



# STATE BROADBAND INITIATIVES



A Summary of  
State Programs  
Designed to  
Stimulate  
Broadband  
Deployment and  
Adoption

A Joint Report Of  
**The Alliance for Public Technology**  
and the  
**Communications Workers of America**

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## **ABOUT APT & CWA**

### **THE ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC TECHNOLOGY**

The Alliance for Public Technology (APT) ) is a non-profit membership organization based in Washington, D.C., which was founded in 1989 to foster public policies that ensure access to advanced telecommunications technologies for all Americans. APT is the leading consumer group focused exclusively on broadband and advanced telecommunications technologies. .It can be found online at <http://www.apt.org>.

### **THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA**

The Communications Workers of America (CWA) is the union for the Information Age, representing 700,000 workers in communications, media, airlines, manufacturing and public service. CWA sponsors speedmatters.org, a campaign to bring high-speed Internet to every American. CWA can be found online at <http://www.cwa-union.org/>.

**This report is also available as an interactive database at**  
<http://www.speedmatters.org/statepolicy>

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# INTRODUCTION

## State Broadband Initiatives – Laboratories of Innovation

Access to affordable, high-speed Internet is absolutely essential in today's society. Advanced communications networks are vital to a region's economic growth and job creation. High-speed networks permit cost-effective advances in health care, education, public safety, environmental protection, independent living, and other government services.

This report surveys state broadband initiatives in seven key areas: broadband commissions, task forces, and authorities; public-private partnerships; direct funding programs; state networks; telehealth initiatives; tax policies; and demand-side programs. Taken together, they provide a checklist for state policymakers who want to move forward to encourage investment in and adoption of high-speed broadband networks. For local and national policymakers, these state programs can inform and guide federal and local broadband initiatives.

## Findings

**Economic Growth Depends on High-Speed Networks.** Because advanced communications networks provide a platform for economic development and improved public service delivery, it is absolutely vital for government -- in partnership with the private sector -- to adopt policies ensuring that every American home, business, and community has access to affordable, high-quality Internet services. States that adopt broadband policies see the benefits in job growth, more effective public services, and increased citizen engagement.

**Millions of Americans Don't Have High-Speed Internet.** Despite progress, serious gaps in broadband deployment and adoption persist. State surveys of broadband availability indicate that many rural Americans have no access to broadband.<sup>1</sup> Only 38 percent of Americans who live in rural areas subscribe to broadband, compared to 57 percent in urban and 60 percent in suburban areas.<sup>2</sup>

Similarly, lower-income Americans are much less likely to connect to broadband services. Only one-quarter of those earning less than \$20,000 a year subscribe to

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<sup>1</sup> ConnectOhio found that broadband is available in 96 percent of urban homes, but only 79 percent of rural homes (June 2008 report available at [http://www.connectohio.org/documents/COArticle\\_92percentGongwer\\_062708.pdf](http://www.connectohio.org/documents/COArticle_92percentGongwer_062708.pdf)). The California Broadband Task Force identified nearly 2,000 overwhelmingly rural counties without broadband (Jan. 2008 report available at <http://www.calink.ca.gov/taskforcereport/>).

<sup>2</sup> Pew Internet & American Life Project, Home Broadband Adoption: 2008 (available at [http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Broadband\\_2008.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Broadband_2008.pdf)).

broadband, compared to 60 percent of middle-class Americans (earning \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually) and 85 percent of those earning over \$100,000 a year.<sup>3</sup>

**The U.S. Trails Behind Other Countries.** The United States has fallen from 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> place internationally in the percentage of households with broadband.<sup>4</sup> Americans pay more for slower speeds than do families and business in other countries like Japan, Canada, and France.<sup>5</sup> Unlike many other nations, the U.S. has failed to adopt a national broadband policy that encourages investment in and adoption of high-speed Internet access.

**State Governments Provide National Models.** Recognizing the importance of broadband infrastructure, state policymakers have stepped in to fill the national policy void. Many states have adopted a number of bold, yet specific steps to make sure that their residents and businesses have access to advanced communications networks.

### **How to Use This Report**

We have organized this report by state, with a brief summary of each program and website references for more information. The website provides links to the statute or executive order that established the program or to an informational site about the initiative. The Appendix lists programs by category to help you identify every state with a particular type of program (e.g. states with broadband task forces, state networks, tax policies, etc).

While we have taken care to provide an accurate and comprehensive survey of state initiatives as of June 2008, we acknowledge that we may have missed some valuable programs. For example, we do not believe we have adequately captured state broadband initiatives embedded in housing, job training, Medicaid or other state programs, nor have we described the full array of demand-side initiatives. Moreover, many creative solutions are still being crafted by governors or pending in state legislatures, which could become models for other states.

Therefore, we have created an interactive website at <http://www.speedmatters.org/statepolicy> where we will maintain an updated searchable database of state policies. Please go to that website to provide us with updates on state legislation, programs, and policies.

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<sup>3</sup> Pew Internet & American Life Project, Home Broadband Adoption: 2008 (available at [http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Broadband\\_2008.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Broadband_2008.pdf)).

<sup>4</sup> Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (statistics available at [http://www.oecd.org/document/54/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_34225\\_38690102\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/54/0,3343,en_2649_34225_38690102_1_1_1_1,00.html))

<sup>5</sup> Robert D. Atkinson, Daniel K. Correa, Julie K. Hedlund, *Explaining International Broadband Leadership*, Washington, D.C.: The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, May 2008 (available at <http://www.itif.org/files/ExplainingBBLeadership.pdf>); CWA, "Speed Matters: Affordable, High Speed Internet for All, 2006 (available at <http://files.cwa-union.org/speedmatters/SpeedMattersCWAPositionPaper.pdf>); Derek S. Turner, "Broadband Reality Check", Aug. 2006 (available at <http://www.freepress.net/docs/bbrc2-final.pdf>)

## State Programs to Stimulate Broadband Deployment and Adoption

This report details state broadband initiatives in the following seven areas:

- **Broadband Commission, Task Force, or Authority** established through legislation or executive order that directs public and private stakeholders to assess the state of high-speed Internet deployment and adoption in the state and recommend policy solutions.

Examples: California Broadband Task Force, Hawaii Broadband Task Force, Ohio Broadband Council, Vermont Telecommunications Authority, Virginia Broadband Roundtable, and Washington High-Speed Internet Work Group

- **Public-Private Partnerships** convened through executive order or statute to map broadband availability, identify unserved and underserved areas, assess supply and demand-side barriers, create local technology teams to implement programs to increase computer ownership, digital literacy, aggregate demand, and accelerate broadband build-out.

Examples: ConnectKentucky, e-NC Authority, Connect Ohio, Connected Tennessee, and Connect West Virginia

- **Direct Funding Programs** to support the build-out of advanced networks in unserved and underserved areas by leveraging private sector funds to make network investment – and thus Internet service – more affordable.

Examples: California Advanced Services Fund, ConnectME Authority, Illinois Technology Revolving Loan Program, and Louisiana Delta Development Initiative

- **State Networks** operated by public agencies or the private sector connecting schools, universities, libraries and state and local government agencies to reduce costs by aggregating demand. In some cases, public agencies serve as anchor tenants to make middle-mile broadband build-out to underserved communities more economic. At least 30 states have established state networks.

- **Telehealth** networks linking rural clinics with specialists in hospitals and academic institutions. At least 25 states support state telehealth networks.

- **Tax Policy** with targeted tax incentives for investment in broadband equipment.

- **Demand-Side Programs** to promote computer ownership, digital literacy, and development of community-based applications and services.

Examples: ConnectKentucky, Connected Tennessee, Connect Ohio's No Child Offline, and e-NC Authority's business and technology telecenters

## **Additional Resources**

In addition to the program-specific websites, the following organizations provide more general information about broadband policies.

Interactive website on state broadband policies at <http://www.speedmatters.org/statepolicy>

Communications Workers of America speedmatters.org at <http://www.speedmatters.org>

Alliance for Public Technology at <http://www.apt.org>

Connected Nation at <http://www.connectednation.org/>

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, “State Efforts to Expand Broadband Access” at <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0805BROADBANDACCESS.PDF>

National Conference of State Legislatures, “Connecting America: Broadband Policy Issues and Options for State Legislatures,” at <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/lis/ConnectAmericaPubs.htm>

Progressive States Network at <http://www.progressivestatesnetwork.org/>

Pew Internet and American Life Project at <http://www.pewinternet.org/>

The Information Technology & Innovation Foundation <http://www.itif.org/>

# **SUMMARY OF STATE-LEVEL BROADBAND INITIATIVES BY STATE**

## **Alabama**

### **ACCESS Project**

Launched as a pilot program in 2005, the ACCESS Project provides grants and program support for distance learning in high schools. The goal of the project is to expand the availability of ACCESS Distance Learning to all public high schools in the state of Alabama. Fifty courses are currently offered for high school students with an estimated enrollment of 10,000 for 2008. The Project has distributed 70 grants to high schools to build distance learning-equipped classrooms.

### **Alabama Broadband Initiative (ABI)**

Established by Executive Order in May 2008, the mission of the Alabama Broadband Initiative is to extend the benefits of advanced technology to every community in the state through collaborative partnerships with governmental and private sector stakeholders. The ABI Operating/Advisory Board reports periodically to the Governor and advises him regarding matters affecting broadband deployment. The ABI both receives and makes grants.

### **Alabama Research and Education Network (AREN)**

AREN is under the jurisdiction of the Alabama Supercomputer Authority and provides Internet access for Alabama state government, four-year universities, two-year colleges, K-12 schools, and libraries.

### **Telecommunications and Technology Assistance Program (TTAP)**

The program provides technical assistance for the implementation of interactive distance learning, telemedicine, and video arraignment. The program also helps in identifying federal funding opportunities for these projects and staff support for instruction in the use of these systems.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.



## Resources

ACCESS Project

<http://accessdl.state.al.us/>

Alabama Broadband Initiative

<http://governorpress.alabama.gov/pr/ex-42-2008-05-22.asp>

Alabama Research and Education Network (AREN)

<http://www.asc.edu/network/>

Telecommunications Technology Assistance Program

<http://216.226.178.189/txtlstvw.aspx?LstID=c704fbdc-5e9a-4f9b-a9ed-ac9c29484b22>

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

## **Alaska**

### **Alaska Telehealth Advisory Council (ATAC)**

The ATAC provides recommendations and policy guidance to help improve access to health care in underserved Alaskan communities through the expansion and adoption of telehealth initiatives.

### **Enterprise Technology Services**

The Alaska Department of Administration's Enterprise Technology Service Department provides state agencies with support for the delivery of enterprise information services.

### **Rural Alaska Broadband Internet Access Grant Program**

The program's goal is to facilitate long-term affordable broadband Internet services in rural Alaska communities that lack broadband access. The program is funded through the USDA-Rural Development program and administered by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA). It provides rural Alaskan communities up to 75 percent of the funding required for projects that create or expand broadband Internet service. It also subsidizes rates so that prices for these services are comparable to those paid by residents of Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau for a period of at least two years after completion of the project.

## Resources

Alaska Telehealth Advisory Council (ATAC)

<http://www.hss.state.ak.us/commissioner/Healthplanning/telehealth/default.htm>

Enterprise Technology Services

<http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ADMIN/info/>

Rural Alaska Broadband Internet Access Grant program  
<http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/Documents/Broadband/GeneralProgramDescription.pdf>

## **Arizona**

### **Arizona State Public Information Network (ASPIN)**

ASPIN maintains a close relationship with K-12 schools, state and local government, the legislature, the business community, and Arizona's universities to facilitate the development of mutually beneficial collaborations. Services include maintaining a Network Operations Center and Network Information Center for ASPIN partners, Internet training classes, and grant proposal writing assistance.

### **Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP)**

ATP provides telemedicine services, distance learning, training, and technology assessment capabilities to communities throughout Arizona. The program focuses on creating partnerships among not-for-profit and for-profit healthcare organizations, and has created new interagency relationships within the state government. Currently the Arizona Telemedicine Program is providing medical services via both real-time and store-and-forward technologies in 20 communities.

### **Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee (CIAC)**

CIAC is a 21-member public/private committee of the Governor's Council on Innovation & Technology (GCIT). The Committee advises GCIT on policies and strategies to close the digital divide in Arizona. CIAC is currently working on a strategic plan to overcome barriers to statewide broadband deployment.

### **Instructional Technology Systems Grants Fund**

The Fund provides support for pilot programs aimed at improving students' academic performance through e-learning grants. Such grants are intended to fund instructional technology upgrades, broadband Internet access for every pupil, and training for teachers on classroom application and instructional technology.

### **Telecommunications Open Partnerships for Arizona (TOPAZ)**

TOPAZ encourages state and local government organizations to actively partner with, and be the anchor tenant for, private sector broadband infrastructure build-out projects, particularly in rural areas.

