. Volume Discount Plan (Cont'd) (N)21.1 Service Description (Cont'd)

Upon the completion of the five (5) year VDP term, the customer may enter into an available OPP or DCP. If the Customer does not elect to enter into an available Plan and does not notify the Telephone Company prior to the expiration of the VDP, the customer will be charged the applicable month-to-month rates for the services that were covered by the VDP and all discounts provided under the VDP will cease.

If the Customer under a VDP enters a new 60-month DCP within 30 days after the expiration of its existing DCP, the Customer will have the option to extend the VDP coterminous with the term of the new DCP. The VDP discount percentages for Year 5 of the DCP will be used for the entire term of the new 60-month DCP.

21.2 Conversion Levels

When a customer establishes a VDP all Qualifying Circuits shall automatically be added to the VDP upon written notification by the customer to the Telephone Company to establish a VDP. There will be no service or billing interruption for existing services that convert to the VDP.

21.3 Commitment Period

At any time while under the VDP, the customer may add or delete circuits pursuant to the DCP provisions as described in Section 7.3.9. These changes may increase or decrease the discount level applicable to the following quarter.

If the customer chooses to terminate the VDP prior to the end of the term of the DCP, the VDP discounts will no longer apply. Qualifying Circuits no longer under a VDP will be billed under the existing 60-month DCP provisions as set forth in Section 7.3.9.

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ACCESS SERVICE

21. Volume Discount Plan (Cont'd) (N)21.3 Commitment Period (Cont'd)

Qualifying Circuits to be included in the VDP shall include only those circuits in service or ordered by customers who are provided service by the Telephone Company under the Access Carrier Name Abbreviations (ACNAs) agreed to by the Customer and the Telephone Company at the time the initial VDP is established. The Customer may request by notifying the telephone company in writing to add additional ACNAs to the VDP to include circuits that the customer has gained through: 1) mergers; 2) acquisitions or; 3) if the Customer is acquired by another Customer of the Telephone Company. The in-service circuit levels for the additional ACNAs will be included in the count of Qualifying Circuits made at the end of the 3-month review period in which the ACNAs are added.

21.4 Ordering Provisions

The customer must order a VDP in writing to the Telephone Company. The customer must specify in the written notification the date on which it wishes to enroll in the VDP. The specified enrollment date must be within thirty (30) days of receipt of the customer written notification.

21.5 Rate Changes

For customers who subscribe to a VDP, the rates for circuits under the DCP will be excluded from any Telephone Company initiated rate increases as specified in Section 7.3.9 and will be frozen at the DCP rates in effect as of the date of the VDP enrollment. Month-to-month rates may change as a result of Telephone Company initiated increases or decreases.

The Telephone Company will not remove any of the contributory services under the VDP or add additional rate elements or charges, whether for existing services or new, non-optional features or functionality, that would affect or relate to the contributory services unless the Telephone Company is ordered to do so by the Federal Communications Commission.

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ACCESS SERVICE

21. Volume Discount Plan

(N)

21.6 Verification and Application of Discounts

The Telephone Company will take a snapshot count of the customer's number of Qualifying Circuits and New Ethernet Service circuits at the end of each 3 month period during the term of the VDP. Based upon the total count of Qualifying Circuits and New Ethernet Service circuits, the applicable percentage discount as shown in Section 21.7 below will be applied to the monthly DCP rates for Qualifying Circuits.

Upon the customer's request and without additional charge, the Telephone Company will make available for inspection and audit by the customer, all reasonably requested documentation necessary to verify the Telephone Company's reports that support the calculation of the VDP monthly rates. The Telephone Company may assess additional labor charges, as set forth in Section 13.2 preceding, for any additional reports requested by the customer. The customer may request this additional supporting documentation no more than twice in any consecutive 12 calendar months, and only for billing periods during the previous 12 month period. This information will be provided by the Telephone Company promptly following the customer's request for such data. In the event that the data shows that any discount was improperly applied, within 30 days after the date of resolution the Telephone Company will provide a credit to the customer equal to any additional discount the customer should have received under the VDP or the customer will reimburse the Telephone Company for any discounts that the customer received that were not due under the VDP.

The dollar amount of the earned discount for each 3-month billing period will be calculated at the end of the period by applying the earned discount rate to the billed rates for the prior 3-month period. The total dollar discount earned for each 3-month period will be applied in the first billing period of the following 3-month period.

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21 Volume Discount Plan(Cont'd)

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21.7 Rates and Charges

Circuit Threshold Levels and Percentage Discounts

650 to 1,000 Circuits in Service

Percentage Discount*

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
8.00%	19.96%	29.56%	33.09%	33.09%

1,001 to 1,500 Circuits in Service

Percentage Discount*

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
8.00%	21.80%	33.53%	36.85%	36.85%

1,501+ Circuits in Service

Percentage Discount*

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
8.00%	26.40%	37.44%	40.57%	40.57%

*The Discount percentages will be applied to the 60-month DCP rates in effect at the time the Customer enters into the VDP. During the course of the term, the Customer count of Qualifying Circuits and New Ethernet Service Circuits may increase or decrease resulting in a change to the tier of discounts applied.

For example, the monthly rates for a 10Mbps UNI Port and EVC for Customers having 650 to 1000 circuits in service (based on the 1/1/2016 60-month DCP rates as set forth in Section 17.6 prior) are shown below:

	Initial 60-Month DCP Rate	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
Port	\$594.00	\$546.48	\$475.44	\$418.39	\$397.47	\$397.47	
EVC	\$ 40.00	\$ 38.60	\$ 32.02	\$ 28.17	\$ 26.77	\$ 26.77	(N)

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