



Information for Cell Phone Services in and around Washington DC *

- ◆ **Long-Term Contracts & Deposit:** All companies offer contracts, most of which are 2 years. These are typically the cheapest plans, but they often require a **social security number** or a **deposit**. The deposit varies according to the carrier from \$50 to \$ 500. You will get your deposit back if you pay your bill on time. Some carriers return your deposit after 1 year with a small interest, but others only return your deposit.
 - ◆ **Cell Phone Plans, Options & Features:** Cell phone carriers usually offer **Monthly plan**, **Family plan**, and **Pre-paid plan**. Before you sign on, make sure you understand what your phone plan includes, e.g. activation/termination fee, free phone, free night/weekend minutes, rollover minutes, and the expiration date of pre-paid minutes.
 - Monthly plan: Most phone companies will designate certain times of day that calling is cheaper or free. Additionally, a lot of phone companies offer free mobile-to-mobile minutes. If you exceed a certain amount of minutes, cell phone carriers will charge for the extra minutes.
 - Family plan: It does not require members of the plan to actually be family. This plan can also be cheaper, as the “family members” would share minutes and costs.
 - Pre-paid plan: It is for which credit is purchased in advance of service use. You can recharge as much as you need.
- Typically cell phone plans:

 - Two-year contract
 - Monthly plan
 - Family plan
 - Prepaid plan
- * Be aware that some companies will deduct your minutes for both outgoing and incoming calls.
Make sure you know and understand your plan to receive the best deals possible!*
- ◆ **Data Plans:** Keep in mind that if you’re looking to purchase a smartphone, the data plan (sending emails, using the internet, etc) usually requires its own plan. Some providers offer pay-per-use data plans or data packages for those who plan to use these features more often.
 - ◆ **International Communication:** Consider international calling plans and international text messaging plans (sometimes separate / other times included) when deciding on your cell phone carrier and plan. You can always use Skype or buy International phone cards online.
 - ◆ **Cell phones:** You don’t necessarily need to buy a new cell phone. You can continue to use your phone depending on your cell phone carriers. Check with your cell phone carriers.

* The George Washington University does not favor any particular cell phone provider and strives to present this information in an objective and equitable manner.

These are estimated costs. Please visit the service provider to verify costs and plans.

<i>Service Providers</i>	<i>Nearest Address and Office Number</i>	<i>Monthly Plans</i>	<i>Pay-As-You-Go Plans</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Text Messaging/ International Calls</i>	<i>Mobile -to- Mobile</i>
AT&T www.wireless.att.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1050 Connecticut Ave., NW 202-822-1350 	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *More minutes & unlimited weekends with 2-year contract *Phones start at \$14.99 * Possible free phone with 2-year contract 	Plans available by the minute, day, or month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Unlimited Calling \$2/using day *Mobile to Mobile \$1/using day plus 10¢/min *Simple Plan 25¢/min *Unlimited Talk Plan \$60/mon 	\$500 without Social Security Number (SSN) for contracts. No deposit for pay as you go.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Text Messaging plans starting at \$5/month or 20¢/text. *International Calls: \$3.99/ month with discounted rates, cost depends on country (only for contract plans) -Certain plans have 100 countries already included 	Yes
T-Mobile www.t-mobile.com/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1850 K St., NW 202-223-3850 	<p>Yes, with visa & ID Two year agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$39.99/month for 500 minutes *Unlimited Plans starting at \$60/mon *Phones start at \$30 (\$15 virgin mobile) * Possible free phone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Rates as low as 10¢/min; *Monthly Plans;; \$15/mon + 10¢/min (Data not included) 	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Text Messaging: 20¢ per text *Pre-paid phones: International Call charges vary by country *Talk and Text: \$10/month added to unlimited domestic plan. Texting only: \$5/month added to unlimited domestic plan 	Yes, all plans
Sprint (& Nextel) www.sprint.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 609 14th St., NW 202-783-2785 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Only 2 year contracts. *Plans starting at \$29.99/mon *Unlimited plans starting at \$69.99/mon 	Sprint owns two pay-as-you-go service companies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Boost Mobile: 10¢/min; unlimited \$2 a day or \$50 a month *Virgin Mobile: 20¢/min or \$25 month with no contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *No SSN needed to obtain contract *Less than \$250 for each line or phone based on credit history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Text Messaging: 20¢/text *International Calls: \$4/month (rates vary by country) 	Yes
Verizon www.verizonwireless.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1736 L St., NW 202-296-4400 	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Plans starting at \$39.99 *Unlimited Plans starting at \$69.99/mon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Basic Plan 25¢/min *\$0.99-\$3.99/day you use your phone *pre-paid mimic monthly service plans. Same benefits. \$5 more. iPhone not available prepaid 	\$400; You receive your deposit back after 13 months with 3% interest, as long as your account is in good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Text Messaging plans starting at \$5/month *International Calls: Standard Plan; *Long Distance Value Plan: \$3.99/month plus rates 	Yes
cricket www.mycricket.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1947 14th St, NW 202-986-9780 	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Unlimited Plans starting at \$35/mon 				

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES OFFICE