### Resources

Arizona State Public Information Network (ASPIN)  
<http://aspin.asu.edu/>

Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP)  
<http://www.telemedicine.arizona.edu/ATPhome.htm>

Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee (CIAC)

<http://www.azgita.gov/telecom/ciac/>

Instructional Technology Systems Grants Fund

[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/48leg/1r/summary/h.hb2742\\_02-11-07\\_ed.doc.htm](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/48leg/1r/summary/h.hb2742_02-11-07_ed.doc.htm)

Telecommunications Open Partnerships for Arizona (TOPAZ)

[http://gita.state.az.us/telecom/topaz/topaz\\_summary.htm](http://gita.state.az.us/telecom/topaz/topaz_summary.htm)

## **Arkansas**

### **Arkansas Academic and Research Network (ARKnet)**

The ARKnet operates a backbone network connecting 70 member institutions including all of the state's universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical institutes, as well as several non-profit organizations, state agencies, and public libraries with funding through National Science Foundation grants.

### **Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council**

The Council monitors broadband development efforts of other states and countries as well as the progress of the Connect Arkansas initiative. The Council also advises the governor and legislature on policies related to connecting all Arkansas homes to affordable broadband

### **Arkansas Technology Infrastructure Fund**

The Fund provides support for state agencies and institutions of higher education to implement an enterprise-level information technology project. The fund's goal is to serve as an incentive to state agencies to compete and find creative approaches for using technology to create efficiencies in the delivery of citizen services.

### **Center for Distance Health (CDH)**

CDH provides statewide telehealth services by coordinating distance health services for the individual departments located within the University of Arkansas' College of Medicine. CDH also serves as conduit for the coordination of distance health care activities between the University of Arkansas Medical Center, rural hospitals, insurance companies, and individual patients.

### **Connect Arkansas**

Connect Arkansas was established in 2007 and modeled after ConnectKentucky, a program that uses intense research, mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for them. The Arkansas project is currently focused on the mapping and assessment of the state of broadband in Arkansas. Connect Arkansas is monitored by the Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council (ABAC)

which reports to the governor and legislature on the progress of broadband deployment in the state.

### Resources

ARKnet

<http://www.uark.edu/staff/arknet/>

Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council

<http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftpoot/bills/2007/public/SB924.pdf>

<http://www.broadbandadvisorycouncil.arkansas.gov>

Arkansas Technology Infrastructure Fund

<http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftpoot/acts/2005/public/act2248.pd>

Center for Distance Health

<http://www.uams.edu/cdh/overview/default.asp>

Connect Arkansas

<http://www.connect-arkansas.com/>

## **California**

### **California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)**

The Fund provides \$100 million in grants to “telephone corporations” to promote broadband services in unserved areas of California. Monies for the Fund are collected via a 0.25% all-end-user-surcharge on telecommunications customers’ bills.

### **California Broadband Task Force (CBTF)**

The CBTF force is composed of public and private stakeholders with the expertise to advise policymakers on a framework for California’s broadband policy. The task force issued a final report in January 2008, which offered a comprehensive assessment of the state of broadband in California. It includes detailed maps of wireline and wireless availability, analysis of adoption, a pricing survey, and recommendations to increase broadband access and adoption.

### **California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)**

A nonprofit corporation established by the California Public Utilities Commission, the CETF provides matching funds for projects focusing on providing broadband infrastructure, affordable Internet access, and computer equipment to rural and disadvantaged communities. In addition, at least \$5 million of the CETF’s fund are earmarked to provide direct grants for telemedicine applications serving California’s underserved communities.

### **California Teleconnect Fund (CTF)**

The CTF supports the provision of infrastructure for digital divide projects via a 50% discount on monthly recurring charges for high-speed telecommunications services incurred by schools, libraries, hospitals and health clinics that are owned and operated by a municipal or county government, a hospital district, or a community based organization.

### **California Telehealth Network (CTN)**

Created in 2007 through a three-year \$22 million grant from the FCC's Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, CTN will allow the University of California and its partners to begin to establish a statewide broadband telehealth network aimed at improving the rural health care infrastructure throughout California.

### **Corporation for Educational Network Initiatives in California (CENIC)**

In partnership with industry groups, CENIC designs, implements, and operates CalREN, the California Research and Education Network, a high-bandwidth, high-capacity network designed to meet the needs of California education and research communities at K-20 educational institutions.

### **Proposition 1D**

The Proposition, which received voter approval in November 2006, enabled California to issue a \$10.4 billion statewide education bond. Funds raised by the bond's issuance allowed the University of California to invest \$200 million in the building and enhancement of telemedicine services statewide.

#### Resources

California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)

<http://www.dra.ca.gov/DRA/Telecom/hot/CASF.htm>

California Broadband Task Force (CBTF)

[http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF\\_FINAL\\_Report.pdf](http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF_FINAL_Report.pdf)

California Emerging Technology Fund

<http://www.cetfund.org/Default.aspx>

California Teleconnect Fund (CTF)

[http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/telco/public+programs/050602\\_ctf.htm](http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/telco/public+programs/050602_ctf.htm)

California Telehealth Network (CTN)

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/16856>

Corporation for Educational Network Initiatives in California (CENIC)

<http://www.cenic.org/>

Proposition 1D

[http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vig\\_06/general\\_06/pdf/proposition\\_1d/entire\\_prop1d.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vig_06/general_06/pdf/proposition_1d/entire_prop1d.pdf)

## **Colorado**

### **Colorado Multi-Use Network (MNT)**

The MNT is a partnership between the state of Colorado and Qwest to build a high-speed fiber-optic network linking rural and urban areas of the state. Broadband data communications and Internet access are provided via the MNT to Colorado state agencies, schools, libraries, city and county government, medical facilities and institutions of higher learning.

### **Governor's Innovation Council**

The council focuses on developing and assisting in the execution of a plan to facilitate broadband deployment throughout the state.

### **Mapping Legislation**

SB162 authorizes and funds broadband mapping for the state of Colorado.

### **Rural Technology Enterprise Zone Credit**

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission designated boundaries for the Rural Technology Enterprise Zone in Colorado to promote the infrastructure development needed for Internet access. Taxpayers in these areas who invest in technology infrastructure may qualify for this tax credit.

### Resources

Colorado Multi-Use Network (MNT)

<http://www.mnt.state.co.us/>

Governor's Innovation Council

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=Innovation%2FINLayout&cid=1192458212728&p=1192458212728&packedargs=a-id-prefix%3DTopNav&pagename=INWrapper&rendermode=preview>

Mapping Legislation SB162

[http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2009a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/B86FF5542329276A8725753D007D6EC9?Open&file=162\\_enr.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2009a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/B86FF5542329276A8725753D007D6EC9?Open&file=162_enr.pdf)

Rural Technology Enterprise Zone Credit

<http://www.revenue.state.co.us/fyi/html/income36.html>

## Connecticut

### **Broadband Internet Coordinating Council**

The Connecticut legislature in 2007 established a Broadband Internet Coordinating Council (Broadband Council) through Public Act 07-254. The Broadband Council, consisting of 10 members appointed by the Governor and legislative leaders began meeting in July 2008, and meets quarterly. The Council monitors trends and developments in the state's efforts to develop a state-wide WCCI and issues reports to the General Assembly on matters relating to technology.

### **Connecticut Commission for Education Technology (CTEdTech)**

The General Assembly empowered the CTEdTech to envision, coordinate, and oversee the management and successful integration of technology in Connecticut's schools, libraries, colleges, and universities.

#### Resources

Broadband Internet Coordinating Council

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2007/ACT/PA/2007PA-00254-R00HB-07282-PA.htm>

Connecticut Education Network (CEN)

<http://www.ct.gov/ctedtech> and [http://www.ct.gov/doit/lib/doit/4d-83\\_2006.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/doit/lib/doit/4d-83_2006.pdf)

## District of Columbia

### **Metropolitan Council of Governments (MCOG): Broadband Access Task Force**

The mission of the Broadband Access Task Force is to foster the development of broadband Internet access throughout the National Capital Region. The task force hosts forums and produces policy recommendations and reports on regional broadband initiatives. A final report to the MCOG board, which built upon the 2002 report by the MCOG's Digital Divide Task Force, was approved in April 2007 after which the Broadband Access Task Force was disbanded.

#### Resources

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Broadband Access Task Force Work Plan

<http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/t11WV1420060914080851.pdf>

## Florida

### **Broadband Tax Credits**

Florida statute § 220.183 provides income tax credits to broadband providers for any project designed to increase a community's access to broadband facilities, including those communities located in rural areas.

### **Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN)**

FIRN provides website hosting to educational professionals and schools in the state of Florida as a service for the Florida Department of Education.

### **University of Florida Center for Telehealth and Healthcare Communications (CTHC)**

CTHC staff provides telehealth consultation on methods of integrating store and forward technology and the Internet into clinical practices and research studies. Additional services include telehealth training, consultations for creating online education programs, video conferencing, audio production, video streaming, and web development.

### Resources

#### Broadband Tax Credits

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&Search\\_String=&URL=Ch0220/SEC183.HTM&Title=-%3e2006-%3eCh0220-%3eSection%20183#0220.183](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0220/SEC183.HTM&Title=-%3e2006-%3eCh0220-%3eSection%20183#0220.183)

#### Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN)

<http://www.firn.edu/>

#### University of Florida Center for Telehealth and Healthcare Communications (CTHC)

<http://telehealth.php.ufl.edu/index.htm>

## Georgia

### **Georgia Center for Advanced Telecommunications Technology (GCATT)**

GCATT is a grant-funded partnership of industry, government and universities seeking to create real and virtual research centers in advanced telecommunications. GCATT research centers provide technology policy recommendations to the governor and the legislature. Approximately 20 research centers fall under the GCATT umbrella.

### **Center for Telehealth**

A project of the Medical College of Georgia, the Center for Telehealth supports research, clinical services and training. Its mission is focused on enhancing access to health care in underserved areas, research and analysis of telehealth applications, facilitating health-related educational services, and supporting efforts to maximize disaster preparedness.



### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### Resources

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

Georgia Centers for Advanced Telecommunications Technology (GCATT)

<http://www.gcatt.org/>

Center for Telehealth

<http://www.mcg.edu/telehealth/Index.html>

## **Hawaii**

### **Hawaii Broadband Task Force**

The task force was established in 2007 to provide policy recommendations for removing barriers to broadband access. Focus areas include gaining wider access to public rights-of-way, identifying opportunities for broadband deployment and adoption, and enabling the creation and deployment of new advanced communication technologies in Hawaii.

### **State of Hawaii Telehealth Access Network (STAN)**

STAN is a public-private telehealth and telemedicine network that enables health care providers, educational institutions, and government agencies to interconnect clinical, financial, and management information systems; clinical telemedicine systems and applications; continuing health and medical education and training; and community and patient information services.

### **Technology Tax Credits**

Hawaii Revenue Statute § 235-110.51 provides that up to 4 % of a commercial building's renovations costs may be deducted if the building's telecommunications facilities are upgraded to high-speed telecommunications systems that can provide Internet access, direct satellite communications access, and videoconferencing facilities.

## Resources

Hawaii Broadband Task Force

<http://www.hbtf.org/>

State of Hawaii Telehealth Access Network (STAN)

<http://www.stan.tipg.net/>

Technology Tax Credits

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2004/bills/HB2396\\_cd1\\_.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2004/bills/HB2396_cd1_.htm)

## **Idaho**

### **Idaho 3% Broadband Telecom Tax Credit**

Businesses are allowed a 3% investment tax credit of up to \$750,000 in any one year on Idaho state income tax for qualified broadband equipment and infrastructure used primarily to provide services to public subscribers in Idaho. The credit is transferable and may be carried forward up to 14 years.

### **Idaho Rural Broadband Investment Program (IRBIP)**

Created by the Idaho Legislature in 2006, IRBIP is a \$5 million fund that provides matching funds for rural broadband investment plans. As of April 2007, the state had awarded funds to four broadband providers. The Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor was designated by the legislation to disperse the funds.

### **IDANET**

IDANET is Idaho state government's digital broadband initiative to establish a single, consolidated high-speed statewide network for state agencies.

### **Telehealth Idaho**

Telehealth Idaho is a research and service project that seeks to increase access to health care services and to develop a telehealth resource center. The Telida Toolbox, the project's major initiative, provides health care professionals with free access to medical information databases, health-related e-journals, medical informatics, continuing education opportunities, evaluation resources, and search capabilities for providers and agencies.

