Illinois Classroom Connectivity Initiative

Working together to upgrade all schools

In 2016, the Illinois State Board of Education, the Learning Technology Center of IL and the national non-profit EducationSuperHighway partnered to launch the Illinois Classroom Connectivity Initiative to support increased access to high-speed Internet. Access to broadband can personalize learning for students, empower teachers, connect parents, and ensure equal educational opportunity for all.

School district broadband upgrade projects

School district leaders now have access to state funding, resources and technical assistance that support scalable, cost-effective network upgrades to meet the growing demands of technology in the classroom. All tools and resources are provided at no cost to school districts.

► We discuss a plan and available state funding to upgrade your broadband network based on your district’s current infrastructure and future needs
► We help you research technology and provider options by engaging directly with the provider community.
► We help you develop your Form 470 / RFP strategy and build a business case.
► We assist you in working with service providers to get bid responses and procure a solution.
► We support implementation of your new network.

School district testimonials

“I thought [ESH’s technical assistance] was super smooth. You were able to provide us with exactly what we needed; having 1 Gbps service to every area in our district says a lot.”
Tom Walker, Technology Director
Massac Unit School District #1

“It’s good that EducationSuperHighway is here to help, especially for smaller districts—it’s very appreciated. We’re trying to do it all by ourselves but we wear so many hats.”
Victor White, Superintendent
Prairieview-Ogden CCSD #197

“I appreciated having EducationSuperHighway there for support to talk to and bounce ideas off regarding our network.”
Tim Wolf, Director of Technology
Kaneland CUSD #302

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EDUCATIONSUPERHIGHWAY TOOLS & RESOURCES

Understand and make use of E-rate Category 2 budgets
compareandconnectk12.org

Our webinars help districts optimize their funds and run successful procurement.
educationsuperhighway.org/webinars

Leveraging the new $16.3M ISBE Grant for Broadband Expansion

The legislature established a fund to help school districts with the costs of fiber construction to school sites. Over 130 schools across the state are not yet connected to fiber and cost is often a barrier to upgrade. This fund ensures that all students can access digital learning today and into the future.
Contact us for more information on the ISBE grant opportunity.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW