



For immediate release.

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**Chesnee Communications Providing 60 Days of Free Internet Service to Students
*Offering Internet to New Customers in Homes with K-12 and Higher Education Students***

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With the continuing spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster made the difficult decision to close all public schools for two weeks. Knowing that our students and their parents will need greater access to broadband, Chesnee Communications is offering 60 days of free service to new customers in homes where a student lives. We want to make sure that as the need to be connected to the world increases, Chesnee Communications is doing its part to make that easier.

Chesnee Communications is offering 60 days of free Standard Broadband service and free installation to any home that is:

- The primary home of a student in kindergarten through high school, in technical school, in college or in graduate school;
- Currently without our internet service and that hasn't had internet service with Chesnee Communications for the past 90 days; and
- Located where Chesnee Communications would normally provide internet service.

We are also waiving installation fees during this time. Chesnee Communications plans to keep this opportunity available to new customers through the end of March and will re-evaluate it at that time.

Chesnee Communications is also committed to working with customers impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19) to prevent their internet service from being disconnected during this challenging period. For more than 80 years, we have always made a point to work with our customers in difficult situations to try to keep them connected. We will continue to do that throughout the coronavirus outbreak. We know that during difficult times like this, a connection to work, school and current events in the world is more important than ever.

Additionally, Chesnee Communications has already reached out to each County School District to assist them as they prepare to meet their students' needs remotely. As school districts in our area prepare to

send their students and teachers home, we will assist them in any way we can to make their jobs easier. Shortly after the governors announced the closing of public schools across the Carolinas, our team began contacting our local school districts' superintendents to discuss ways that we could help devise a solution with regard to connectivity.

Our network is designed and ready for events like this. Chesnee Communications has recently made upgrades to both our core network and our field equipment. Even during this trying time, our broadband network is more than capable of handling a dramatic increase in the number of people working and learning from home. Chesnee Communications technicians are also monitoring the network continuously to ensure that they detect and address any problems as soon as possible.

Finally, as we stated on March 13, Chesnee Communications has taken steps to ensure our employees' and our customers' safety. Those measures include work and travel policy changes, increased education on illness prevention methods and more stringent practices for disinfecting vehicles and tools between customer visits. We want to ensure that our technicians can continue to serve our community safely, quickly and with the same level of professionalism our customers have come to expect.

To find out more, please contact us at 864-461-2211.

Chesnee Communications is a subsidiary of SkyBest Communications.

As the state's largest telecommunications cooperative, SkyLine and its subsidiary, SkyBest Communications, provides advanced communications services and technology solutions across an expanding network in northwest N.C., east/middle Tennessee and upstate South Carolina. With more than 65 years of service to the High Country, Chesnee Communications is the local team you can count on for Gig-capable Broadband, Business Communications and Network Solutions, Bundled Services (Voice/Internet/Digital TV), Business Phone Systems, Business Hosting Solutions, Monitored Security Services and Automation and Surveillance Services.