## Resources

Idaho 3% Broadband Telecom Tax Credit

[http://cl.idaho.gov/publications/Financial\\_Incentives\\_&\\_Tax\\_Credits\\_Overview.pdf](http://cl.idaho.gov/publications/Financial_Incentives_&_Tax_Credits_Overview.pdf)

Idaho Rural Broadband Investment Program (IRBIP)

<http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa09/0301.pdf>

IDANET

<http://www2.state.id.us/idanet/>

Telehealth Idaho

<http://telida.isu.edu/telida/index.php>

## **Illinois**

### **Illinois Broadband Deployment Council**

The Council brings together representatives from state agencies, localities and community organizations to develop policies and recommendations for increasing broadband deployment and bridging the digital divide in Illinois.

### **Illinois Century Network (ICN)**

ICN maintains a telecommunications backbone network providing high speed data, videoconferencing, and audio communications to schools and libraries, colleges and universities, museums, and local and state agencies.

### **Illinois Rural HealthNet (IRHN)**

IRHN is a high-speed network connecting rural Illinois hospitals with larger facilities in Illinois and nationwide. Currently under construction with completion expected in 2010, the network will be able to transfer MRI and CT scan images, provide videoconferencing services, and home health e-monitoring. IRHN is overseen by a 12-member consortium of public universities and health care providers.

### **Program to Foster Elimination of the Digital Divide**

Via donations on their monthly telephone bills, Illinois consumers may voluntarily contribute to the program. These contributions are used to fund grants to public and private organizations seeking to reduce the digital divide in Illinois.

### **School Technology Revolving Loan Program**

This program provides 3-year loans with 2% interest rates to school districts, charter schools, lab schools, and vocational schools to fund technology hardware investments, including the construction of technology networks.

### Resources

Illinois Broadband Deployment Council

<http://www.standingupforillinois.org/connect/deployment.php>

Illinois Century Network

<http://www.illinois.net/>

Illinois Rural HealthNet

<http://illinoisruralhealthnet.org/irhn/>

Program to Foster Elimination of the Digital Divide

<http://www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo/Bureaus/Technology/Collection+and+Remittance.htm>

School Technology Revolving Loan Program

[http://www.isbe.state.il.us/curriculum/elearning/html/revolving\\_loan.htm](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/curriculum/elearning/html/revolving_loan.htm)

## **Indiana**

### **High-Speed Internet Service Deployment and Adoption Initiative**

Legislation has passed and been signed by the governor (HB 1561) which establishes the Indiana Economic Development Corporation as the agency responsible for broadband programming, including mapping.

### **Indiana Telehealth Advisory Consortium (TAC)**

TAC collaborates with state and local organizations to pool resources for telehealth and telemedicine applications. In addition, TAC develops state telehealth policy initiatives and provides educational resources to groups seeking to implement their own telehealth programs.

### Resources

High-Speed Internet Service Deployment and Adoption Initiative (HB 1561)

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2009/PDF/HE/HE1561.1.pdf> **Indiana Telehealth**

Indiana Telehealth Advisory Consortium (TAC)

<http://www.indianatac.org/>

## **Iowa**

### **Iowa Broadband Initiative**

The initiative allows local exchange carriers to implement a \$2.00 surcharge on residential and business telephone lines. The resulting revenue increase must then be applied to subsidizing broadband deployment in unconnected areas within the carriers' local exchange areas at affordable rates.

### **Iowa Communications Network (ICN)**

ICN is a state agency that administers a statewide fiber optics network. The capacity of the network enables authorized users such as hospitals, state and federal government, public defense armories, libraries, schools, and institutions of higher learning to communicate via high quality, full-motion video and high-speed Internet connections.

## Resources

Iowa Broadband Initiative

[http://www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/docs/orders/2003/0703\\_rmu039.pdf](http://www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/docs/orders/2003/0703_rmu039.pdf)

Iowa Communications Network (ICN)

<http://www.icn.state.ia.us/>

## **Kansas**

### **Kansas Research and Education Network (KanREN)**

KanREN is a non-profit consortium of colleges, universities, school districts and other organizations in Kansas organized for the purpose of facilitating institutional communication and providing connectivity to the Internet via a statewide TCP/IP network.

### **Kansas University Center for TeleMedicine & TeleHealth (KUCTT)**

KUCTT connects more than 100 sites in Kansas to its telehealth network to provide clinical consultations and hold educational events for professionals, teachers, students and the public.

## Resources

Kansas Research and Education Network (KanREN)

<http://www.kanren.net/>

Kansas University Center for TeleMedicine & TeleHealth (KUCTT)

<http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine/>

## **Kentucky**

### **ConnectKentucky**

ConnectKentucky is a public-private partnership with a mission to accelerate the growth of technology in support of community and economic development, improved healthcare, enhanced education and more effective government. ConnectKentucky conducted intense research for mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for these locations. Their broadband inventory maps highlight existing broadband services and helped broadband providers target their build out resources. ConnectKentucky works with eCommunity Leadership Teams in every county to address challenges related to technology growth and implement the necessary programs to overcome these obstacles in areas such as: local government; business and industry; education; healthcare; agriculture; libraries; tourism; and community based organizations. ConnectKentucky also provides several technology services. “No Child Left Offline” brings public and private partners together to help disadvantaged children and their families obtain computers. They also offer IT services, technology training and

program management services and a searchable collection of Kentucky's publicly funded research know as ResearchLink. Their strategies for mapping, broadband assessment and deployment, as well as demand aggregation, have become a model for other states to emulate known as Connected Nation.

### **Kentucky Information Highway (KIH)**

KIH is a statewide telecommunications and information network developed by the Kentucky state government in partnership with the state's local telephone companies. Over 3,000 sites are inter-connected across the state including 1,200 schools all 176 school districts, libraries, local government and health departments.

### **Kentucky Telehealth Network**

The state-sponsored network allows specialists and primary-care physicians to examine patients in rural clinics through a state-of-the-art videoconferencing system.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### Resources

Appalachian Regional Commission  
<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

ConnectKentucky  
<http://www.connectkentucky.org/>

Kentucky Information Highway  
<http://ky.gov/got/kih/>

Kentucky Telehealth Network  
<http://www.kthnschedule.com/#>

## **Louisiana**

### **Delta Development Initiative**

The initiative includes funding for a rural entrepreneurship program operated by the Center for Rural Initiatives that features a business incubator program for providing high-speed Internet access to Delta-region business owners. The program also funds e-business training services for entrepreneurs accessible via distance education technology.

### **Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council**

The council was created in 2004 to develop strategic guidance for broadband deployment in the state. The council is composed of representatives from the corporate, governmental, and non-profit sectors. A special focus of the council is enhancing the ability of rural areas to support the creation, retention, and recruitment of businesses.

### **Louisiana Library Network (LOUIS)**

LOUIS is a consortium of public and private libraries in the state networked to a centralized support staff. The network is supported by state and federal funding as well as membership fees paid for by consortium members. Services offered include a digital library infrastructure, e-subscriptions, a metadata search engine, training, consulting, web hosting and other integrated library services.

### Resources

Delta Development Initiative

<http://legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=86241>

Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=285603>

Louisiana Library Network (LOUIS)

<http://app1003.lsu.edu/ocsweb/louishome.nsf/index>

## **Maine**

### **ConnectME Authority**

The Maine Legislature in 2007 created the ConnectME Authority (CMA), based on recommendations from the Maine Broadband Access Infrastructure Board (BAIB) (See below). CMA reviews proposals for projects that extend broadband to unserved and underserved areas of Maine and manages the selection and funding of these projects. The Authority also funds grants, loans, and other investments by local government in partnerships with eligible private broadband providers to expand broadband access. The Authority's funds are provided by a 0.25% surcharge on all communications service providers' retail revenues, including video and Internet service bills as well as a one-time \$2.5 million cash contribution from Verizon as per a condition of the Maine Public Utilities Commission's approval of the Verizon merger with FairPoint Communications. To date, the CMA has awarded over \$2.5 million in direct grants for projects to provide broadband service in unserved areas of the state.

### **FairPoint Broadband Commitments**

In January 2008, the PUC approved a stipulation in the merger of Verizon and FairPoint in which FairPoint agreed, as a condition in the stipulation, to expand DSL availability in

Maine to reach 83 percent of Maine access lines by 2010 and 90 percent within five years.

### **Maine Broadband Access Infrastructure Board (BABIB)**

A 2005 Executive Order of the Governor created BABIB to “focus on how to expand the availability of broadband services throughout the State to private homes, businesses, public and private educational institutions, research centers, and other entities that would benefit from such services” and to provide recommendations for achieving universal broadband access in the state by 2010. The Board delivered its report to the legislature in November 2005. The BABIB recommendations led to the creation of the ConnectME Authority.

### **Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI)**

The initiative is designed to provide all seventh and eighth grade students and teachers in Maine with a laptop computer. In addition, MLTI also provides students with educational software and teachers with ongoing professional development.

### **Maine School and Library Network (MSLN)**

In operation since 1996, MSLN provides Internet access to approximately 950 schools and libraries statewide. MSLN is supported by the federal E-Rate program and a 0.6 percent surcharge on intrastate telecommunications bills which supports the Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund. It is administered jointly by the Department of Education and the Public Utilities Commission.

### **Franklin Community Health Network (FCHN)**

FCHN received a FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Project grant to construct a fiber broadband network to connect three partner sites, linking seven health care facilities in six towns across four counties in rural Maine. The Connect Maine Authority has tentatively agreed to provide funding to cover the 15 percent match requirement for a grant.

### **New England Telehealth Consortium**

The consortium links regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications. The consortium is funded by a grant from the FCC’s Rural Health Care Pilot Program. The proposed network will have 555 sites in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont (approximately 400 in Maine).

### Resources

ConnectME Authority

<http://www.maine.gov/connectme/>

Maine Broadband Access Infrastructure Board (BABIB)

<http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/broadband/>



Maine Learning Technology Initiative

<http://maine.gov/mlte/index.htm>

Maine School and Library Network (MSLN)

<http://www.msln.net/>

Franklin County Health Network

<http://www.fchn.org/>

New England Telehealth Consortium

<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&id=48046&v=Article-2006>

## **Maryland**

### **Maryland Broadband Cooperative (MBC)**

A public-private partnership, the mission of the MBC is to support infrastructure deployment, particularly in rural areas, by leveraging private investment with public funds.

### **Rural Broadband Assistance Fund (RBAF)**

The RBAF was established by the Maryland legislature to assist the Rural Broadband Coordination Office in the Department of Business and Economic Development to establish broadband telecommunications services in rural and underserved areas.

### **Rural Broadband Communication Services Act**

Passed by the Maryland legislature in 2006, the Act provided up to \$10 million for a three-year project to deploy fiber-optic backbone lines to counties on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland. The private sector has responsibility for completion of last-mile connections from the fiber backbone to residences and businesses.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### Resources

Maryland Broadband Cooperative (MBC)

<http://www.mdbc.us/>

Rural Broadband Assistance Fund (RBAF)  
[http://mlis.state.md.us/2008RS/budget\\_docs/All/Operating/T00F\\_-\\_Dept\\_of\\_Business\\_and\\_Economic\\_Development\\_PAYGO.pdf](http://mlis.state.md.us/2008RS/budget_docs/All/Operating/T00F_-_Dept_of_Business_and_Economic_Development_PAYGO.pdf)

Rural Broadband Communication Services Act  
<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0805BROADBANDACCESS.PDF>

Appalachian Regional Commission  
<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

## **Massachusetts**

### **Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI)**

The Legislature established the MBI in August 2008 to meet the broadband access needs of unserved citizens throughout the Commonwealth. The MBI manages a statewide Massachusetts Broadband Incentive Fund with \$40 million raised through bond financing. The goal is to bridge the digital divide by investing in the construction of fiber, wireless towers and other critical infrastructure in order to attract and complement private sector investment, making it more cost effective for private providers to deliver solutions to customers in regions without broadband coverage.

### Resources

Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI)  
<http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/index.html>

Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI) Legislation  
[http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=gov3terminal&L=3&L0=Home&L1=Legislation+%26+Executive+Orders&L2=Legislation&sid=Agov3&b=terminalcontent&f=legislation\\_legislation\\_broadband&csid=Agov3](http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=gov3terminal&L=3&L0=Home&L1=Legislation+%26+Executive+Orders&L2=Legislation&sid=Agov3&b=terminalcontent&f=legislation_legislation_broadband&csid=Agov3)

Other Massachusetts Broadband Initiatives  
<http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/initiative.html>

## **Michigan**

### **The Metropolitan Extension Telecommunication Rights-of-Way Oversight (METRO) Authority**

The METRO Authority coordinates public right-of-way matters with municipalities and telecommunication providers owning telecommunication facilities in public rights-of-way within a municipality. The purpose is to assist telecommunication providers to cut through red tape and obtain permits without having to pay excessive fees or endure unnecessary delays to deploy telecommunications infrastructure in Michigan.

### **Michigan Broadband Development Authority (MBDA)**

The MBDA was created to help the state attract more private sector investment in high-speed Internet infrastructure, and to increase demand for and utilization of broadband services. A part of the LinkMichigan program, the authority provided low-interest loans to support infrastructure deployment. The LinkMichigan program and the MBSA were discontinued in 2007 and some of the authority's responsibilities were shifted to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

### **Digital Divide Investment Program (DDIP)**

Created under a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the DDIP provided grants to help low and moderate income families gain access to broadband service. Combined with funds from the MBDA, the DDIP also encouraged additional investment in under-served regions of the state. The program was discontinued in 2007.

### Resources

METRO Authority

<http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-23676---,00.html>

Michigan Broadband Development Authority (MBDA)

<http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg/Sec. 364 MBDA Loan Status 219600 7.pdf>

MPSC Right-of-Way

[http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,1607,7-159-16372\\_22707---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,1607,7-159-16372_22707---,00.html)

Digital Divide Investment Program (DDIP)

<http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MBDAMTGSCHE 108441 7.doc>

## **Minnesota**

### **Minnesota Telehealth Network (MTN)**

MTN is a consortium of Minnesota hospitals whose goal is to implement telehealth solutions benefiting rural medical facilities in northern Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. Funded by a three-year federal grant from the Office for Advancement of Telehealth at the Department of Health and Human Services, the network also provides educational opportunities to physicians, nurses, and hospital staff.

### **Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force**

Created by the Minnesota Legislature in April 2008, the task force is charged with developing recommendations to the governor and legislature on creating a state ultra high-speed broadband goal and a plan to implement that goal. The task force membership is made up of state legislators, regulators, and representatives of broadband providers education, labor, health care, counties, and cities. The report of the task force is due in November 2009.

## Resources

Minnesota Telehealth Network (MTN)

<http://www.mntelehealthnetwork.org/>

Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/pressreleasels85.asp?district=38A&party=1&pressid=3536>

## **Mississippi**

### **Broadband Tax Credits**

Mississippi provides broadband tax credits to providers that deploy broadband equipment, ranging from five to 15% of the cost of the broadband equipment, with the higher tax credits going to those providers that deploy equipment in the least populous regions of the state

### **Center (MAHEC)**

The mission of the center is to provide access to continuing education and other distance learning opportunities for health care providers via telehealth technologies. MAHEC received a federal appropriation in 2007 to develop a statewide telehealth network.

### **Mississippi Broadband Task Force (MBTF)**

Founded in 2004, the task force sent a comprehensive report to the Governor in 2005. The MBTF recommended the creation of a statewide initiative to promote citizens' use of the Internet with a formal plan and broadband strategy, including the creation of a statewide coordinating council to be run by the Mississippi Technology Alliance. The task force also recommended allowing local governments to provide wholesale services over their own broadband networks as a last resort.

### **Mississippi Broadband Technology Development Act**

The legislation provides for tax breaks for telecommunications providers deploying broadband technologies in rural areas, beginning in June 2003 and continuing until July 1, 2013. Between 5-15% of the cost of equipment used in the deployment of broadband is covered by this tax incentive.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

## Resources

### Broadband Tax Credits

<HTTP://WWW.MISSISSIPPI.ORG/INDEX.PHP?ID=486>**Mississippi Area Health Education**

### Mississippi Area Health Education Center (MAHEC)

<http://msahec.umc.edu/Home.htm>

### Report of the Mississippi Broadband Task Force

[http://www.msgovt.org/files/broadband\\_final.pdf](http://www.msgovt.org/files/broadband_final.pdf)

### Mississippi Broadband Technology Development Act

<http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/57/087/index.htm>

### Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

## **Missouri**

### **Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet)**

Based at the University of Missouri, MOREnet provides Internet access to the state's public sector, including K-12 schools, colleges and universities, public libraries, health care facilities, state government and other affiliated organizations. Services provided include Internet connectivity, access to Internet2, technical support, training and videoconferencing services.

### **Missouri Telehealth Network (MTN)**

MTN is a public-private partnership operating a semi-private network to deliver telehealth and general telecommunications services to hospitals, health care centers, and universities throughout the state.

### **Rural High-Speed Internet Access Task Force**

The task force released a Request for Proposal in December 2007 for information regarding broadband consulting services to assist in the development of a public-private partnership model plan to provide broadband Internet service to rural areas of the state. The ultimate goals of the task force are to assess the current state of broadband access in Missouri, identify barriers to and options to incentivize deployment, and provide recommendation for policy changes to increase the availability of broadband in the state.

## Resources

### Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet)

<http://www.more.net/about/index.html>

Missouri Telehealth Network (MTN)  
<http://telehealth.muhealth.org/index.html>

Rural High-Speed Internet Access Task Force  
<http://www.ltgov.mo.gov/ruralhsi/index.htm>

## **Montana**

### **Advanced Telecommunications Tax Credit**

Passed by the Montana legislature in 1999, this legislation authorizes a 20% tax credit for telecommunications carriers to deploy advanced telecommunications services and fund infrastructure improvements.

### **Montana's Education Telecommunications Network (METNet)**

Established in 1992, METNet offers videoconferencing services to state agencies, universities, and approved state contractors to provide distance learning services.

### **Montana Office of Rural Health**

The office released an October 2006 report summarizing current telehealth initiatives in Montana and recommending continued coordination among the various organizations utilizing telehealth technologies with the ultimate goal of developing and implementing a statewide plan for health IT infrastructure development.

### Resources

Advanced Telecommunications Tax Credit  
<http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/BillHtml/SB0172.htm>

Montana's Education Telecommunications Network (METNet)  
<http://itsd.mt.gov/techmt/metnet/default.asp>

Montana Office of Rural Health  
<http://healthinfo.montana.edu/November2006/Oct%202006-Montana%20HIT.pdf>

## **Nebraska**

### **Nebraska Broadband Services Task Force**

Convened in 2005, the task force released its final report in November 2006. The mission of the task force was to evaluate the effect of public power suppliers entering the wholesale broadband transmission market with the goal of providing recommendations to the legislature and Governor.

### **Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network (NSTN)**

The NSTN maintains a video and data network, integrating hospitals, public health departments, public health laboratories, and other organization in the state. The goal of the network is to improve quality and access to health care, particularly in rural areas of the state, via telehealth technologies.

#### Resources

Nebraska Broadband Services Task Force

<http://www.nitc.ne.gov/reports/bstf.html>

Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network (NSTN)

<http://www.netelehealth.org>

## **Nevada**

### **Nevada Telehealth Network**

The network connects rural health care practitioners, facilities, and organizations, providing telemedicine, continuing education and other distance learning services. Interactive video capabilities allow local physicians to bring treatment to rural patients via videoconferencing sessions with medical specialists.

#### Resources

Nevada Telehealth Network

<http://www.medicine.nevada.edu/CEHSO/telemed.html>

## **New Hampshire**

### **New England Telehealth Consortium**

The consortium links regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications. The consortium is funded by a grant from the FCC's Rural Health Care Pilot Program.

### **Telecommunications Planning and Development Advisory Committee**

Created by the New Hampshire legislature in 2007, the committee is tasked with analyzing the state of New Hampshire's broadband infrastructure, particularly in unserved and underserved areas. Additionally, the committee is to: identify funding sources for broadband deployment and education projects; identify opportunities for collaboration among providers, consumers, and government; and encourage the use of broadband through education and the removal of barriers to deployment.

## Resources

New England Telehealth Consortium

<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&id=48046&v=Article-2006>

Telecommunications Planning and Development Advisory Committee

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/I/12-A/12-A-46.htm>

## **New Jersey**

### **New Jersey's Higher Education Network (NJEdge.Net)**

NJEdge.Net deploys advanced Internet technologies and digital communication services to New Jersey colleges and universities. In addition NJEdge.net operates a statewide broadband network to help universities and government institutions collaborate.

## Resources

New Jersey's Higher Education Network (NJEdge.Net)

<http://www.njedg.net/>

## **New Mexico**

### **New Mexico Telehealth Consortium**

Created in 2005, the NMTC's mission is to create a single coordinated statewide telehealth system in New Mexico. Consortium members include physicians, educators, telecommunications experts, business representatives, and members of state government.

## Resources

New Mexico Telehealth Consortium

[http://www.health.state.nm.us/telehealth\\_commission/](http://www.health.state.nm.us/telehealth_commission/)

## **New York**

### **New York State Council for Universal Broadband**

Formed in December 2007, the Council is responsible for developing strategies to ensure that every New Yorker has access to affordable, high-speed Internet service. The Council is comprised of legislators, local officials, and representatives of libraries, state agencies, community associations, community technology centers, academia, and the broadband industry. The first grants ranging in amounts from \$75,000 to \$1.3 million in were announced in March 2008.



### **Universal Broadband Access Grant Program**

The grant program issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in December 2007 to seek partners for facilitating universal, affordable broadband, particularly in rural and other unconnected areas. It also seeks to increase the level of digital literacy in New York State. Additional program requirements of the RFP are to: increase technology adoption and address ownership barriers; provide e-Government solutions; and create collaborative strategies to engage the public, private, academic, and not-for-profit communities in partnerships to advance universal broadband.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### Resources

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

New York State Council for Universal Broadband

<http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/overview.htm>

Universal Broadband Access Grant Program

[http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/Universal\\_Broadband\\_Grant\\_RFP.pdf](http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/Universal_Broadband_Grant_RFP.pdf)

## **North Carolina**

### **e-NC Authority**

Created by the North Carolina General Assembly, the e-NC Authority's mission is to link all North Carolinians – especially those in rural areas – to the Internet. The authority's goals include providing high-speed Internet access at competitive prices to all North Carolinians. The authority also operates business and technology telecenters; provides e-community planning grants; implements e-government initiatives; and hosts regional technology symposia.

### **North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN)**

Connecting more than 180 locations at state universities, community colleges, and other public and non-profit institutions, NCREN provides access to national research networks, advanced video and distance learning services, and the general Internet. NCREN is also

the network backbone for the North Carolina Statewide Grid, a research and education network.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

#### Resources

e-NC Authority

<http://www.e-nc.org/>

North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN)

<http://www.mcnc.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&filename=network.html>

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

## **North Dakota**

### **North Dakota Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education Network (STAGEnet)**

STAGEnet provides broadband connectivity, Internet access, video conferencing and other networking services. All state agencies, colleges and universities, local government, and K-12 schools are required to participate in STAGEnet.

#### Resources

North Dakota Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education Network (STAGEnet)

<http://www.stagenet.nd.gov/>

## **Ohio**

### **Appalachian Broadband Task Force**

The task force is a group of industry representatives, government officials and interested citizens created to spur deployment of broadband technologies in southeastern Ohio communities without high-speed Internet access. The task force is charged with

reviewing project submissions and providing advice to communities seeking to attract broadband investment.

### **Connect Ohio**

Connect Ohio is a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding broadband services by working with local communities and providers to map gaps in broadband access. They are also working to establish public-private partnerships to assist in supplying computers to areas with broadband access but without access to computers. Connect Ohio is partnering with Connected Nation, an initiative based on the ConnectKentucky model that uses intense research, mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for these locations. Connected Nation's broadband inventory maps highlight existing broadband services and help broadband providers more effectively target their build out resources. They also work with community leadership to address their challenges related to technology growth and implement the necessary programs to overcome these obstacles.

### **Ohio Broadband Council (OBC)**

The OBC is the oversight board for Governor Ted Strickland's Broadband Ohio network initiative, which is designed to ensure that all Ohio citizens, businesses, and government and non-profit institutions have access to broadband services. The OBC develops and maintains the strategic plan for Broadband Ohio. It draws its membership from the Ohio Office of Information Technology, the Ohio Supercomputer Center, representatives of other agencies, the Ohio legislature, business, local government, and the general public.

### **Ohio Learning Network (OLN)**

A consortium of 81 colleges and universities, OLN provides access to educational content for Ohioans by leading collaborations that enhance learning through technology. OLN provides: regional coordinators to assist in e-learning programs; and advocates on behalf of policies that support e-learning. It also hosts conferences and workshops.

### **OSCnet**

OSCNet is a dedicated high-speed fiber-optic network connecting K-12, colleges and universities, hospitals, public television stations, federal agencies, and economic development centers. OSCNet currently carries all higher education, Internet2, and K-12 data traffic in Ohio.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

## Resources

Appalachian Broadband Task Force

<http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/initiatives/ABTF.shtml>

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

Connect Ohio

<http://www.connectohio.org/>

Ohio Broadband Council (OBC)

<http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/index.shtml>

Ohio Learning Network

<http://www.olin.org/olinhome.php>

OSCNet

<http://www.osc.edu/oscnet/>

## **Oklahoma**

### **Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS)**

OSU-CHS operates the OSU Telemedicine Center, providing Oklahomans in non-metropolitan areas with access to telemedicine technology via the OneNet network and the Abilene/Internet2 networks. The OSU Telemedicine Network is currently linked to more than 24 locations.

### **Oklahoma Telecommunications Network (OneNet)**

OneNet is a state-led partnership among telecommunications companies, equipment manufacturers, and service providers. It offers video, voice, and data services via fiber optic and wireless technologies to: public and vocational-technical schools; colleges and universities; public libraries; local, tribal, state and federal governments; court systems; rural health care delivery systems; and programs engaged in research.

## Resources

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS)

<http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/telemedicine/index.cfm>

Oklahoma Telecommunications Network (OneNet)

<http://www.onenet.net/index.htm>

## **Oregon**

### **Oregon Broadband Tax Credit**

Businesses are allowed a tax credit of up to 20% of the cost of deploying advanced telecommunications facilities. Additional credits are available for installation of advanced telecommunications facilities to schools, rural health clinics or libraries.

### **Oregon Telecommunications Coordinating Council**

The Council was created in 2001 to provide policy guidance and recommendations for providing all Oregonians with affordable access to broadband and reduce the digital divide. The Council produces reports, concept papers, and presentations by subject matter experts to provide technical assistance for underserved communities, to increase the availability of broadband infrastructure and to enhance applications utilizing the infrastructure.

### **Telehealth Alliance of Oregon (TAO)**

The TAO is a non-profit organization that collaborates with state government to develop telehealth solutions. The organization is focused on aiding in the acquisition of telehealth equipment, aggregating demand for the purchases of telecommunications services for telehealth delivery, and providing assistance to aid organizers, agencies, and providers in helping them make telehealth technology decisions.

### Resources

Oregon Broadband Tax Credit

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/01orlaws/sess0900.dir/0957ses.html>

Oregon Telecommunications Coordinating Council

<http://www.ortcc.org/default.htm>

Telehealth Alliance of Oregon (TAO)

<http://www.ortelehealth.org/index.htm>

## **Pennsylvania**

### **Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority (BFTDA)**

The authority provides grants to businesses and communities for grassroots initiatives. The state's technology development strategy is overseen by the Technology Investment Office, which is in turn governed by the BFTDA. The authority's board is appointed by the Governor and chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development.

### **Broadband Outreach and Aggregation Fund (BOAF)**

BOAF is a vehicle for providing seed grants to aggregate consumer demand in communities without access to broadband and require local telephone companies to respond to demand for service in a timely fashion. The Fund supports outreach programs for political subdivisions, development entities, schools, and other local organizations.

### **Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania**

Founded in 2005, the task force's mission is to produce recommendations for deploying additional broadband in the state and improving cellular service, while initiating and helping fund future broadband advancements.

#### Resources

Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority (BFTDA)

[http://www.benfranklin.org/about/pa\\_tech\\_strategy.asp](http://www.benfranklin.org/about/pa_tech_strategy.asp)

Broadband Outreach and Aggregation Fund (BOAF)

<http://www.newpa.com/default.aspx?id=200>

Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania

<http://www.tccp.org/x/tccp/other/Volume1-Issue3.pdf>

## **Rhode Island**

### **Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology (RINET)**

RINET is a non-profit corporation operating as a collective partnership to support the needs of the K-12 community in the state. RINET provides high-speed Internet access to schools, school districts, school libraries, and community entry points. The network also provides e-mail services, content filtering, website hosting, and videoconferencing services.

#### Resources

Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology (RINET)

<http://www.ri.net/RINET/index.html>

## **South Carolina**

### **South Carolina Broadband Technology and Communications Study Committee**

The committee was created in 2007 to study broadband deployment and offer policy recommendations. The committee's duties included the evaluation of the state's broadband infrastructure and the maintenance of an inventory of locations where broadband service is not available. It delivered its final report to the General Assembly in February 2008. Recommendations included the creation of a public-private

partnership modeled after ConnectKentucky or e-NC Authority to promote the deployment and adoption of broadband in the state. ConnectKentucky is a program that uses intense research, mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for them. The e-NC Authority was established to link all North Carolinians – especially those in rural areas – to the Internet.

### **South Carolina Information Network**

The South Carolina Information Network (SCINET) provides statewide connectivity for state and local government. The network provides data services to state agencies, K-12 schools, libraries, higher education institutions and a small number of county and local governments.

### **South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Fund**

Established and maintained by the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority, the fund is used to provide loans and other financial assistance to municipalities, counties, special purpose and public service districts, and public works commissions for constructing and improving rural infrastructure facilities. This includes improving public and private telecommunications systems.

### Resources

South Carolina Broadband Technology and Communications Study Committee  
<http://www.scstatehouse.net/citizensinterestpage/BroadbandTechnology&CommunicationStudyComm/broadband.html>

South Carolina Information Network  
<http://cio.sc.gov/councilscommittees/scinetsp.htm>

South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Fund  
[http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117\\_2007-2008/bills/3666.htm](http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117_2007-2008/bills/3666.htm)

## **South Dakota**

### **Digital Dakota Network (DDN)**

DDN is a statewide interactive video communications system providing distance learning and videoconferencing services in the state. The DDN connects all branches of the state government, private and public universities, municipal governments and the K-12 community.

### Resources

Digital Dakota Network (DDN)  
<http://ddnvideo.sd.gov/>

# Tennessee

## **Connected Tennessee**

Created in 2007 as an independent non-profit organization, the goal of Connected Tennessee is to develop and implement effective strategies for technology deployment in partnership with telecommunications and information technology providers, public agencies, business and community leaders, and universities. Current programs include the mapping of broadband availability throughout the state and the creation of eCommunity Leadership Teams. The initiative is initiative based on the Connected Nation model that uses intense research, mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for these locations. Connected Nation's broadband inventory maps highlight existing broadband services and help broadband providers more effectively target their build out resources. They also work with community leadership to address their challenges related to technology growth and implement the necessary programs to overcome these obstacles.

## **ConnecTEN**

Created in 1996, ConnecTEN is Tennessee's statewide network connecting K-12 schools. The network manages Internet connections to 137 school systems, web-based e-mail service for teachers and administrators, and network support.

## **Tennessee Broadband Task Force**

Created by the Tennessee General Assembly in 2005, the task force was charged with assessing broadband deployment in the state, particularly DSL and cable technologies. In its January 2007 report to the legislature, the task force recommended more competition among Internet service providers and that a public-private partnership -- modeled on ConnectKentucky -- be established to promote more access to and usage of broadband technologies. ConnectKentucky is a program that uses intense research, mapping and grassroots techniques to pinpoint underserved areas and create strategic technology plans for them.

## **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

## Resources

Connected Tennessee

<http://www.connectedtn.org/>



ConnecTEN

<http://tennessee.ena.com/>

Tennessee Broadband Task Force

<http://tennessee.gov/sos/acts/104/pub/pc0413.pdf>

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

## Texas

### **Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF)**

TIF was a ten-year \$1.5 billion grant program created in 1996 to support the deployment and use of advanced telecommunications technologies in Texas public schools, hospitals, libraries, and other public institutions. The Fund was supported by a 1.25% tax on telecommunications services in the state.

#### Resources

Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF)

<http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/21cp/TIF.html>

## Utah

### **Rural Broadband Service Fund**

Created by the Utah State Legislature in July 2007, the \$1 million fund provides matching support for providers to expand broadband access to rural area.

### **Utah Education Network**

The Utah Education Network is a non-profit consortium of public education partners, including state universities and colleges, education agencies, local school districts, high schools, and state libraries. Services provided include videoconferencing, distance learning services, and high-speed data connectivity.

#### Resources

Rural Broadband Service Fund

[http://goed.utah.gov/business\\_development/incentives/Rural\\_Broadband/RuralBroadband.html](http://goed.utah.gov/business_development/incentives/Rural_Broadband/RuralBroadband.html)

Utah Education Network

<http://www.uen.org/>

## **Vermont**

### **New England Telehealth Consortium**

The consortium links regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications. The consortium is funded by a grant from the FCC's Rural Health Care Pilot Program.

### **Vermont Broadband Grant Program (BGP)**

The program was created in 2004 to provide local governments with funds to create partnerships with wireless broadband providers to serve unserved communities. To date, the BGP has provided a total of \$800,000 in grants to 16 communities.

### **Vermont Telecommunications Authority**

Established by the Vermont State Legislature in February 2007, the authority is charged with facilitating the establishment and delivery of broadband infrastructure and services for residents and businesses throughout Vermont, with a special focus on unserved and underserved areas. This is to be accomplished by establishing partnerships with telecommunications service providers; providing loans, grants, and other financial backing for the purpose of building broadband service; and brokering access at reduced prices from service providers.

### Resources

New England Telehealth Consortium

<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&id=48046&v=Article-2006>

Vermont Broadband Grant Program

<http://www.telecomvt.org/press.php>

Vermont Telecommunications Authority

<http://www.telecomvt.org/index.php>

## **Virginia**

### **Advanced Communications Assistance Fund**

Established by the Virginia General Assembly in 1999, the Fund provides loans and grants for the purpose of connecting underserved localities to broadband.

### **Virginia Broadband Roundtable**

Formed by Governor Kaine in June 2007, the roundtable's goal is to provide recommendations to connect every business in the state to affordable broadband by 2010. Recommendations are expected to adhere to the principles of long-term sustainability,

public-private partnership, and community-driven strategy. The Roundtable's final report is due to the Governor in the fall of 2008.

### **Office of Telework Promotion and Broadband Assistance**

The office is charged with promoting and encouraging the use of telework alternatives for public and private employees, supporting the enhancement and deployment of competitively priced broadband, and advocating for the development and deployment of telework, telemedicine, and e-learning services. The office also advises the Secretary of Technology on broadband adoption, deployment and application issues.

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### Resources

Advanced Communications Assistance Fund

<http://law.justia.com/virginia/codes/toc0202000/2.2-2233.html>

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

Virginia Broadband Roundtable

[http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/broadband\\_roundtable.shtml](http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/broadband_roundtable.shtml)

Office of Telework Promotion and Broadband Assistance

<http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/>

## **Washington**

### **Mapping and High-Speed Internet Activities**

H.B. 1701, signed by the Governor on May 15, 2009, appropriates \$1.2 million dollars (\$1million subject to federal funds) for 2009-2011 to implement mapping and High-speed Internet Activities for Washington State. The Dept of Information Services is tasked with the following charges in the legislation:

- Create a Washington state data collection and mapping initiative;
- Establish Community Technology Opportunity Programs;
- Reestablish the high-speed internet workgroup, renamed Advisory Council on Digital Inclusion, to oversee the expansion of broadband in Washington;

- Designate an agency as an entity for the purpose of the Broadband Data Improvement Act P.L. 110-385; and
- Designate a state agency to implement broadband policy and services.

### **Sales and Use Tax - Wash. Revenue Code § 82.14.370**

Passed by the Washington State legislature in 1997, the legislation allows sales and use taxes to be collected by rural counties for the purpose of building and maintaining telecommunications infrastructure

### **Washington Broadband Study**

In 2007, the legislature directed the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to conduct a survey to identify factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies. The report was released in June 2008.

### **Washington High-Speed Internet Work Group**

Created by the state legislature in 2008, the working group – under direction of the state’s Department of Information Services -- is charged with the development of a high-speed deployment and adoption strategy. The legislation requires the working group to develop a plan for broadband mapping; creation of local technology planning teams; identification resources available to spur broadband deployment and adoption; and creation of programs to make available low-cost computers and enhance digital literacy. The legislation that established the work group also created a community technology opportunity program administered by the Washington State University extension. The high-speed working group must include representatives of local government, education, health care, economic development agencies, community-based organizations, telecommunications providers, and telecommunications unions.

### **Washington Telehealth Consortium (WTC)**

The WTC is made up of telehealth users and providers whose goal is the implementation of a statewide telehealth network. Using existing telecommunications infrastructure, the WTC seeks to affordably connect state telehealth networks and facilitate access to telehealth services.

### Resources

Mapping and High-Speed Internet Activities (HB 1701)

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2009-10/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/1701-S2.PL.pdf>

Sales and Use Tax - Wash. Rev. Code § 82.14.370

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=82.14.370>

Washington High-Speed Internet Work Group

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2007-08/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/6438-S2.PL.pdf>

Washington Broadband Study

<http://www.wutc.wa.gov/webimage.nsf/0/OC107F2AECEC013A8825733800684FCF>

Washington Telehealth Consortium

<http://cbdd.wsu.edu/projects/futures/telehealth/index.html>

## **West Virginia**

### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

Active in 14 states touching the Appalachia region, the ARC is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC funds support community technology centers, digital divide solutions, community networking projects, distance learning services, and telemedicine programs. States receiving federal funds through the ARC are expected to contribute matching funds to the extent they are able to do so and to seek non-ARC funding assistance in a diligent manner.

