U-Verse TV Terms of Service

Arbitration provision prior to November 7, 2023

11. DISPUTE RESOLUTION WITH AT&T BY BINDING ARBITRATION
PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY. IT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS.

11.1 Summary
Our customer-service department can resolve most customer concerns quickly and to the customer’s satisfaction. Please visit att.com/contactus to contact the customer-service team for your AT&T Service. In the unlikely event that you are not satisfied with customer service’s solution (or if we haven’t been able to resolve a dispute between us after attempting to do so informally), we each agree to resolve those disputes through binding arbitration or small claims court instead of in courts of general jurisdiction.

Arbitration is more informal than a lawsuit in court. 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. Any arbitration under this Agreement will take place on an individual basis; class arbitrations and class actions are not permitted. For any non-frivolous claim that does not exceed $75,000, AT&T will be responsible for all costs of the arbitration. Moreover, in arbitration you are entitled to recover attorneys’ fees from AT&T to at least the same extent as you would be in court. In addition, under certain circumstances (as explained below), AT&T will pay you more than the amount of the arbitrator’s award and will pay your attorney (if any) twice his or her reasonable attorneys’ fees if the arbitrator awards you an amount that is greater than the value of what AT&T offered you to settle the dispute.

11.2 Arbitration Agreement

11.2.1 Claims Subject to Arbitration:
AT&T and you agree to arbitrate all disputes and claims between us, except for claims arising from bodily injury or death. This arbitration provision is intended to be broadly interpreted. It includes, but is not limited to:

- claims arising out of or relating to any aspect of the relationship between us, whether based in contract, tort, fraud, misrepresentation, or any other statutory or common-law legal theory;
- claims that arose before the existence of this or any prior Agreement (including, but not limited to, claims relating to advertising);
- claims for mental or emotional distress or injury not arising out of bodily injury;
- claims that are currently the subject of purported class action litigation in which you are not a member of a certified class; and
- claims that may arise after the termination of this Agreement.

References to “AT&T,” “you,” and “us” include our respective predecessors in interest, successors, and assigns, as well as our respective past, present, and future subsidiaries, affiliates, related entities, agents, employees, and all authorized or unauthorized users or beneficiaries of AT&T Services or products under past, present, or future Agreements between us. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either party may bring an action in small claims court seeking only individualized relief, so long as the action remains in that court and is not removed or appealed to a
court of general jurisdiction. This arbitration provision does not preclude you from bringing 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. You agree that, by entering into this Agreement, you and AT&T are each waiving the right to a trial by jury or to participate in a class action. This Agreement evidences a transaction in interstate commerce, and thus the Federal Arbitration Act governs the interpretation and enforcement of this provision. This arbitration provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

11.2.2 Pre-Arbitration Notice of Dispute:

A party who intends to seek arbitration must first send to the other party a written Notice of Dispute ("Notice"). You may download the Notice form at att.com/arbitration-forms. The Notice to AT&T may be sent by U.S. mail or professional courier service to Manager - Dispute Resolution and Arbitration, AT&T, 1025 Lenox Park Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30319 (the "Notice Address"), or, alternatively, submitted electronically by following the instructions at att.com/noticeofdispute. The Notice must include all of the information requested on the Notice form, including: (a) your name; (b) your Account number; (c) the services (if any) to which your claim pertains; (d) a description of the nature and basis of the claim or dispute; (e) an explanation of the specific relief sought and the basis for the calculations; (f) your signature; and (g) if you have retained an attorney, your signed statement authorizing AT&T to disclose your confidential Account records to your attorney if necessary in resolving your claim.

If AT&T and you do not reach an agreement to resolve the claim within 60 days after the Notice is received, you or AT&T may commence an arbitration proceeding. (If either you or we sends the other an incomplete Notice, the 60-day period begins only after a complete Notice is received.) You may download a form to initiate arbitration at att.com/arbitration-forms. In addition, information on how to commence an arbitration proceeding, including how to file a consumer arbitration online, is currently available at adr.org/support. A copy of the arbitration demand must be sent to the Notice Address listed above.

11.2.3 Arbitration Procedure:

The arbitration will be governed by the then-current Consumer Arbitration Rules ("AAA Rules") of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), as modified by this arbitration provision, and will be administered by the AAA. (If the AAA is unavailable, another arbitration provider shall be selected by the parties or, if the parties cannot agree on a provider, by the court.) The AAA Rules are available online at adr.org or may be requested by writing to the Notice Address. (You may obtain information that is designed for non-lawyers about the arbitration process at att.com/arbitration-information.) All issues are for the arbitrator to decide, except issues relating to the scope and enforceability of the arbitration provision or whether a dispute can or must be brought in arbitration are for the court to decide. The arbitrator may consider rulings in other arbitrations involving different customers, but an arbitrator’s ruling will not be binding in proceedings involving different customers. Unless AT&T and you agree otherwise, any arbitration hearings will take place in the county (or parish) of your billing address. If your claim is for $10,000 or less, we agree that you may choose whether the arbitration will be conducted solely on the basis of documents submitted to the arbitrator or through a telephonic, videoconference, or in-person hearing as established by the AAA Rules. If your claim exceeds $10,000, the right to a hearing will be determined by the AAA Rules. During the arbitration, the amount of any settlement offer made by AT&T or you shall not be disclosed to the arbitrator until after the arbitrator determines the relief, if any, to which you or AT&T is entitled. 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 his or her decision is based. Except as provided in subsection 1.3.2.6 below, the arbitrator can award the same damages and relief that a court can award under applicable law.
11.2.4 Arbitration Fees:

If AT&T initiates arbitration or if you initiate arbitration of claims valued at $75,000 or less, AT&T will pay all AAA filing, administration, case-management, hearing, and arbitrator fees, so long as you have fully complied with the requirements in section 1.3.2.2 for any arbitration you initiated. In such cases, AT&T will pay the filing fee directly to the AAA upon receiving a written request from you at the Notice Address or, if the AAA requires you to pay a filing fee to commence arbitration, AT&T will promptly reimburse you or arrange for the AAA to reimburse you for the filing fee and will remit the filing fee to the AAA itself. If you seek relief valued at greater than $75,000, the payment of the AAA filing, administration, case-management, hearing, and arbitrator fees will be governed by the AAA rules. In addition, if the arbitrator finds that either the substance of your claim or the relief sought in the arbitration demand is frivolous or brought for an improper purpose (as measured by the standards set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)), then the payment of all such fees will be governed by the AAA Rules. In such case, you agree to reimburse AT&T for all monies previously disbursed by it that are otherwise your obligation to pay under the AAA Rules.

11.2.5 Alternative Payment and Attorney Premium:

If you fully complied with the requirements above in subsection 11.2.2 and the arbitrator issues an award in your favor that is greater than the value of AT&T’s last written settlement offer made before the arbitrator was selected, then AT&T will:

- pay you the amount of the award or $10,000 (the "Alternative Payment"), whichever is greater; and
- pay the attorney you retained, if any, twice the amount of attorneys’ fees reasonably incurred and reimburse any reasonably incurred expenses (including expert witness fees and costs) that your retained attorney reasonably accrues for investigating, preparing, and pursuing your claim in arbitration (the "Attorney Premium").

If AT&T did not make a written offer to settle the dispute before the arbitrator was selected, you and your attorney will be entitled to receive the Alternative Payment and the Attorney Premium, respectively, if the arbitrator awards you any relief on the merits. The arbitrator may resolve disputes and make rulings as to the payment and reimbursement of attorneys’ fees, expenses, the Alternative Payment, and the Attorney Premium upon request from either party made within 14 days of the arbitrator’s ruling on the merits. In assessing whether an award that includes attorneys’ fees and expenses is greater than the value of AT&T’s last written settlement offer, the calculation shall include only the portion of the award representing attorneys’ fees and expenses that you reasonably incurred pursuing the arbitration through the date of AT&T’s settlement offer.

The right to the Attorney Premium supplements any right to attorneys’ fees and expenses you may have under applicable law. Thus, if you would be entitled to a larger amount under the applicable law, this provision does not preclude the arbitrator from awarding you that amount. However, you may not recover both the Attorney Premium and a duplicative award of attorneys’ fees or expenses. Although under some laws AT&T may have a right to an award of attorneys’ fees and expenses if itprevails in an arbitration, AT&T agrees that it will not seek such an award unless you have retained an attorney and one or more of your claims is determined to be frivolous or brought for an improper purpose.

11.2.6 Requirement of Individual Arbitration:

The arbitrator may award relief (including, but not limited to, damages, restitution, declaratory relief, and injunctive relief) only in favor of the individual party seeking relief and only to the extent necessary to provide relief warranted by
that party's individual claim. YOU AND AT&T AGREE THAT EACH MAY BRING CLAIMS AGAINST THE OTHER ONLY IN YOUR OR ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, AND NOT AS A PLAINTIFF OR CLASS MEMBER IN ANY PURPORTED CLASS, REPRESENTATIVE, OR PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROCEEDING. Further, unless both you and AT&T agree otherwise, the arbitrator may not consolidate more than one person's or entity's claims and may not otherwise preside over any form of a representative, class, or private attorney general proceeding. If, after exhaustion of all appeals, any of these prohibitions on non-individualized relief; class, representative, and private attorney general claims; and consolidation is found to be unenforceable with respect to a particular claim or with respect to a particular request for relief (such as a request for injunctive relief), then the parties agree that such a claim or request for relief shall be decided by a court after all other claims and requests for relief are arbitrated.

11.2.7 Future Changes to Arbitration Provision:

Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, we agree that if AT&T makes any future change to this arbitration provision (other than a change to the Notice Address) during your service commitment, you may reject any such change by sending us written notice within 30 days of the change to the Notice Address provided above. By rejecting any future change, you are agreeing that you will arbitrate any dispute between us in accordance with the language of this provision.