

ARIZONA BROADBAND FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE

2022 Q4 Update

“High-speed Internet is the necessary foundation for taking advantage of technology in the classroom. I support expanding broadband connectivity in every classroom in our state to ensure our students have the tools and skills they need to succeed in school and beyond”.

Arizona Governor Doug Ducey

The Arizona Broadband for Education Initiative is a partnership between the Governor’s Office of Education, the Arizona Department of Education, the Arizona Corporation Commission, and the nonprofit organization EducationSuperHighway. The program’s goal is to ensure that every public K-12 instructional building in the state is connected via high-speed and reliable broadband connections to enable digital learning in the classroom.

One major component of the Initiative includes supporting schools and libraries as they take advantage of the federal Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program. The E-rate program provides discounts of up to 90% of the monthly cost of telecommunications services to keep students and library patrons connected to high-speed broadband. It is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), a non-profit designated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The E-rate Modernization Order, adopted in July 2014, allows states to establish “matching funds” that may contribute up to ten percent in funding to subsidize the cost of Category I “special construction” projects. If a state provides eligible schools and libraries with funding for special construction charges for high-speed broadband that meets the FCC’s long-term connectivity targets, the E-rate Program will increase an applicant’s discount rate for these charges up to an additional ten percent to match the state funding on a one-to-one dollar basis. The combination of E-rate and state match funding can cover up to 100% of an applicant’s out of pocket cost for the infrastructure necessary to supply high speed Internet.

In March 2017, the Arizona Corporation Commission updated the Arizona Universal Service Fund (AUSF) rules to provide \$8M in funding for “Special Construction” projects in Arizona. Used in combination with the E-rate program, this funding will result in approximately \$150M in new construction projects within the state. In April 2017 the Arizona State Legislature approved an additional \$3M for “Special Construction” projects.

Erate Broadband Special Construction “Arizona Broadband for Education Initiative”

Funding Year	Students Served	Projects In Process or Awaiting Approval	Erate Portion	State Portion	School Portion	Total Paid Out	Left to Complete
2017-2018	96652	\$13,606,423.92	\$12,411,066.38	\$1,043,757.54	\$149,800.00	\$1,043,757.54	\$0.00
2018-2019	150,990	\$59,433,788.20	\$53,758,143.73	\$4,612,017.45	\$979,597.31	\$4,612,017.45	\$0.00
2019-2020	42226	\$48,495,431.01	\$46,305,149.04	\$2,187,501.87	\$2,780.10	\$364,323.00	\$1,823,178.87
2020-2021	19232	\$7,439,882.98	\$7,005,750.01	\$409,439.47	\$21,600.00	\$341,009.73	\$68,429.74
2021-2022	60371	\$21,242,743.70	\$19,825,580.51	\$1,365,694.19	\$51,467.00	\$741,118.54	\$624,575.65
2022-2023	9848	\$6,263,134.03	\$5,726,658.90	\$592,963.20	\$0.00	\$180,000.00	\$412,963.20
2023-2024	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$180,000.00	\$0.00
ADE				\$837,765.09			
Program	379319	\$156,481,403.84	\$145,032,348.57	\$11,049,138.81	\$1,205,244.41	\$7,462,226.26	\$2,929,147.46

