

CELL PHONES IN THE U.S.

Office of Global Services
Georgetown University

MAJOR CONTRACT PROVIDERS

Verizon Wireless

1100 S Hayes St, Suite 3032
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 415-1101
www.verizonwireless.com

AT&T

1518 Connecticut Ave. NW Suite 4
Washington, DC 20036
202-462-1643
www.att.com

T-Mobile

1330 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-429-0715
www.t-mobile.com

Sprint

1208 18th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-496-9400
www.sprint.com

PREPAID PROVIDERS

CampusSIMS

www.campus sims.com

**CampusSIMS free SIM cards available in the OGS Welcome Center year-round - just pick one up then register it online to get started immediately!

Virgin Mobile

www.virginmobileusa.com

AT&T GoPhone

www.att.com/shop/wireless/gophone

Net10

www.net10wireless.com

Straight Talk

www.straighttalk.com

US Mobile

www.gousmobile.com

GSM Nation

www.gsmnation.com

OVERVIEW

Cell phone service in the United States is purchased with either a monthly contract or prepaid calling cards.

CONTRACTS

- Most cell phone companies charge for all calls, outgoing AND incoming, though many have free calling within their network.
- Some plans give you a set number of minutes per month and overage minutes are charged at a much higher rate. Check your plan to see if weekend and nighttime minutes are free.
- Some companies will require you to pay a deposit if you don't have a social security number. Many do not, be sure to ask.
- Text messaging (SMS) and data usage typically carry additional charges if not included in a plan. Ask about adding texting and data to your plan.
- For most companies, you must have a compatible phone. Ask specifically if you want to use one you currently have.
- When subscribing, ask about student discount programs and international calling plans.

** Once a contract is signed, you will be obligated to pay for the entire contract period. Expect to pay a high fee if you break a contract. As contracts generally last 1-2 years, we do not recommend students enter into family plans with other students. **

PREPAID PHONES, SIM CARDS, AND CALLING CARDS

- If you intend to make calls to your home country, ensure this is possible with your specific plan
- May be month-to-month subscriptions or "add minutes as you go"
- No deposit required; costs may be lower than major providers
- Cheaper phones with different levels of features