We are a Michigan-based non-profit helping other non-profits in our community. We provide networking, security and community services to member organizations that help make our society a better place to learn, discover, work and live - all while upholding the principles of an open Internet.

**Merit - A History of Shaping the Internet**

- 1966
  - Michigan State University, University of Michigan, and Wayne State University form the Michigan Educational Research Information Triad Inc. (MERIT)
- 1969
  - The National Science Foundation (NSF) awards funds, matched by the Michigan State Legislature, to initiate the MERIT project
- 1971
  - Merit successfully networks mainframe computers at MSU, U-M, WSU
- 1978
  - Western Michigan University becomes the fourth Member of Merit, expanding the network beyond the triad.
- 1987
  - MERIT, along with IBM, MCI & Michigan Strategic Fund, wins $39 million award to manage the NSFNet, the catalyst for the commercial Internet
- 1996
  - U.S. higher education institutions create Internet2, Merit becomes an affiliate member of Internet2
- 2004
  - Merit & ORION (Ontario Research Innovation Optical Network) sign historic agreement to connect the USA and Canada borders
- 2010
  - Merit receives two federal grants to construct 2,287 miles of fiber infrastructure as part of the REACH-3MC project
- 2014
  - Merit completes REACH-3MC, expanding fiber backbone by 59% and connecting 143 new community anchor institutions
- 2016
  - NTIA awards MSU/Merit $10.5 million for MOON-Light Grant Project Proposal
- 2022
  - Merit awarded a $2.99 million Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant to support construction of 70 miles of middle-mile fiber optic infrastructure in the Upper Peninsula.

**Departments at Merit:**

- Administration
- Business Systems
- Communication & Events
- Facilities
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Security
- Information Technology
- Marketing
- Member Engagement
- Member Engagement Support
- Merit Support Center (MSC)
- Network Engineering
- Network Infrastructure Management
- Network Strategy
- Outside Plant
- Product Management
- Research
- Software Development

**View All Available Openings:**

merit.edu/careers
Our Values

COMMUNITY
We exist for the benefit of our members and are dedicated to their success. We seek to do what is important and has unique value. We believe that community is built through partnership, cooperation and collaboration.

INTEGRITY
We are truthful and trustworthy. We communicate openly and effectively among ourselves and with our members. We act in the best interest of our members.

PEOPLE
Our staff is our most powerful asset. We trust each other, help each other and hold each other accountable. We support each other as we strive to be the best that we can.

INNOVATION
We implement creative solutions to problems large and small for our members and for ourselves. We are adaptable and embrace change. We take appropriate risks to move ourselves and our members forward.

EXCELLENCE
We strive to be the best at all we do. We continuously improve both as individuals and as a team. Every shortfall is an opportunity to learn and improve.

CIVILITY
To go far, we will go together. Merit commits to showing community kindness, courtesy and respect through every member interaction.

JOIN A SMALL TEAM WITH BIG IDEAS

• Amazing University of Michigan benefits
• Opportunities to develop or support innovative products and services
• Collaborative culture with a shared passion for serving non-profit Member organizations
• Dedication to employees’ career paths, including professional development opportunities
• Great Ann Arbor location, without the headaches of downtown parking

Above: Backbone Fiber of the Merit Network

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Network Security Community