Funding Year	Applicant Name	Discount Percentage	Student Count	Total Filed	Erate Portion	State Portion	School Portion	Status
2017	Agua Fria UHSD	60%	7649	\$749,000.00	\$524,300.00	\$74,900.00	\$149,800.00	Complete
2017	Apache County Consortium	85%	4062	\$8,379,313.67	\$7,750,865.14	\$628,448.53	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Arizona Call A Teen Center	90%	261	\$61,917.00	\$58,821.15	\$3,095.85	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Bicentennial Un H S Dist 76 (Salome High)	90%	113	\$25,303.25	\$24,038.09	\$1,265.16	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Combs Unified School District 44	80%	4634	\$360,000.00	\$324,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Payson Unif School Dist 10	80%	2843	\$159,000.00	\$143,100.00	\$15,900.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Santa Cruz Valley HS #35	90%	395	\$874,320.00	\$830,604.00	\$43,716.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Somerton School District	90%	2973	\$236,000.00	\$224,200.00	\$11,800.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Stanfield School District 24	90%	529	\$950,000.00	\$902,500.00	\$47,500.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Tombstone USD	90%	970	\$500.00	\$475.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Vail School District	60%	12752	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	Complete
2017	Yavapai County Education Technology Consortium	80%	26000	\$1,808,320.00	\$1,627,488.00	\$180,832.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Antelope Union High School	90%	230	\$471,778.85	\$448,189.91	\$23,588.94	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Apache County Consortium	85%	0	\$1,391,054.00	\$1,286,724.95	\$104,329.05	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Cedar Hills - Hackberry	90%	123	\$160,000.00	\$152,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Cochise Elementary School District	80%	87	\$153,300.00	\$138,000.00	\$15,300.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Cottonwood - Oak Creek	80%	2079	\$240,559.81	\$216,503.82	\$24,055.99	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Cupertino PLA	90%	5	\$13,317.59	\$12,651.71	\$665.88	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Discovery Plus Academy	80%	119	\$14,518.29	\$11,614.63	\$1,451.83	\$1,451.83	Complete
2018	Ganado Unified District 20	90%	1513	\$472,042.64	\$448,440.51	\$23,602.13	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Globe USD	80%	1668	\$585,716.00	\$527,144.40	\$58,571.60	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Grand Canyon USD	80%	283	\$5,660,200.37	\$5,094,180.34	\$566,020.03	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Holbrook USD	90%	2066	\$82,432.53	\$78,310.90	\$4,121.63	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Lake Havasu USD	80%	5508	\$842,004.00	\$757,803.60	\$84,200.40	\$0.00	Complete
2018	LaPaz County	90%	0	\$3,974,976.00	\$3,776,227.20	\$198,748.80	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Laveen ESD	90%	6831	\$900,000.00	\$855,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Littleton School District	90%	387	\$629,000.00	\$597,550.00	\$31,450.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Maricopa Unified	80%	6636	\$1,850,000.00	\$1,665,000.00	\$185,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Mohawk Valley Elementary	90%	1141	\$365,771.56	\$347,482.98	\$18,288.58	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Nogales USD	90%	8500	\$947,000.00	\$899,650.00	\$47,350.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Pinal County Consortium	85%	0	\$33,779,395.00	\$31,245,940.37	\$2,533,454.63	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Pinal County Schools	80%	0	\$75,012.00	\$67,510.80	\$7,501.20	\$0.00	Complete

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2018	PPEP, Inc	90%	800	\$7,500.00	\$7,125.00	\$375.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Prescott USD	60%	4003	\$101,180.10	\$69,282.06	\$10,118.01	\$21,780.03	Complete
2018	Saddle Mountain School District	80%	1764	\$1,149,000.00	\$1,034,100.00	\$114,900.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Show Low School District	80%	2324	\$199,548.40	\$179,593.56	\$19,954.84	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Snowflake School District	70%	2542	\$217,800.00	\$174,240.00	\$21,780.00	\$21,780.00	Complete
2018	Tombstone Library	80%	0	\$25,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Tombstone USD	80%	742	\$4,000.00	\$3,600.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	Complete
2018	Vail District	60%	12860	\$4,545,792.00	\$3,182,054.40	\$454,579.20	\$909,158.40	Complete
2018	Yavapai ASD #99	80%		\$30,828.34	\$27,741.50	\$3,082.84	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Desert Star Academy	90%	500	\$28,447.00	\$27,024.65	\$1,422.35	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Gila County Consortium	83%	6800	\$19,490,128.46	\$17,541,115.61	\$1,949,012.85	\$0.00	Funded – In process
2019	Heber-Overgaard USD 6	80%	520	\$1,000,342.46	\$900,308.20	\$100,034.26	\$0.00	Complete
2019	JO Combs	70%		\$27,801.00	\$22,240.80	\$2,780.10	\$2,780.10	Complete
2019	Little Singer School	90%	150	\$777,660.01	\$738,777.01	\$38,883.00	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Navajo County Consortium	80%	0	\$537,405.00	\$537,405.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Orme School	80%	140	\$727,448.11	\$654,703.30	\$72,744.81	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Shonto Prep	90%		\$71,438.62	\$67,866.69	\$3,571.93	\$0.00	Complete
2019	Yucca School	90%	50	\$351,049.00	\$333,496.55	\$17,552.45	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Buckeye Elementary	80%	5614	\$360,000.00	\$324,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Douglas Unified School District	90%	4225	\$266,500.00	\$253,175.00	\$13,325.00	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Gila Bend USD	90%	478	\$8,543.50	\$8,116.33	\$427.18	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Hunters Point	90%	145	\$10,703.89	\$10,168.70	\$535.19	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Liberty School District	70%	3899	\$216,000.00	\$172,800.00	\$21,600.00	\$21,600.00	Complete
2020	Navajo Nation	90%	0	\$4,788,550.59	\$4,549,123.06	\$239,427.53	\$0.00	In process
2020	Paloma Elementary	90%	123	\$1,651,035.00	\$1,568,483.25	\$82,551.75	\$0.00	Complete
2020	Saddle Mountain School District	80%	2179	\$160,000.00	\$128,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Beaver Creek	80%	275	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,350,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Buckeye ESD	80%	5455	\$125,860.00	\$113,274.00	\$12,586.00	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Liberty School District	70%	4531	\$38,045.00	\$30,434.00	\$3,804.50	\$3,804.50	Complete
2021	Lukachukai Community School	90%	354	\$29,652.00	\$28,169.40	\$1,482.60	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2021	Maricopa Unified	80%	7992	\$203,499.00	\$183,149.10	\$20,349.90	\$0.00	Awaiting funding approval
2021	Navajo Nation (5 sites)	90%	0	\$861,116.16	\$818,060.35	\$43,055.81	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2021	Navajo Nation (9 sites)	90%	0	\$11,348,412.14	\$10,780,991.53	\$567,420.61	\$0.00	Funded – In process
2021	Patagonia School District	90%	160	\$720,050.00	\$684,047.50	\$36,002.50	\$0.00	Complete

