

CELL PHONE INFORMATION

FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN LAW AND LEGAL EDUCATION

After your arrival in Washington, D.C., acquiring a cell phone and service plan will be one of many things to take care of. Washington, D.C. has several providers of cell phones and phone services. Georgetown does not endorse any particular company, but offers the information below.

Cell phones

- The largest companies are: Verizon, T-mobile (Sim card), AT&T (Sim card), and Sprint.
- Verizon is the only provider that receives a signal in the Metro without additional charge. Sprint also allows Metro reception for an additional fee.
- When visiting a company's store to open an account or start a plan, **don't forget to take a picture ID (passport, student visa, etc.)**.

Service Options

Monthly commitment – one or a two year plan

- Social security number required (some companies waive SSN with deposit)
- Deposit possible (usually ranges from \$150 - \$500)
- If you cancel the phone before the term of the contract you may be subject to penalties.

Pre-paid phone

- No social security number
- No yearly commitment
- No credit check (for most Verizon, T-mobile, and AT&T pre-paid programs)

More information about different providers

Please visit www.verizon.com, www.tmobile.com, www.wireless.att.com, and www.sprint.com for more information about long-term and prepaid plans. Other providers might offer good deals, check them out before making a decision. Below are brief descriptions of some of the services Verizon, T-mobile, AT&T, and Sprint currently provide. (Note: this information is subject to change, check the website or visit a store for more details.)

Verizon

Monthly commitment plans

- Nationwide individual talk only plans range from \$39.99 - \$69.99/month
- Nationwide individual talk and text plans range from \$59.99 - \$89.99/month

Pre-paid phone plans

- Pre-paid Basic (a flat rate for all voice calls)
- Daily plans, starting at \$0.99 a day

T-mobile

Monthly commitment plans

- Individual talk only plans, \$39.99 - \$59.99/month
- Individual talk and text plans, \$49.99 - \$69.99/month
- Individual talk, text, and web plans, \$79.99 - \$99.99/month

Pre-paid phone plans

- \$15/month, \$50/month plans
- Pay as You Go
- Pay by the Day (\$1 a day for each day used, unlimited calling to other T-mobile customers)
- Sidekick Prepaid

AT&T

Monthly commitment plans

- Individual (talk only) nation plans, \$39.99 - \$69.99/month

Pre-paid phone plans

- \$3 Unlimited calling
- \$1 Mobile to Mobile
- \$0.25 Simple Plan
- \$60 Unlimited Talk and Text
- GO Phone

Sprint

Monthly commitment plans

- Basic (talk only), \$29.99/month
- Talk (talk only), \$39.99 - \$59.99/month
- Everything messaging (talk and text), \$49.99 - \$69.99/month
- Everything data (talk, text, data), \$69.99 - \$89.99/month
- Simply everything (talk, text, data unlimited), \$99.99/month

Pre-paid phone plans

- Sprint offers pre-paid phone plans through Boost Mobile and Virgin Mobile USA

University Mobile – Designed for International Students

University Mobile (UM) offers a service customized for international students. **At this time, University Mobile is no longer offering its own plans to students, but UM can refer you to other companies with comparable services; you may want to check the website at a later date.** Normally, a UM service plan is ordered online at www.universitymobile.com and phones are shipped by Priority Mail from Michigan the next business day. Feel free to contact UM or find more information at www.universitymobile.com. All that is needed is a credit card, debit card or US-based checking account. All plans are month to month and a new plan can be selected each month; all plans include free Voice Mail, Caller ID and Call Waiting.