



Understanding Charges On Your Mid Century Statement

The charges on your telephone bill fall into several categories:

Fixed Charges:

Mandatory recurring charges and taxes you must pay to be connected to the network. Local telephone charges are itemized and billed one month in advance.

Usage charges:

Century Enterprises, Inc (CEI), charges will appear on your MCTC statement for individual toll calls and directory assistance calls. Charges are billed one month in arrears and rates will vary depending on the number of toll calls you make, the duration of the call and if you subscribe to a calling plan. If you have a toll provider other than CEI you will receive a separate bill from that provider detailing your toll usage.

Other Services:

Included in this category are recurring monthly fees for non-published telephone numbers, additional directory listings, instrument leases, inside wire maintenance, and voluntary contributions to telephone assistance programs. Optional services such as High Speed Internet/DSL and calling features are also listed in this classification. Prices vary by product.

Other Charges and Credits:

These may be recurring or one time charges or credits that can include fees for products. Also included in this category are late payment fees. In addition, any action that requires a service order to be processed will generate a prorated charge or credit in this category. Examples of these activities are new installations and partial charges (or credits) for services initiated (or discontinued) in the middle of a billing period.

Definitions:

Residential Rate or Business Rate:

This is a mandatory recurring fixed monthly charge to receive a service. The service entitles business or residential subscribers access to basic local exchange telephone service, calls and/or High Speed Internet/DSL.

FCC Interstate Access Single / Multi:

This is a mandatory recurring fixed monthly charge. Local telephone companies must contribute to the upkeep and operation of the equipment necessary to connect individual phone lines to the interstate long distance network. A portion of the out-of-state expense incurred is recovered through this charge (also known as the Federal Subscriber Line Charge), which is regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Intrastate Access Charge:

This is a mandatory recurring fixed monthly charge. A portion of the in-state expense associated with maintaining facilities to connect with the long distance network are recovered by assessing this charge, which is regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC).

Emergency 911 Surcharge:

The emergency response system in each county is subsidized by this surcharge which varies from county to county and is mandatory when the 911 referendum is approved regardless if 911 services are currently available.

Illinois Telecom Relay Service & Equipment:

A mandatory state surcharge (per telephone line) used to fund relay centers and special equipment that assist hearing and speech impaired persons to communicate over the telecom network.

Federal Universal Service Charge (percentage varies and can change quarterly):

This represents a mandatory surcharge on the interstate portion of a subscriber bill to support universal telephone service. The FUSC fund assists with the cost of providing affordable telecommunication services to schools, libraries, low-income individuals and residents in rural high-cost areas.

Illinois Universal Service Charge

In addition to the federal programs, some states collect fees to support their own universal service programs. Like other telecom providers in Illinois (IL), we collect fees for the IL Universal Service Fund that is administered by the (IL Public Utility Commission). The IUSC fund supports universal service programs within Illinois. Most, if not all, telecom providers in the state contribute to the fund to help keep basic local rates affordable for everyone in the state.

Federal Taxes (FED) (3%):

The Federal Excise Tax is imposed by the federal government which applies to all local charges and is remitted to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

State Tax (7% Illinois):

The Illinois Telecommunications Excise Tax is assessed by the state of Illinois on all telecommunications services.

Public Utility Tax (ADTL) (.1%):

The proceeds from the Illinois Public Utility Tax fund the work of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). This tax is assessed on all regulated utility bills.

State Infrastructure Tax (TIMF TAX) (.5%):

All telecommunications carriers are required to collect infrastructure maintenance fees. The state fee is paid into the personal property tax replacement fund in the state treasury. By law, monies in this fund are dedicated to local government uses.

Supplemental Municipality Telecommunications Tax (SMTT Tax)

A fixed and mandatory charge imposed by a local government (village) or municipality of all gross charges to service addresses within the village limits. It may not apply to service addresses outside of the village boundaries. A village ordinance directs telecommunications providers to charge and collect the tax via end-user billing.

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