

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION WITH FRONTIER BY BINDING ARBITRATION

AS EXPLAINED MORE FULLY BELOW AND IN THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO YOU BY FRONTIER, FRONTIER'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FRONTIER INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT **THAT ANY DISPUTE BE RESOLVED BY BINDING ARBITRATION ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS RATHER THAN LAWSUITS, JURY TRIALS OR CLASS ACTIONS, AS EXPLAINED MORE FULLY BELOW.** IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO FRONTIER'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS, YOU MAY NOT USE FRONTIER'S SERVICE AND MUST TERMINATE SERVICE IMMEDIATELY. BY USING OR PAYING FOR FRONTIER SERVICES, YOU ARE AGREEING TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

**\*\*\*PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY. IT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS\*\*\***

Frontier encourages you to contact our Customer Service department if you have concerns or complaints about your Service or Frontier. Generally, customer complaints can be satisfactorily resolved in this way. In the unlikely event that you are not able to resolve your concerns through our Customer Service department, you and Frontier each agree to resolve all disputes through binding arbitration or a small claims court rather than lawsuits in courts of general jurisdiction, jury trials, or class actions. Arbitration is more informal than a lawsuit. Arbitration uses a neutral arbitrator instead of a judge or jury, allows for more limited discovery than in court, and is subject to very limited review by courts. Arbitrators can award the same damages and individual relief affecting individual parties that a court can award, including an award of attorneys' fees if the law allows. For any non-frivolous claim that does not exceed \$75,000, Frontier will pay all costs of the arbitration. Moreover, in arbitration you are entitled to recover attorneys' fees from Frontier for your own dispute to the same extent as you would be in court. In addition, under certain circumstances (as explained below), Frontier will pay you more than the amount of the arbitrator's award if the arbitrator awards you an amount that is greater than what Frontier has offered you to settle the dispute.

### **Arbitration Agreement:**

(a) You and Frontier agree to arbitrate **all disputes and claims** between us related to or associated with the Service. This agreement to arbitrate is intended to be broadly interpreted. It includes, but is not limited to, all claims arising out of or relating to any aspect of our relationship, whether based in contract, tort, statute, fraud, misrepresentation or any other legal theory, that arose either before or during this or any prior Agreement, or that may arise after termination of this Agreement. It also includes claims that currently are the subject of class action or purported class action litigation in which you are not a member of a certified class. References to "Frontier," "you," and "us" include our respective subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, employees, predecessors in interest, successors, and assigns, as well as all authorized or unauthorized users or beneficiaries of Frontier Broadband Services under this or prior Agreements between us.

Notwithstanding the foregoing agreement, Frontier agrees that it will not use arbitration to initiate debt collection against you except in response to claims you have made in arbitration. In addition, by agreeing to resolve disputes through arbitration, **you and Frontier each agree to unconditionally waive the right to a trial by jury or to participate in a class action, representative proceeding, or private attorney general action.** Instead of arbitration, either party may bring an individual action in a small claims court for disputes or claims that are within the scope of the small claims court's authority. In addition, you may bring any issues to the attention of federal, state, or local agencies, including, for example, the Federal Communications Commission. Such agencies can, if the law allows, seek relief against us on your behalf.

This Agreement evidences a transaction in interstate commerce, and thus the Federal Arbitration Act governs the interpretation and enforcement of this provision, even after the Agreement is terminated.

(b) A party who intends to seek arbitration must first send to the other, by certified mail, a written Notice of Dispute ("Notice"). The Notice to Frontier should be addressed to: Frontier Communications, Legal Department, 401 Merritt 7, Norwalk, CT 06851 ("Notice Address"). The Notice must (1) describe the nature and basis of the claim or dispute, and (2) set forth the specific relief sought ("Demand"). If Frontier and you do not reach an agreement to resolve the claim within 30 days after the Notice is received, you or Frontier may commence an arbitration proceeding. During

the arbitration, the amount of any settlement offer made by Frontier or you shall not be disclosed to the arbitrator until after the arbitrator determines the amount, if any, to which you or Frontier is entitled.

