

E-rate Eligible Dedicated Connectivity from Merit Network

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- Dedicated Connectivity
- Burstable Service
- Merit WAN Service
- Merit Fiber Service
- Q&A

- Merit's core service offering
- End-to-end managed connection
- 24x7x365 NOC Monitored
- Dedicated service components
 - Access Delivery - Leased circuit, wireless, or owned fiber connection
 - Internet Service - Bandwidth
- Part of Merit's Dedicated Service
 - OnNet/OffNet
- E-rate program participant since its inception
 - Internet Access services only

- With available capacity of connection, able to “burst” above Contracted Bandwidth level
 - Allows for occasional burst for events or large downloads.
 - Estimate maximum bandwidth utilization anticipated at the end of the funding year
 - If bandwidth usage is sustained above Contracted Bandwidth, monthly burstable charges would apply.
- Priority 1, E-rate eligible service

- Estimating year-end bandwidth needs
 - Look at trends over last 3 years
 - Look at new network-based initiatives
 - Bandwidth usage doubles every 1-2 years
- Growing into bandwidth level
 - Enter into agreement, contingent upon funding (if necessary)
 - Allowed to gradually upgrade over the year as needed
 - Estimated bandwidth will cover any bursts
 - Return any unused funding via Form 500

- Connect locations to hub or Merit's backbone
 - School district buildings, library branches, remote facilities
- Merit can provide complete solution for all locations
 - End-to-end managed service
 - Aggregate bandwidth among all locations
 - Off-load management of remote locations to proven service provider
 - Lowers overall costs
 - Cost-effective by connecting to closest facility
 - Sharing Internet access among WAN locations

- Internet access WAN
 - Provided by non-telecommunications carrier
 - Reaches the boundary of public Internet space
 - Basic conduit access to the Internet
- Priority 1, E-rate eligible service
 - Cost allocate if used for more than Internet access, unless ancillary

- End-to-end managed service
- Bandwidth growth vs. circuit capacity
- Need to control upgrade path and costs
- Telco service provisioned over fiber may not allow for control of future costs
- An option where fiber is feasible
 - Proximity to Merit or Member facilities
 - Annual access costs for fiber fit ROI model for Member

- Better leverage of IP connection for converged services
 - Important to look at physical connectivity differently in the future.
- Private fiber to Merit's backbone or to another Member
 - Owned by Merit, leased back to Member over X years as access fee, then only maintenance
- Dark fiber is not an eligible service
 - Merit's model is a Priority 1, E-rate eligible service

Questions?

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