

The New 975 Area Code is Coming to the Missouri 816 Area Code Region

To ensure a continuing supply of new telephone numbers, the Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an all-services area code overlay for the 816 area code, which serves western Missouri including, but not limited to, the communities of Kansas City, Blue Springs, Plattsburg, Fillmore, Richmond, Odessa, Harrisonville, and Adrian. The new 975 area code will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 816 area code.

What is an area code overlay?

An overlay is the addition of another area code (975) to the same geographic region as an existing area code (816). The overlay does not require you to change your existing area code or phone number, or how you dial your calls. You will continue to dial the area code and phone number for all local calls, as you do today, within and between the 816 and new 975 area codes.

Who will be affected, and when does the new 975 area code go into effect?

Anyone with an 816 area code telephone number will be affected, as well as anyone in the 816 service area, which covers western Missouri including, but not limited to, the communities of Kansas City, Blue Springs, Plattsburg, Fillmore, Richmond, Odessa, Harrisonville, Adrian and many other smaller communities. The new 975 area code will serve the same geographic area served by the 816 area code.

Beginning **October 13, 2023**, customers in the 816 area code overlay region may be assigned a number in the new 975 area code when they request new service or an additional line. Customers receiving a 975 area code will be required to dial the area code and phone number for all local calls, just as customers with telephone numbers from the 816 area code do today.

What will you need to do?

Customers in the overlay region should:

- Continue to dial 10 digits for all local calls, including calls within the same area code and between the overlay area codes.
- Continue to dial 1+ area code + telephone number for all long-distance calls.
- Continue to identify your telephone number as a 10-digit number, and include the area code when giving the number to friends, family, business associates, customers, etc.
- Ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment recognize the new 975 area code as a valid area code and continue to store or program telephone numbers as 10-digit numbers.
 - Some examples are: stored telephone numbers in contact lists in wireless phones, PBXs, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, medical alert devices, safety alarm security systems and gates, ankle monitors and other similar equipment.
- Check items such as websites, personal and business stationery and printed checks, advertising materials, contact information, and personal or pet ID tags to ensure the area code is included.

What will remain the same?

- Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call.
- You can still dial just three digits to reach 711 (relay services) and 911 (emergency services).
- Any 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 811 or 988 services available in your community can still be reached by dialing their three-digit codes.

Who may you contact with questions?

If you have any questions regarding this information, please call Fidelity Communications at 800-392-8070, access www.fidelitycommunications.com, or the Missouri Public Service Commission at https://psc.mo.gov/Telecommunications/Telephone_NumbersLocal_Dialing.