



## K20 Initiative

### Merit Connects Michigan K12s to Internet2 and K20 Initiative

Internet2 is a consortium of over 200 universities formed to develop and deploy the advanced network applications and technologies required for tomorrow's education and research institutions. Merit is an Affiliate member of Internet2 and serves as the Internet2 "GigaPoP" for Michigan. In this role, Merit provides access in Michigan to Internet2's national high-speed research and education network backbone.

Through the Sponsored Educational Group Participant (SEGP) program, Merit serves as a conduit to Internet2's many working groups and initiatives for Michigan institutions. While several Michigan universities are Internet2 members, Merit provides Internet2 access to K12 institutions via the SEGP program.

The SEGP program provides access to applications that require end-to-end, high-capacity bandwidth and robust network capabilities. Advanced applications enable collaboration among people and interactive access to information and resources in ways not possible on today's Internet. They deliver qualitative and quantitative improvements in how we conduct research and engage in teaching and learning. Moreover, they require advanced networks to function properly.

Sponsored by Internet2 and its members, the K20 Initiative is the mechanism that provides for knowledge and technology transfer from higher education Internet2 members to SEGPs.

K20 connects networks and people at:

- 38 participating state K20 networks
- 30,000 K20 institutions
- 23,388 K12 schools
- 2360 public libraries
- 594 community colleges
- 852 four-year colleges and universities
- 74 museums, zoos, aquariums, and science centers



### K20 Initiative

*The National Internet2 K20 Initiative brings together Internet2 member institutions and innovators from primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, libraries, and museums to extend new technologies, applications, middleware, and content to all educational sectors, as quickly and connectedly as possible.*

**Internet2 provides access to experiences and expertise:**



**International Learning Communities**

**Rich Multimedia Digital Libraries**



**Remote Instrumentation**