

Does Your District's IT Network **Make the Grade?**

Tablets. Laptops. Smartboards.
Education and technology go hand in hand.

Ensuring you have the systems in place to support academic success requires a connectivity infrastructure that is designed with careful understanding and forethought.

As you're getting started with this year's E-Rate process, consider the following factors that may affect your connectivity and security requirements.

Key Considerations When Evaluating Your Network Needs

Network Infrastructure

- The age and condition of the existing network infrastructure
- Knowledge/visibility of network routing, along with any potential vulnerabilities or weak coverage areas
- Capacity/ability to accommodate future technology advancements and educational needs
- Is the network dedicated to business-only customers or also serving residential customers?
- Current network peak bandwidth capacity
- The number of devices (district- and student-owned) that will be accessing the network
- Estimated network usage changes/growth over the next 3–5 years
- Current ability of your network to scale/adapt to future growth
- How does input from teachers, administrators and other stakeholders inform your network and connectivity plans?
- Are there any new educational programs or initiatives being used or planned for that require specialized network capabilities, e.g., AI, VR, immersive learning, etc.?

Provider Support

- Your provider's location — local, regional or national
- Network performance and reliability monitoring (note — 24/7 monitoring is ideal)
- The availability of live support, along with how easy it is to reach a support agent
- Presence of a nearby network operations center

Bandwidth Requirements

- The number of users who will be accessing the network regularly
- Per-student megabyte goal (note — 1M is considered the acceptable minimum)
- What is being done to ensure maximum network uptime?
- Any backup and disaster recovery measures used and/or are deployment plans in place?

Network Security, Redundancy and Resilience

- Your network's current cybersecurity plan, including what's working well and what could be improved
- Student data privacy compliance requirements or other regulatory mandates
- Is there a backup internet connection in case of a primary connection failure?

Education Solutions

From cybersecurity to compliance and regulation to customer service, there are lots of priorities that education institutions can't afford to ignore. Knowing the challenges and pressures facing the industry, Segra has a winning roster of cybersecurity, connectivity, voice, colocation and cloud services including:



Internet



Ethernet Access



Hosted Voice



SD-WAN

Segra is proud to be an E-Rate service provider, committed to supporting student success with a proven track record of delivering effective connectivity solutions for schools.

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