(c) The arbitration will be governed by the Consumer Arbitration Rules ("AAA Rules") of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), as modified by the terms of this Agreement, and will be administered by the AAA. Procedure, rule and fee information is available from the AAA online at <http://www.adr.org>, by calling the AAA at 1-800-778-7879, or by calling Frontier at 1-877-462-7320, option 3. The arbitrator is bound by the terms of this Agreement. All issues are for the arbitrator to decide, except that issues relating to the scope and enforceability of the arbitration provision, including the scope, interpretation, and enforceability of section (f) below, are for a court to decide. If your claim is for \$25,000 or less, you may choose whether the arbitration will be conducted solely on the basis of documents submitted to the arbitrator, through a telephonic hearing, or by an in-person hearing as established by the AAA Rules. If your claim exceeds \$25,000, the right to a hearing will be determined by the AAA Rules. Unless Frontier and you agree otherwise, any in-person hearings will take place at a location that the AAA selects in the state of your primary residence unless you and Frontier agree otherwise. Regardless of the manner in which the arbitration is conducted, the arbitrator shall issue a reasoned written decision sufficient to explain the essential findings and conclusions on which the award is based.

Frontier agrees to pay your AAA filing, administration, and arbitrator fees ("AAA fees") for claims for damages of up to \$75,000 and for claims for non-monetary relief up to the value of \$75,000, as measured from either your or Frontier's perspective (but excluding attorneys' fees and expenses). After Frontier receives notice that you have commenced arbitration, it will promptly reimburse you for your payment of the filing fee, unless your claim is for greater than \$75,000. (The filing fee currently is \$200 but is subject to change by the AAA. If you are unable to pay this fee, Frontier will pay it directly upon receiving a written request.) In addition, Frontier will not pay your share of the AAA fees if the arbitrator finds that either your claim or the relief sought is frivolous or brought for an improper purpose, as measured by the standards of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b). In such case, the payment of AAA fees will be governed by the AAA Rules, and you agree to reimburse Frontier for all monies previously disbursed by it that are otherwise your obligation to pay under the AAA Rules. If you initiate an arbitration in which you seek relief valued at more than \$75,000 (excluding attorneys' fees and expenses), as measured from either your or Frontier's perspective, the payment of AAA fees will be governed by the AAA Rules.

(d) If Frontier offers to settle your dispute prior to appointment of the arbitrator and you do not accept the offer, and the arbitrator awards you an amount of money that is more than Frontier's last written settlement offer, then Frontier will pay you the amount of the award or \$5,000 ("the alternative payment"), whichever is greater. If Frontier does not offer to settle your dispute prior to appointment of the arbitrator, and the arbitrator awards you any relief on the merits, then Frontier agrees to pay you the amount of the award or the alternative payment, whichever is greater. The arbitrator may make rulings and resolve disputes as to the payment and reimbursement of fees, expenses, and the alternative payment at any time during the proceeding and upon request from either party made within fourteen (14) days of the arbitrator's ruling on the merits.

(e) Although Frontier may have a right to an award of attorneys' fees and expenses if it prevails, Frontier agrees that it will not seek such an award.

(f) You and Frontier agree to seek, and further agree that the arbitrator may award, only such relief—whether in the form of damages, an injunction, or other non-monetary relief—as is necessary to resolve any individual injury that either you or Frontier have suffered or may suffer. In particular, if either you or Frontier seeks any nonmonetary relief, including injunctive or declaratory relief, the arbitrator may award relief on an individual basis only, and may not award relief that affects individuals or entities other than you or Frontier. YOU AND FRONTIER AGREE THAT WE EACH MAY BRING CLAIMS AGAINST THE OTHER ONLY IN AN INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AND NOT AS A PLAINTIFF OR CLASS MEMBER IN ANY PURPORTED CLASS, REPRESENTATIVE, OR PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROCEEDING. FURTHERMORE, UNLESS BOTH YOU AND FRONTIER AGREE OTHERWISE IN WRITING, THE ARBITRATOR MAY NOT CONSOLIDATE MORE THAN ONE PERSON'S CLAIMS, AND MAY NOT OTHERWISE PRESIDE OVER ANY FORM OF A CLASS, REPRESENTATIVE, OR PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROCEEDING. If a court decides that applicable law precludes enforcement of any of this paragraph (f)'s limitations as to a particular claim for relief, then that claim (and only that claim) must be severed from the arbitration and may be brought in court. Further, an arbitrator's award and any judgment confirming it shall apply only to that specific case and cannot be used in any other case except to enforce the award itself.

(g) Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, you and Frontier agree that if Frontier makes any change to this arbitration provision during the period of time that you are receiving Frontier services, you may reject that change by providing Frontier with written notice within 30 days of the change to the Notice Address provided in (b) above and require Frontier to adhere to the language in this provision. By rejecting any future change, you are agreeing that you will arbitrate any dispute between us in accordance with the language of this provision.