



HABEMATOLEL POMO OF UPPER LAKE

TITLE 4. FAMILY RELATIONS AND WELLNESS

CHAPTER 3. BROADBAND ACCESS

Article I. GENERAL PROVISIONS	3
Section 1.01 Short Titles.....	3
Section 1.02 Scope and Purpose of this Chapter.	3
Section 1.03 Construction of this Chapter to Promote its Purposes and Policies.....	3
Section 1.04 Construction Against Implied Repeal.....	3
Section 1.05 Severability	3
Section 1.06 Use of Singular and Plural; Gender.	3
Section 1.07 Section Captions	3
Article 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS	4
Section 2.01 Sovereign Authority.....	4
Section 2.02 Affect on the economic wellbeing, political stability, and health and welfare of the Tribe	4
Article 3. DEFINITIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION	4
Section 3.01 Definition of terms	4
Article 4. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED	4
Section 4.01 Establishment of Broadband Access Subsidy Program.....	4
Section 4.02 Establishment of Broadband Technical Support Program.....	5
Section 4.03 Program Administration.....	5
Section 4.04 Sunset Provision	5
Article 5. FUNDING & REQUIREMENTS.....	5
Section 5.01 Program Funding	5
Section 5.02 Reporting Requirements	6
Article 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.....	6

Article 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This chapter shall be codified as Chapter 3 of Title 4 of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Book of Codes.

Section 1.01 Short Titles.

This Act may be cited as the "Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Broadband Access Subsidy Act of 2025" or the "Broadband Access Subsidy Act of 2025".

Section 1.02 Scope and Purpose of this Chapter.

- (A) The purpose of this Act is to establish a Broadband Access Subsidy Program and Broadband Technical Support Program to ensure that every Tribal household within the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Tribe has affordable, reliable, and accessible broadband service for the next four (4) years.
- (B) The Program is funded entirely using federal grant funds awarded to the Tribe under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) Round 2, administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
- (C) This Act is intended to reduce the cost of internet access for Tribal households while providing direct, dedicated staff capacity to assist Tribal members with broadband-related support, digital literacy, and troubleshooting needs.

Section 1.03 Construction of this Chapter to Promote its Purposes and Policies.

- (A) This Chapter must be liberally construed and applied to promote its underlying purposes and policies.

Section 1.04 Construction Against Implied Repeal.

This Chapter being a general act intended as a unified coverage of its subject matter; no part of it shall be deemed to be impliedly repealed by subsequent legislation if such construction can reasonably be avoided.

Section 1.05 Severability.

If any provision or clause of the Chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this Chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Chapter are severable.

Section 1.06 Use of Singular and Plural; Gender.

In Chapter, unless the statutory context otherwise requires: (1) words in the singular number include the plural, and those in the plural include the singular; and (2) words of any gender also refer to any other gender.

Section 1.07 Section Captions.

Section captions are part of this Chapter.

Article 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

Section 2.01 Sovereign Authority.

The Executive Council finds that this Chapter is enacted pursuant to the sovereign authority of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, including its constitutional powers of self-governance, and in accordance with the Tribe's acceptance of funds under the TBCP Round 2 grant.

Section 2.02 Effect on the economic wellbeing, political stability, and health and welfare of the Tribe.

This Chapter directly has a substantial impact on the economic wellbeing, political stability and health and welfare of the Tribe by providing greater access to broadband by Tribal members.

Article 3. DEFINITIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION

Section 3.01 Definition of terms.

(A) Terms, as used in this chapter mean:

- (1) "Broadband Internet Service Provider" means any provider of residential internet service meeting or exceeding the minimum broadband speeds defined by the FCC;
- (2) "Broadband Technical Support Program" means dedicated staff to provide individualized technical assistance, troubleshooting, and digital literacy support for Tribal Members;
- (3) "Eligible Tribal Household" means a primary residential household in which at least one enrolled Tribal member of the Tribe resides;
- (4) "Subsidy" means Monthly financial assistance of \$120 provided to each Eligible Tribal Household to offset the cost of broadband internet service (only one Tribal member per household is eligible for the subsidy);
- (5) "Tribe", the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Article 4. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED

Section 4.01 Establishment of Broadband Access Subsidy Program

(A) The Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Broadband Access Subsidy Program is hereby established within the Tribal Member Programs department.

