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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.5 SPECIAL CREDIT CARD FOR BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS (Cont'd)_

8.5.3 Qualification

The follow criteria will be used to determine eligibility for the Special Credit Card:

- .1 "Legally Blind" those whose visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- .2 "Physically Handicapped" those who are certified by competent authority as unable to read or use ordinary printed materials as result of physical limitations.
- .3 Persons whose disabling condition causes difficulty with hand and finger coordination and utilization of a coin or non-coin telephone. Acceptable certifications are those made by a licensed physician, ophthalmologist or optometrist.

8.5.4 Billing Authorization

Responsibility for payment of charges may be handled in one of two ways:

- 1. The handicapped person (the applicant) may accept responsibility for payment of his or her own bill. In this case, the applicant must be 18 years of age or older and must reside within the Company's service territory, but he or she does not need to have other service from the Company.
- 2. Another party may agree to accept responsibility for payment of charges incurred through use of the Special Credit Card by the applicant. When this option is chosen, the person accepting this responsibility must be 18 years of age or older, but does not need to reside within the Company's service territory.

In either case, the applicant is the <u>only</u> authorized user of the Special Credit Card. If the person accepting payment responsibility has service within the Company's service territory, charges will be billed on a regular monthly bill; otherwise a separate bill will be sent.

8.6 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM

8.6.1. General

The Schools and Libraries Discount Program permits eligible schools (public and private, grades Kindergarten through 12) and libraries to purchase the Company services offered in this tariff and the (additional company tariff references, if appropriate) at a discounted rate, in accordance with the Rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Universal Service Order 97-157, issued May 8, 1997 and the New York State Public Service Commission in its Opinion and Order 97-11 Adopting Discounts for Services for Schools and Libraries, issued June 25, 1997. The Rules are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) 54.500 et. seq.

As indicated in the Rules, the discounts will be between 20 and 90 percent of the pre-discount price, which is the price of services to schools and libraries prior to application of a discount. The level of discount will be based on an eligible school or libraries level of economic disadvantage and by its location in either an urban or rural area. A schools level of economic disadvantage will be determined by the percentage of its students eligible for participation in the national school lunch program, and a libraries level of economic disadvantage will be calculated on the basis of school lunch eligibility in the public school district in which the library is located. A non-public school may use either eligibility for the national school lunch program or other federally approved alternative measures to determine its level of economic disadvantage. To be eligible for the discount, schools and libraries will be required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Rules. Discounts are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund. Schools and libraries may aggregate demand with other eligible entities to create a consortium.

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