### **Connect West Virginia**

Connect West Virginia is a subsidiary of Connected Nation and operates as a non-profit in partnership with Verizon. The organization's goal is to provide mapping of West Virginia broadband availability and establish reporting requirements for state broadband infrastructure.

### **West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council**

Created by the legislature in March 2008, the Council administers the Broadband Deployment Fund, which supports projects to expand broadband access in unserved areas of the state. The Council also provides consultation services to broadband deployment project sponsors.

### **West Virginia Network (WVNET)**

WVNET operates a wide-area network connecting West Virginia's colleges and universities. Services provided include high-speed broadband service, web hosting, videoconferencing, and Web-based training technologies.

### Resources

Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/index.do>

Connect West Virginia

<http://www.connectwestvirginia.org/>

West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council

[http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill\\_Text\\_HTML/2008\\_SESSIONS/RS/BILLS/HB4637%20SUB.htm](http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2008_SESSIONS/RS/BILLS/HB4637%20SUB.htm)

West Virginia Network  
<http://www.wvnet.edu/>

## **Wisconsin**

### **Education Telecommunications Access Program**

The Education Telecommunications Access Program subsidizes access to broadband for K-12 public schools, libraries and colleges. Program costs are shared between members (who pay a capped monthly rate) and the program, which pays for costs that exceed the maximum rate.

### **WiscNet**

WiscNet is a non-profit, membership-based association of public and private organizations that provides broadband access services, network consulting, and video streaming services. Members of WiscNet include colleges and universities, K-12 school districts, libraries, local and municipal governments, and non-profit organizations.

### Resources

Education Telecommunications Access Program  
<http://www.teachwi.state.wi.us/programs.html>

WiscNet  
<http://www.wiscnet.net/>

## **Wyoming**

### **Wyoming Equality Network (WEN)**

WEN provides videoconferencing, distance learning, VoIP, and data services to 90 sites throughout the state.

### Resources

Wyoming Equality Network (WEN)  
<http://www.k12.wy.us/wenvideo/index.asp>

## APPENDIX

State	Program Title	Program Type	Program Description	Link
Arizona	Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Working on a strategic plan to overcome barriers to statewide broadband deployment. Advises the legislature and the governor on broadband policy.	<a href="http://www.azgita.gov/elecom/ciac/">http://www.azgita.gov/elecom/ciac/</a>
Arkansas	Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Monitors the progress of Connect Arkansas and reports to the governor and legislature on broadband deployment.	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/bills/2007/public/SB924.pdf">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/bills/2007/public/SB924.pdf</a>
California	California Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Advises governor on broadband policy. Issued a preliminary report in 2007.	<a href="http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF_FINAL_Report.pdf">http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF_FINAL_Report.pdf</a>
Colorado	Governor's Innovation Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	The council focuses on developing and assisting in the execution of a plan to facilitate broadband deployment throughout the state.	<a href="http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&amp;childpagename=Innovation%2FINLayout&amp;cid=1192458212728&amp;p=1192458212728&amp;packedargs=a-id-prefix%3DTopNav&amp;pagename=INWrapper&amp;rendermode=preview">http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&amp;childpagename=Innovation%2FINLayout&amp;cid=1192458212728&amp;p=1192458212728&amp;packedargs=a-id-prefix%3DTopNav&amp;pagename=INWrapper&amp;rendermode=preview</a>
Connecticut	Broadband Internet Coordinating Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	The Council monitors broadband trends and developments and issues reports	<a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2007/ACT/PA/2007PA-00254-R00HB-07282-PA.htm">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2007/ACT/PA/2007PA-00254-R00HB-07282-PA.htm</a> .
District of Columbia	Metropolitan Council of Governments Broadband Access Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Foster the development of broadband Internet access throughout the National Capital Region by hosting forums and producing policy recommendations and reports on regional broadband initiatives.	<a href="http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/t11WV1420060914080851.pdf">http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/t11WV1420060914080851.pdf</a>
Georgia	Georgia Center for Advanced Telecommunications Technology	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Research center providing technology policy recommendations to the governor and the legislature.	<a href="http://www.gcatt.org/">http://www.gcatt.org/</a>
Hawaii	Hawaii Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Provide policy recommendations for removing barriers to broadband access.	<a href="http://www.hbtf.org/">http://www.hbtf.org/</a>
Illinois	Broadband Deployment Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Develops policies and recommendations for increasing broadband deployment.	<a href="http://www.standingupforillinois.org/connect/deployment.php">http://www.standingupforillinois.org/connect/deployment.php</a>
Louisiana	Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Develop strategic guidance for broadband deployment in the state, with a special focus on enhancing the ability of rural areas to support the creation, retention, and recruitment of businesses.	<a href="http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=285603">http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=285603</a>

State	Program Title	Program Type	Program Description	Link
Maine	Maine Broadband Access Infrastructure Board	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Tasked with issuing recommendations for achieving universal broadband by 2010.	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/broadband/">http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/broadband/</a>
Michigan	Michigan Broadband Development Authority	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Assists the state in attracting more private sector investment in high-speed Internet infrastructure and in increasing demand for and utilization of broadband services.	<a href="http://ref.michigan.org/medc/news/reports/economic/combo.asp?ContentId=94595AF5-BAE2-4BEE-856A-22DA8A130538">http://ref.michigan.org/medc/news/reports/economic/combo.asp?ContentId=94595AF5-BAE2-4BEE-856A-22DA8A130538</a>
Minnesota	Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Provides recommendations to governor and legislature regarding high-speed broadband goals and implementation.	<a href="http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/presreleasels85.asp?district=38A&amp;party=1&amp;pressid=3536">http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/presreleasels85.asp?district=38A&amp;party=1&amp;pressid=3536</a>
Mississippi	Mississippi Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Ad-hoc group released a report in 2005 recommending the creation of a statewide initiative to promote citizens' use of the Internet with a formal plan and broadband strategy, including the creation of a statewide coordinating council.	<a href="http://www.msgovt.org/files/broadband_final.pdf">http://www.msgovt.org/files/broadband_final.pdf</a>
Missouri	Rural High-speed Internet Access Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Tasked with assessing the current state of broadband access in Missouri, identify barriers to and options to incentivize deployment, and provide recommendation for policy changes to increase the availability of broadband in the state.	<a href="http://www.ltgov.mo.gov/ruralhsi/index.htm">http://www.ltgov.mo.gov/ruralhsi/index.htm</a>
Nebraska	Nebraska Broadband Services Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Reported in 2006 to the legislature and governor evaluating the effect of public power suppliers entering the wholesale broadband transmission market.	<a href="http://www.nitc.ne.gov/reports/bstf.html">http://www.nitc.ne.gov/reports/bstf.html</a>
New Hampshire	Telecommunications Planning and Development Advisory Committee	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Created by the legislature in 2007, the committee is tasked with analyzing the state of New Hampshire's broadband infrastructure, particularly in unserved and underserved areas.	<a href="http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/I/12-A/12-A-46.htm">http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/I/12-A/12-A-46.htm</a>
New York	New York State Council for Universal Broadband	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Responsible for developing strategies to ensure that every New Yorker has access to affordable, high-speed Internet service.	<a href="http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/overview.htm">http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/overview.htm</a>
Ohio	Ohio Broadband Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Develops technology policy and provides assistance to state agencies. Oversees Broadband Ohio.	<a href="http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/index.shtml">http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/index.shtml</a>
Ohio	Appalachian Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Created to study broadband deployment in rural southeast Ohio and develop policy proposals.	<a href="http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/initiatives/ABTF.shtml">http://www.ohiobroadbandcouncil.org/initiatives/ABTF.shtml</a>
Oregon	Oregon Telecommunications Coordinating Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Produces policy guidance and recommendations for providing all Oregonians with affordable access to broadband and reduce the digital divide.	<a href="http://www.ortcc.org/default.htm">http://www.ortcc.org/default.htm</a>



State	Program Title	Program Type	Program Description	Link
Pennsylvania	Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Produces recommendations for deploying additional broadband in the state and improving cellular service, while initiating and helping fund future broadband advancements.	<a href="http://www.tccp.org/x/tccp/other/Volume1-Issue3.pdf">http://www.tccp.org/x/tccp/other/Volume1-Issue3.pdf</a>
South Carolina	South Carolina Broadband Technology and Communications Study Committee	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Created in 2007 to study broadband deployment and offer policy recommendations.	<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.net/citizensinterestpage/BroadbandTechnology&amp;CommunicationStudyComm/broadband.html">http://www.scstatehouse.net/citizensinterestpage/BroadbandTechnology&amp;CommunicationStudyComm/broadband.html</a>
Tennessee	Tennessee Broadband Task Force	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Charged with assessing broadband deployment in the state, its 2007 report recommended that a public-private partnership be established to promote more access to and usage of broadband technologies.	<a href="http://tennessee.gov/sos/acts/104/pub/pc0413.pdf">http://tennessee.gov/sos/acts/104/pub/pc0413.pdf</a>
Vermont	Vermont Telecommunications Authority	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Charged with facilitating the establishment and delivery of broadband infrastructure and services for residents and businesses throughout Vermont, with a special focus on unserved and underserved areas.	<a href="http://www.telecomvt.org/index.php">http://www.telecomvt.org/index.php</a>
Virginia	Office of Telework Promotion and Broadband Assistance	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Charged with promoting and encouraging the use of telework alternatives for public and private employees, supporting the enhancement and deployment of competitively priced broadband, and advocating for the development and deployment of telework, telemedicine, and e-learning services.	<a href="http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/">http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/</a>
Virginia	Virginia Broadband Roundtable	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Provides recommendations to connect every business in the state to affordable broadband by 2010.	<a href="http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/broadband_roundtable.shtml">http://www.otpba.vi.virginia.gov/broadband_roundtable.shtml</a>
Washington	Washington High-Speed Internet Work Group	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Created by the legislature in 2008, the working group is charged with developing a plan for broadband mapping; creation of local technology planning teams; identification resources available to spur broadband deployment and adoption; and creation of programs to make available low-cost computers and enhance digital literacy.	<a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2007-08/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/6438-S2.PL.pdf">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2007-08/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/6438-S2.PL.pdf</a>
Washington	Washington Broadband Study	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Released its final report in June 2008 identifying factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies.	<a href="http://www.wutc.wa.gov/webimage.nsf/0/0C107F2AECEC013A8825733800684FCF">http://www.wutc.wa.gov/webimage.nsf/0/0C107F2AECEC013A8825733800684FCF</a>
West Virginia	West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council	Broadband Task Force/Authority	Administers the Broadband Deployment Fund, which support projects to expand broadband access in unserved areas of the state.	<a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2008_SESSIONS/RS/BILLS/HB4637%20SUB.htm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2008_SESSIONS/RS/BILLS/HB4637%20SUB.htm</a>

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Alabama	ACCESS Project	Direct Funding Program	Provides grants and program support for distance learning in high schools.	<a href="http://accessdl.state.al.us/">http://accessdl.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do?nodeId=3069">http://www.arc.gov/index.do?nodeId=3069</a>
Alaska	Rural Alaska Broadband Internet Access Grant Program	Direct Funding Program	Distributes federal grants for rural infrastructure.	<a href="http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/Documents/Broadband/Broadband_Grant_Description.pdf">http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/Documents/Broadband/Broadband_Grant_Description.pdf</a>
Arizona	Instructional Technology Systems Grants Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides instructional technology and e-learning grants to schools.	<a href="http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/48leg/1r/sunmary/h.hb2742_02-11-07_ed.doc.htm">http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/48leg/1r/sunmary/h.hb2742_02-11-07_ed.doc.htm</a>
Arkansas	Arkansas Technology Infrastructure Fund	Direct Funding Program	Designed to encourage state agencies to adopt technology for citizen services.	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/acts/2005/public/act2248.pdf">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/acts/2005/public/act2248.pdf</a>
California	California Teleconnect Fund	Direct Funding Program	Supports infrastructure projects to bridge the digital divide.	<a href="http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/telco/public+programs/050602_ctf.htm">http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/telco/public+programs/050602_ctf.htm</a>
California	California Advanced Services Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides grants to telephone corporations to promote broadband service in unserved areas.	<a href="http://www.dra.ca.gov/DRA/Telecom/hot/CASF.htm">http://www.dra.ca.gov/DRA/Telecom/hot/CASF.htm</a>
California	California Emerging Technology Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides matching fund for broadband infrastructure projects targeting rural and disadvantaged communities.	<a href="http://www.cetfund.org/Default.aspx">http://www.cetfund.org/Default.aspx</a>
Georgia	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Idaho	Idaho Rural Broadband Investment Program	Direct Funding Program	Provides matching funds for extending broadband access to rural communities.	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa09/0301.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa09/0301.pdf</a>
Illinois	School Technology Revolving Loan Program	Direct Funding Program	Provides low-interest loans to school districts for technology projects.	<a href="http://www.isbe.state.il.us/curriculum/elearning/html/revolving_loan.htm">http://www.isbe.state.il.us/curriculum/elearning/html/revolving_loan.htm</a>
Iowa	Iowa Broadband Initiative	Direct Funding Program	Allows local exchange carriers to implement a surcharge, with the funds to be used to subsidize rural broadband deployment.	<a href="http://www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/docs/orders/2003/0703_rm039.pdf">http://www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/docs/orders/2003/0703_rm039.pdf</a>
Kentucky	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Louisiana	Delta Development Initiative	Direct Funding Program	Provides funding for rural entrepreneurship programs and business incubators to provide high-speed Internet access to Delta businesspeople.	<a href="http://legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=86241">http://legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=86241</a>
Maine	ConnectME Authority	Direct Funding Program	Develops proposals for projects that extend broadband to underserved areas of Maine and manages the selection and funding of these projects.	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/connectme/">http://www.maine.gov/connectme/</a>

