



Universal Service Fund in Russia

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Bridging the digital divide

- Russian system of universal communication services is the main way to ensure equal rights of citizens to access modern communication services;
- Communication services will be provided to any user throughout Russia within a specified period, with established quality and at an affordable price.



Russian Federal Law On Communications

telephone services

using collective access
facilities

*data transmission and
Internet access services*

using access points

*mobile radiotelephone
services*

using access points

Universal Service Fund

- Operator occupying a significant position in the public communications network is obliged to provide universal communication services;
 - **2005** – Russian Universal Service Fund was created;
 - **2014** – Rostelecom was designated as the single operator of the universal communication services.
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How the fund is formed (1)

Mandatory deductions — 01

non-tax payments

02

Penalties for late or
incomplete payment of
mandatory deductions

Other sources not
prohibited by law — 03

non-tax payments

The basis is the income received during the quarter from the provision of communication services to subscribers and other users in the public communication network

How the fund is formed (2)

1,2%

the rate of mandatory deduction (non-tax payment) of the operator of the public communication network

- Data is provided for each of the licenses under which the activity was carried out and revenue was received during the reporting period;
 - Payment is also made no later than 30 days after the end of the quarter.
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2021 statistics:

5300

14

telecom operators contributed to the
Fund

billion rubles a year are consolidated

How the fund's money is spent

- To provide financial support for the provision of universal communication services;
 - To finance the creation and operation of a database of transferred subscriber numbers.
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Reform of universal communication services 2020

- Exclusion of data transmission and Internet access services using collective access from the list of universal communication services;
 - Provision of such services in settlements with a population of 100 to 500 people is now provided using access points;
 - Inclusion of mobile radiotelephone services using access points in the universal communication services.
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Results (as of 28.02.2023)

- **mobile communication services:** in 2,106 localities with a population of 100 to 500 people;
 - **data transmission services** at a speed of at least 10 Mbp/s and **free Internet access** using Wi-Fi access points: in 13,912 settlements numbering from 250 to 500 people;
 - **telephone services using payphones:** a total of 22,876 universal payphones have been installed on the territory of Russia in settlements with a population of less than 1,000 people.
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Short-term plans

The Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation is currently optimizing the provision of universal communication services by reducing the amount of payphones and access points to increase the amount of base stations.



Thanks for your attention!

If you require any more information, do not hesitate to
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