(B) The Program shall provide a \$120 monthly broadband subsidy to each Eligible Tribal Household for a four (4) year period or until funds allocated by the Executive Council are exhausted.

(C) Subsidies may be provided:

- (1) Directly to broadband internet service providers pursuant to agreements with the Tribe; or
- (2) As a reimbursement to the Tribal household upon submission of proof of service and payment.
- (3) Only one reimbursement per household will be allowed.

Section 4.02 Establishment of Broadband Technical Support Program.

- (A) The Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Broadband Technical Support Program is hereby established to provide individual assistance to Tribal Members related to broadband use, troubleshooting, and adoption.

- (B) The Program shall be staffed by a dedicated technical support personnel funded under this Act, including but not limited to:
 - (1) Technical Support Specialist(s);
 - (2) Digital Literacy Trainer(s);
 - (3) Outreach and Enrollment Support Staff (Internet Utilization Representative); and
 - (4) Internet Cultural Program Developer

- (C) Staff duties shall include:
 - (1) Assisting Tribal members with internet setup, equipment use, and troubleshooting;
 - (2) Providing basic training in device use, online safety, and digital literacy;
 - (3) Supporting enrollment in the Subsidy Program; and
 - (4) Serving as a liaison between Tribal households and service providers.

Section 4.03 Program Administration.

- (A) The Tribe, in coordination with the appropriate Tribal departments, shall:
 - (1) Develop policies and procedures for program enrollment, verification, payments, and technical support services;
 - (2) Maintain agreements with broadband service providers;
 - (3) Recruit, hire, and train broadband technical support staff;
 - (4) Maintain records and compliance with federal grant requirements; and
 - (5) Conduct community outreach to maximize participation and digital inclusion.

Section 4.04 Sunset Provision.

This Program shall terminate on April 30, 2029, unless extended by action of the Executive Council or as otherwise permitted under NTIA guidance.

Article 5. FUNDING & REQUIREMENTS

Section 5.01 Program Funding.

- (A) The Executive Council hereby allocates \$950,000.00 from the Tribe's TBCP Round 2 federal grant award to fully fund the Broadband Access Subsidy Program and Broadband Technical Support Program for a four (4) year term.

Section 5.01 Program Funding.

- (B) This allocation shall cover:
 - (1) Monthly subsidies of \$120 per eligible household
 - (2) Salaries, benefits, training, equipment and costs for technical support staff;
 - (3) Program expenditures; and
 - (4) Challenges and recommendations for program improvement.

- (C) All funds shall be held in a dedicated Broadband Program Grant Fund and may not be used for other purposes without approval by the Executive Council.

- (D) Any unspent funds at the end of the program shall:
- (1) Be returned to NTIA if required; or
 - (2) Be reallocated for broadband affordability or technical assistance initiatives with Executive Council approval.

Section 5.02 Reporting Requirements.

- (A) The Fiscal Department as well as the Tribal Member Programs department shall submit:
- (1) Quarterly reports to the Executive Council; and
 - (2) Required reports to NTIA under TBCP grant terms.

(B) Reports shall include:

- (1) Number of participating households;
- (2) Technical support services provided;
- (3) Program expenditures; and
- (4) Challenges and recommendations for program improvement.

Article 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Chapter shall take effect on the date it is approved by the Executive Council.

CERTIFICATION

As a duly-elected official of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, I do hereby certify that a poll vote was convened on the 30th day of **January**, 2026, at which time a quorum of 7 was present, this Chapter 4.3 Broadband Access was duly adopted by a vote of **6 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 1_ ABSTAINED**, and said Chapter has not been rescinded or amended in any form.

ATTEST:

Daniella Cirelli

1/30/2026

Danielle Cirelli, Chairperson

Date

Iris Picton

2/2/26

Iris Picton, Secretary

Date