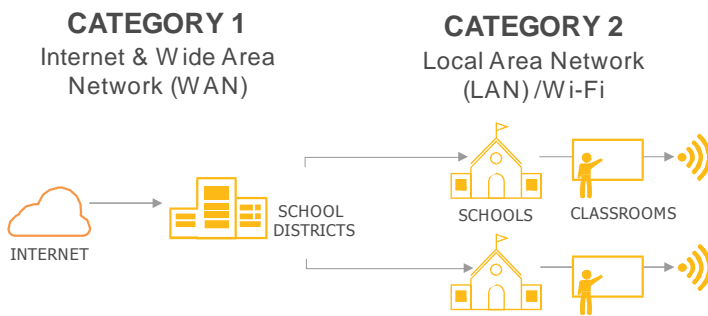




E-rate Category 2 Funds for New York Schools

What are Category 2 Funds?

In 2015, as part of E-rate modernization, the FCC budgeted \$150* per student to each school in the nation to fund internal connection (Local Area Network / Wi-Fi) upgrades. These funds are available for five years following the first time any school in the district applied for any portion of the funds.



Where Can I Get Help?

- Your Local RIC or BOCES
- [The New York State E-Rate Coordinator](#)
- Your District E-rate Consultant
- [EducationSuperHighway](#)

How much funding is available for New York Districts?

As of October 2018, there is still approximately **\$182M** available in Category 2 funds for NYS schools. Of that amount, approximately **\$39M** must be accessed by 233 NYS school districts **this year** or it is set to expire.

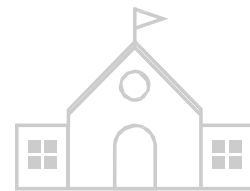
How does a district calculate its available budget?

Total Category 2 pre-discount budget is calculated on a per school basis by multiplying the student population of each school by \$150*. The applicant can determine the amount they are responsible for paying by subtracting the amount subsidized by the E-rate program. The subsidy is based on the applicant's E-rate discount rate.

EXAMPLE SCHOOL

1,000 STUDENTS

80% CAT 2 DISCOUNT RATE



1	PRE-DISCOUNT BUDGET:	$\$150 \times 1,000$ (students)	= \$150,000
2	TOTAL DISCOUNTED BUDGET:	$\$150,000 \times 80\%$ (discount)	= \$120,000
3	COST TO SCHOOL:	$\$150,000 - \$120,000$	= \$30,000

*Indexed to inflation. 2017 amount = \$156.23

Eligible Components

E-rate Category 2 covers internal connections, managed internal broadband services, and basic maintenance of internal connections.



WIRELESS

- ✓ Access Points
- ✓ Controllers
- ✓ Antennas
- ✓ Cloud-based wireless controllers



WIRED

- ✓ Structured cabling (copper/fiber)
- ✓ Network switches
- ✓ Racks & patch panels
- ✓ Routers



OTHER

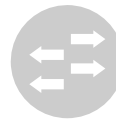
- ✓ Caching - HW/SW/Service
- ✓ Basic Firewall Services
- ✓ Improvements, upgrades & software necessary to distribute broadband
- ✓ Taxes + surcharges & shipping charges
- ✓ Installation & configuration by VARs
- ✓ Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)
- ✓ Licenses for eligible equipment
- ✓ Software that support eligible equipment
- ✓ Training on eligible equipment
- ✓ Managed Internal Broadband Service

Best Practices



ACCESS POINTS

- ✓ Minimum 802.11ac Wave 1 Access Points
- ✓ 1 per traditional classroom
- ✓ Special consideration should be given to:
 - Common areas, outdoor areas
 - High density vs. standard coverage in those common areas
 - Low density example: Agricultural Building
 - High density example: Gym, Auditorium
 - Building construction (*external and internal*)
 - Classroom size (*library, SpecEd, traditional, band*)
 - Site Survey\Pre-engineering\“Heat Map”



SWITCHES

- ✓ 1 Gbps copper ports + fiber expansion
- ✓ PoE with support for PoE+



STRUCTURED CABLING

- ✓ Copper needs to be Cat5e or greater
- ✓ New installs should be Cat6a or greater
- ✓ 10 Gbps fiber between closets
- ✓ 10 Gbps fiber for WAN connections

Where Can I Learn More?

EducationSuperHighway's Upgrade Toolkit provides districts with free Form 470/RFP templates and helpful resources to support your upgrade needs:

upgrade.educationsuperhighway.org



EducationSuperHighway's webinars help districts optimize their funds and run successful procurement. Watch their Category 2 webinar series On-Demand:

educationsuperhighway.org/webinars