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Maine	Maine Learning Technology Initiative	Direct Funding Program	Provides seventh and eighth grade students and teachers with laptop computers, software, and professional development.	<a href="http://maine.gov/mlte/index.htm">http://maine.gov/mlte/index.htm</a>
Maryland	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Maryland	Rural Broadband Assistance Fund	Direct Funding Program	Assists the Rural Broadband Coordination Office in the Department of Business and Economic Development to establish broadband telecommunications services in rural and underserved areas.	<a href="http://mlis.state.md.us/2008RS/budget_docs/All/Operating/T00F_-_Dept_of_Business_and_Economic_Development_PAYGO.pdf">http://mlis.state.md.us/2008RS/budget_docs/All/Operating/T00F_-_Dept_of_Business_and_Economic_Development_PAYGO.pdf</a>
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI)	Direct Funding Program	Manages a statewide Massachusetts Broadband Incentive Fund to invest in infrastructure	<a href="http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/index.html">http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/index.html</a>
Michigan	Digital Divide Investment Program	Direct Funding Program	Provided grants to help low and moderate income families gain access to broadband service. Discontinued in 2007.	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/gov/0,1607,7-168--100956--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/gov/0,1607,7-168--100956--,00.html</a>
Mississippi	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
New York	Universal Broadband Access Grant Program	Direct Funding Program	Charged with disbursing grants to spur broadband deployment, especially in rural areas.	<a href="http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/Universal_Broadband_Grant_RFP.pdf">http://www.oft.state.ny.us/oft/UniversalBroadband/Universal_Broadband_Grant_RFP.pdf</a>
New York	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
North Carolina	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Ohio	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Pennsylvania	Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority	Direct Funding Program	Provides grants to businesses and communities for grassroots technology initiatives.	<a href="http://www.benfranklin.org/about/pa_tech_strategy.asp">http://www.benfranklin.org/about/pa_tech_strategy.asp</a>
Pennsylvania	Broadband Outreach and Aggregation Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides seed grants to aggregate consumer demand in communities without access to broadband.	<a href="http://www.newpa.com/default.aspx?id=200">http://www.newpa.com/default.aspx?id=200</a>
South Carolina	South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides loans and other financial assistance to municipalities, counties, special purpose and public service districts, and public works commissions for constructing and improving rural infrastructure facilities, including public and private telecommunications systems.	<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117_2007-2008/bills/3666.htm">http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117_2007-2008/bills/3666.htm</a>

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Tennessee	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Texas	Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund	Direct Funding Program	A ten-year \$1.5 billion grant program created in 1996 to support the deployment and use of advanced telecommunications technologies in Texas public schools, hospitals, libraries, and other public institutions.	<a href="http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/21cp/TIF.html">http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/21cp/TIF.html</a>
Utah	Rural Broadband Service Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides matching support for providers to expand broadband access to rural area.	<a href="http://goed.utah.gov/business_development/incentives/Rural_Broadband/RuralBroadband.html">http://goed.utah.gov/business_development/incentives/Rural_Broadband/RuralBroadband.html</a>
Vermont	Vermont Broadband Grant Program	Direct Funding Program	Provides grants to local governments to connect unserved communities to wireless broadband.	<a href="http://www.telecomvt.org/press.php">http://www.telecomvt.org/press.php</a>
Virginia	Advanced Communications Assistance Fund	Direct Funding Program	Provides loans and grants for the purpose of connecting underserved localities to broadband.	<a href="http://law.justia.com/virginia/codes/toc0202000/2.2-2233.html">http://law.justia.com/virginia/codes/toc0202000/2.2-2233.html</a>
Virginia	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
West Virginia	Appalachian Regional Commission	Direct Funding Program	State matches federal funds for rural infrastructure projects.	<a href="http://www.arc.gov/index.do">http://www.arc.gov/index.do</a>
Wisconsin	Education Telecommunications Access Program	Direct Funding Program	Subsidizes access to broadband for K-12 public schools, libraries and colleges.	<a href="http://www.teachwi.state.wi.us/programs.html">http://www.teachwi.state.wi.us/programs.html</a>
Arkansas	Connect Arkansas	Public/Private Partnership	Established in 2007 and modeled after ConnectKentucky. Working on mapping and assessment.	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/bills/2007/public/SB924.pdf">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/ftproot/bills/2007/public/SB924.pdf</a>
Kentucky	ConnectKentucky	Public/Private Partnership	A public-private partnership with a mission to accelerate the growth of technology in support of community and economic development, improved healthcare, enhanced education and more effective government.	<a href="http://www.connectkentucky.org/">http://www.connectkentucky.org/</a>
Maine	Maine School and Library Network (MSLN)	Public/Private Partnership	Provides lap top computers and educational software for students and professional development for teachers	<a href="http://maine.gov/mlte/index.htm">http://maine.gov/mlte/index.htm</a>
Maryland	Maryland Broadband Cooperative	Public/Private Partnership	Supports infrastructure deployment by leveraging investment with public funds, focusing on rural areas.	<a href="http://www.mdbc.us/">http://www.mdbc.us/</a>
Maryland	Maryland Rural Broadband Communications Services Act	Public/Private Partnership	Provides up to \$10 million for a three-year project to deploy fiber-optic backbone lines to counties on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland.	<a href="http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0805BROADBANDACCESS.PDF">http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0805BROADBANDACCESS.PDF</a>
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Broadband Initiative	Public/Private Partnership	Advises the governor on broadband policy and operates a broadband mapping program.	<a href="http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/index.html">http://www.mtpc.org/broadband/index.html</a>

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North Carolina	e-NC Authority	Public/Private Partnership	The Authority operates business and technology telecenters; provides e-community planning grants; implements e-government initiatives; and hosts regional technology symposia with the goal of linking all North Carolinians to the Internet.	<a href="http://www.e-nc.org/">http://www.e-nc.org/</a>
Ohio	Connect Ohio	Public/Private Partnership	Public-private partnership focused on expanding broadband services by working with local communities and providers to map gaps in broadband access and assist in supplying computers to areas with broadband access but without access to computers.	<a href="http://www.connectohio.org/">http://www.connectohio.org/</a>
Tennessee	Connected Tennessee	Public/Private Partnership	An independent non-profit organization tasked with developing and implementing strategies for technology deployment in partnership with telecommunications and information technology providers, public agencies, business and community leaders, and universities.	<a href="http://www.connectedtn.org/">http://www.connectedtn.org/</a>
West Virginia	Connect West Virginia	Public/Private Partnership	Non-profit organization chartered by the state government to provide broadband mapping services in partnership with Verizon.	<a href="http://www.connectwestvirginia.org/">http://www.connectwestvirginia.org/</a>
Alabama	Alabama Research and Education Network	State Network	Provides Internet access for Alabama state government, four-year universities, two-year colleges, K-12 schools, and libraries.	<a href="http://www.asc.edu/network/">http://www.asc.edu/network/</a>
Alaska	Enterprise Technology Services	State Network	Provides state agencies with support for the delivery of enterprise information services.	<a href="http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ADMIN/info/">http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ADMIN/info/</a>
Arizona	Telecommunications Open Partnership for Arizona (TOPAZ)	State Network	Encourages state and local government organizations to actively partner with, and be the anchor tenant for, private sector broadband infrastructure build-out projects.	<a href="http://gita.state.az.us/telecom/topaz/topaz_summary.htm">http://gita.state.az.us/telecom/topaz/topaz_summary.htm</a>
Arizona	Arizona State Public Information Network	State Network	Facilitates the development of mutually beneficial collaborations between education community, legislators, and businesses via Internet training classes, grant proposal writing assistance, and maintaining a Network Operations Center and Network Information Center.	<a href="http://aspin.asu.edu/">http://aspin.asu.edu/</a>

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Arkansas	Arkansas Academic and Research Network	State Network	Operates a backbone network connecting 70 member institutions including all of the state's universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical institutes, as well as several non-profit organizations, state agencies, and public libraries with funding through National Science Foundation grants.	<a href="http://www.uark.edu/staff/arknet/">http://www.uark.edu/staff/arknet/</a>
California	Corporation for Educational Network Initiatives	State Network	Operates CalREN, linking K-20 educational institutions.	<a href="http://www.cenic.org/">http://www.cenic.org/</a>
Colorado	Colorado Multi-Use Network Service	State Network	Partnership between the state of Colorado and Qwest to build a high-speed fiber-optic network linking rural and urban areas of the state.	<a href="http://www.mnt.state.co.us/">http://www.mnt.state.co.us/</a>
Connecticut	Connecticut Education Network	State Network	Provides K-12 schools, institutions of higher education, and libraries with fiber-optic broadband connections.	<a href="http://www.ct.gov/cen/site/default.asp">http://www.ct.gov/cen/site/default.asp</a>
Florida	Florida Information Resource Network	State Network	Provides website hosting to educational professionals and schools in the state of Florida as a service for the Florida Department of Education.	<a href="http://www.firn.edu/">http://www.firn.edu/</a>
Idaho	Idanet	State Network	Provides network services for Idaho businesses.	<a href="http://www2.state.id.us/idanet/">http://www2.state.id.us/idanet/</a>
Illinois	Illinois Century Network	State Network	ICN maintains a telecommunications backbone network providing high speed data, videoconferencing, and audio communications to schools and libraries, colleges and universities, museums, and local and state agencies.	<a href="http://www.illinois.net/">http://www.illinois.net/</a>
Iowa	Iowa Communications Network	State Network	Supports distance learning and providing access to education, health, and government services.	<a href="http://www.icn.state.ia.us/">http://www.icn.state.ia.us/</a>
Kansas	Kansas Research and Education Network	State Network	Facilitates institutional communication and provides connectivity to the Internet via a statewide TCP/IP network for state educational institutions.	<a href="http://www.kanren.net/">http://www.kanren.net/</a>
Kentucky	Kentucky Information Highway	State Network	Connects over 3,000 sites the state including 1,200 schools all 176 school districts, libraries, local government and health departments.	<a href="http://ky.gov/got/kih/">http://ky.gov/got/kih/</a>
Louisiana	Louisiana Library Network	State Network	A consortium of public and private libraries in the state networked to a centralized support staff.	<a href="http://appl003.lsu.edu/ocswweb/louishome.nsf/index">http://appl003.lsu.edu/ocswweb/louishome.nsf/index</a>
Maine	Maine School and Library Network	State Network	Provides Internet access to approximately 950 schools and libraries statewide.	<a href="http://www.msln.net/">http://www.msln.net/</a>

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Missouri	Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet)	State Network	MOREnet provides Internet access to the state's public sector, including K-12 schools, colleges and universities, public libraries, health care facilities, state government and other affiliated organizations.	<a href="http://www.more.net/about/index.html">http://www.more.net/about/index.html</a>
Montana	Montana's Education Telecom Network	State Network	Offers videoconferencing services to state agencies, universities, and approved state contractors to provide distance learning services.	<a href="http://itsd.mt.gov/techmt/metnet/default.asp">http://itsd.mt.gov/techmt/metnet/default.asp</a>
New Jersey	New Jersey's Higher Education Network	State Network	Deploys advanced Internet technologies and digital communication services to New Jersey colleges and universities and operates a statewide broadband network to help universities and government institutions collaborate.	<a href="http://www.njedge.net/">http://www.njedge.net/</a>
North Carolina	North Carolina Research and Education Network	State Network	Provides access to national research networks, advanced video and distance learning services, and the general Internet for more than 180 educational institutions.	<a href="http://www.mcnc.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&amp;filename=network.html">http://www.mcnc.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&amp;filename=network.html</a>
North Dakota	North Dakota Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education Network (STAGENet)	State Network	Provides broadband connectivity, Internet access, video conferencing and other networking to state agencies, colleges and universities, local government, and K-12 schools.	<a href="http://www.stagenet.nd.gov/">http://www.stagenet.nd.gov/</a>
Ohio	Ohio Learning Network	State Network	Consortium of colleges and universities providing access to educational content for Ohioans by leading collaborations that enhance learning through technology.	<a href="http://www.ohn.org/">http://www.ohn.org/</a>
Ohio	OSCnet	State Network	Dedicated high-speed fiber-optic network connecting K-12, college and universities, hospitals, and public broadcasting outlets.	<a href="http://www.osc.edu/oscnet/index.shtml">http://www.osc.edu/oscnet/index.shtml</a>
Oklahoma	OneNet	State Network	Offers voice, video, data services to schools, colleges and universities, public libraries, and government agencies.	<a href="http://www.onenet.net/">http://www.onenet.net/</a>
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology	State Network	Non-profit corporation providing high-speed Internet access to schools, school districts, school libraries, and community entry points as well as e-mail services, content filtering, website hosting, and videoconferencing services.	<a href="http://www.ri.net/RINET/index.html">http://www.ri.net/RINET/index.html</a>
South Carolina	South Carolina Information Network	State Network	Provides data services to state agencies, K-12 schools, libraries, higher education institutions and a small number of county and local governments.	<a href="http://www.cio.sc.gov/cioContent.asp?pageID=285">http://www.cio.sc.gov/cioContent.asp?pageID=285</a>

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South Dakota	Digital Dakota Network	State Network	Connects all branches of the state government, private and public universities, municipal governments and the K-12 community to distance learning and videoconferencing services.	<a href="http://ddnvideo.sd.gov/">http://ddnvideo.sd.gov/</a>
Tennessee	ConnecTEN	State Network	Statewide network connecting K-12 schools, ConnecTEN manages Internet connections to school systems, web-based e-mail service for teachers and administrators, and network support.	<a href="http://tennessee.ena.com/">http://tennessee.ena.com/</a>
Utah	Utah Education Network	State Network	Consortium of public education institutions and agencies providing videoconferencing and distancing learning services and high-speed data connectivity.	<a href="http://www.uen.org/">http://www.uen.org/</a>
West Virginia	West Virginia Network	State Network	Operates a wide-area network connecting West Virginia's colleges and universities and providing high-speed broadband service, web hosting, videoconferencing, and Web-based training technologies.	<a href="http://www.wvnet.edu/">http://www.wvnet.edu/</a>
Wisconsin	WiscNet	State Network	Provides broadband access services, network consulting, and video streaming services to colleges and universities, K-12 school districts, libraries, local and municipal governments, and non-profit organizations.	<a href="http://www.wiscnet.net/">http://www.wiscnet.net/</a>
Wyoming	Wyoming Equality Network	State Network	Provides videoconferencing, distance learning, VoIP, and data services to sites throughout the state.	<a href="http://www.k12.wy.us/wenvideo/index.asp">http://www.k12.wy.us/wenvideo/index.asp</a>
Colorado	Rural Technology Enterprise Zone Credit	Tax Policy	Promotes the infrastructure development needed for Internet access.	<a href="http://www.revenue.state.co.us/fyi/html/income36.html">http://www.revenue.state.co.us/fyi/html/income36.html</a>
Idaho	3% Broadband Tax Credit	Tax Policy	Allows businesses a 3% investment tax credit of up to \$750,000 in any one year on Idaho state income tax for qualified broadband equipment and infrastructure used primarily to provide services to public subscribers.	<a href="http://cl.idaho.gov/publications/Financial_Incentives_&amp;_Tax_Credits_Overview.pdf">http://cl.idaho.gov/publications/Financial_Incentives_&amp;_Tax_Credits_Overview.pdf</a>
Illinois	Program to Foster Elimination of the Digital Divide	Tax Policy	Consumers make voluntary tax contributions to a fund that provides grants for broadband infrastructure.	<a href="http://www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo/Bureaus/Technology/Collection+and+Remittance.htm">http://www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo/Bureaus/Technology/Collection+and+Remittance.htm</a>
Mississippi	Mississippi Broadband Technology Development Act	Tax Policy	Provides tax breaks for telecommunications providers deploying broadband technologies in rural areas.	<a href="http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/57/087/index.htm">http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/57/087/index.htm</a>
Montana	Advanced Telecommunications Tax Credit	Tax Policy	Authorizes a 20% tax credit for telecommunications carriers to deploy advanced telecommunications services and fund infrastructure improvements.	<a href="http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/BillHtml/SB0172.htm">http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/BillHtml/SB0172.htm</a>



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Oregon	Broadband Tax Credit	Tax Policy	Allows a tax credit of up to 20% of the cost of deploying advanced telecommunications facilities.	<a href="http://www.leg.state.or.us/01orlaws/sess0900.dir/0957ses.html">http://www.leg.state.or.us/01orlaws/sess0900.dir/0957ses.html</a>
Washington	Sales and Use Tax - Wash. Rev. Code § 82.14.370	Tax Policy	Legislation allows sales and use taxes to be collected by rural counties for the purpose of building and maintaining telecommunications infrastructure.	<a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RWCW/default.aspx?cite=82.14.370">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RWCW/default.aspx?cite=82.14.370</a>
Alabama	Telecommunications and Technology Assistance Program	Telehealth	Provides technical assistance for the implementation of telehealth networks.	<a href="http://216.226.178.189/xtlstvw.aspx?LstID=c704fbdc-5e9a-4f9b-a9ed-ac9c29484b22">http://216.226.178.189/xtlstvw.aspx?LstID=c704fbdc-5e9a-4f9b-a9ed-ac9c29484b22</a>
Alaska	Alaska Telehealth Advisory Council	Telehealth	Provides recommendations and policy guidance to help improve access to health care in underserved Alaskan communities through the expansion and adoption of telehealth initiatives.	<a href="http://www.hss.state.ak.us/commissioner/Healthplanning/telehealth/default.htm">http://www.hss.state.ak.us/commissioner/Healthplanning/telehealth/default.htm</a>
Arizona	Arizona Telemedicine Program	Telehealth	Provides telemedicine services, distance learning, training, and assessment.	<a href="http://www.telemedicine.arizona.edu/ATPHome.htm">http://www.telemedicine.arizona.edu/ATPHome.htm</a>
Arkansas	Center for Distance Health	Telehealth	Provides statewide telehealth services.	<a href="http://www.uams.edu/cdh/overview/default.asp">http://www.uams.edu/cdh/overview/default.asp</a>
California	California Telehealth Network	Telehealth	Allow the University of California and its partners to establish a statewide broadband telehealth network aimed at improving the rural health care infrastructure throughout California.	<a href="http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/16856">http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/16856</a>
California	Proposition 1D	Telehealth	2006 bond measure provides funds for telehealth development at state universities.	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vig_06/general_06/pdf/proposition_1d/entire_prop1d.pdf">http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vig_06/general_06/pdf/proposition_1d/entire_prop1d.pdf</a>
Florida	Center for Telehealth and Healthcare Communications	Telehealth	Supports research, clinical services, and training.	<a href="http://telehealth.php.ufl.edu/">http://telehealth.php.ufl.edu/</a>
Georgia	Center for Telehealth	Telehealth	Supports research, clinical services and training with enhanced access to health care in underserved areas.	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/telehealth/">http://www.mcg.edu/telehealth/</a>
Hawaii	State of Hawaii Telehealth Access Network	Telehealth	Public-private telehealth network to promote provider interconnectivity, provide clinical services, as well as training and information.	<a href="http://www.stan.tipg.net">http://www.stan.tipg.net</a>
Idaho	Telehealth Idaho	Telehealth	Research and service project that seeks to increase access to health care services and to develop a telehealth resource center.	<a href="http://telida.isu.edu/telida/index.php">http://telida.isu.edu/telida/index.php</a>
Illinois	Illinois Rural HealthNet	Telehealth	IRHN is a high-speed network connecting rural Illinois hospitals with larger facilities in Illinois and nationwide.	<a href="http://illinoisruralhealthnet.org/irhn/">http://illinoisruralhealthnet.org/irhn/</a>
Indiana	Indiana Telehealth Advisory Consortium	Telehealth	Collaborates with state and local organizations to pool resources for telehealth and telemedicine applications.	<a href="http://www.indianatac.org/">http://www.indianatac.org/</a>

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Kansas	Kansas University Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth	Telehealth	Connects more than 100 sites in Kansas to its telehealth network to provide clinical consultations and hold educational events for professionals, teachers, students and the public.	<a href="http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine/">http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine/</a>
Kentucky	Kentucky Telehealth Network	Telehealth	State-sponsored network allows specialists and primary-care physicians to examine patients in rural clinics through a state-of-the-art videoconferencing system.	<a href="http://www.kthnschedule.com/">http://www.kthnschedule.com/</a>
Maine	Franklin Community Health Network (FCHN)	Telehealth	Three partner sites will link seven health care facilities in six rural towns.	<a href="http://www.fchn.org/">http://www.fchn.org/</a>
Maine	New England Telehealth Consortium	Telehealth	Consortium linking regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications.	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006">http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006</a>
Minnesota	Minnesota Telehealth Network	Telehealth	MTN is a consortium of Minnesota hospitals implementing telehealth solutions for rural medical facilities in northern Minnesota and eastern North Dakota.	<a href="http://www.mntelehealthnetwork.org/">http://www.mntelehealthnetwork.org/</a>
Mississippi	Mississippi Area Health Education Center	Telehealth	Provides access to continuing education and other distance learning opportunities for health care providers via telehealth technologies.	<a href="http://msahec.umc.edu/Home.htm">http://msahec.umc.edu/Home.htm</a>
Missouri	Missouri Telehealth Network	Telehealth	MTN is a public-private partnership operating a semi-private network to deliver telehealth and general telecommunications services to hospitals, health care centers, and universities throughout the state.	<a href="http://telehealth.muhealth.org/">http://telehealth.muhealth.org/</a>
Montana	Montana Office of Rural Health	Telehealth	October 2006 report recommended continued coordination among the various organizations utilizing telehealth technologies with the ultimate goal of developing and implementing a statewide plan for health IT infrastructure development.	<a href="http://healthinfo.montana.edu/November2006/Oct%202006-Montana%20HIT.pdf">http://healthinfo.montana.edu/November2006/Oct%202006-Montana%20HIT.pdf</a>
Nebraska	Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network	Telehealth	Maintains a video and data network, integrating hospitals, public health departments, public health laboratories, and other organization in the state with the goal of improving rural health care.	<a href="http://www.netelehealth.org/">http://www.netelehealth.org/</a>
Nevada	Nevada Telehealth Network	Telehealth	Connects rural health care practitioners, facilities, and organizations, providing telemedicine, continuing education and other distance learning services.	<a href="http://www.medicine.nevada.edu/CEHSO/telem ed.html">http://www.medicine.nevada.edu/CEHSO/telem ed.html</a>

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New Hampshire	New England Telehealth Consortium	Telehealth	Consortium linking regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications.	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006">http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006</a>
New Mexico	New Mexico Telehealth Consortium	Telehealth	Consortium is tasked with creating a single coordinated statewide telehealth system in New Mexico.	<a href="http://www.health.state.nm.us/telehealth_commission/">http://www.health.state.nm.us/telehealth_commission/</a>
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences	Telehealth	State-led partnership among telecommunications companies, equipment manufacturers, and service providers; offering video, voice, and data services via fiber optic and wireless technologies to public and vocational-technical schools; colleges and universities; public libraries; local, tribal, state and federal governments; court systems; rural health care delivery systems; and programs engaged in research.	<a href="http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/telemedicine/index.cfm">http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/telemedicine/index.cfm</a>
Oregon	Telehealth Alliance of Oregon	Telehealth	Collaborates with state government to develop telehealth solutions.	<a href="http://www.ortehealth.org/index.htm">http://www.ortehealth.org/index.htm</a>
Vermont	New England Telehealth Consortium	Telehealth	Consortium linking regional health care providers with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialists to provide greater efficiency in the sharing of information relevant to health care applications.	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006">http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Portal+News&amp;id=48046&amp;v=Article-2006</a>
Washington	Washington Telehealth Consortium	Telehealth	Consortium of telehealth users and providers focused on designing, funding and implementing a statewide telehealth network that leverages existing telecommunications infrastructure, affordably connects the state's telehealth networks and facilitates access to telehealth services.	<a href="http://cbdd.wsu.edu/projects/futures/telehealth/index.html">http://cbdd.wsu.edu/projects/futures/telehealth/index.html</a>

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