2021	Pinon Community School	90%	42	\$61,374.00	\$58,305.30	\$3,068.70	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2021	Sentinel School District	90%	42	\$155,250.00	\$147,487.50	\$7,762.50	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Snowflake USD	70%	0	\$116,600.00	\$93,280.00	\$11,660.00	\$11,660.00	Funded – In process
2021	Somerton District	90%	0	\$468,279.67	\$444,865.69	\$23,413.98	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Sonoita / Elgin	60%	122	\$782,015.00	\$547,373.20	\$156,403.00	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Theodore Roosevelt School	90%	140	\$3,091,499.60	\$2,936,924.62	\$154,574.98	\$0.00	Funded – In process
2021	Yuma ESD	80%	9012	\$27,524.13	\$24,771.72	\$2,752.41	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Yuma UHSD - San Luis	80%	11348	\$1,188,567.00	\$1,069,710.30	\$118,856.70	\$0.00	Complete
2021	Yuma UHSD - Somerton	80%	0	\$525,000.00	\$472,500.00	\$52,500.00	\$0.00	Complete
2022	Florence Unified	80%	9493	\$944,650.00	\$850,185.00	\$94,465.00	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2022	Littleton ESD	84%	6321	\$249,642.00	\$237,159.90	\$12,482.10	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2022	Murphy ESD	90%	1400	\$625,227.00	\$593,966.00	\$31,261.00	\$0.00	Funded - Legal review
2022	Pinal County Consortium	90%	355	\$4,402,157.00	\$4,005,962.87	\$396,194.13	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2022	Santa Cruz HS #35	90%	3441	\$1,080,000.00	\$1,026,000.00	\$54,000.00	\$0.00	Funded - In process
2022	Solomon District	80%	200	\$16,000.00	\$14,400.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	Complete
2022	Safford USD	80%	2940	\$8,880.74	\$7,992.67	\$888.07	\$0.00	On hold

Currently, 96 of 208 districts meet the suggested bandwidth goal of 1.5M per student. Overall, 144 of 208 (70%) of our districts have access to unlimited bandwidth but choose not to subscribe. I have not been tracking numbers for Charter schools and libraries since many of them use DSL services instead of dedicated fiber.

County wide networks have been the most successful in reducing costs and providing the best services.

- Pinal County Schools and Libraries now pay less than \$2 per meg for bandwidth. The network is expertly managed by the Associate Superintendent of Technology, Peter Lin.
- Gila County has been under construction for 3 years with a forecasted completion date of April 2023. Upon completion, every school and library in Gila County will have access to scalable bandwidth.

COST PER MEG

The Arizona Broadband for Education Initiative has been a key factor in bringing the cost of bandwidth down across the state. Funding new broadband builds brings low cost high performing services to our most rural areas. In 2016, before we started the broadband projects, \$10 per meg was considered a good price. Today, we expect less than \$5 per meg (Prices include Access and transport).

2016 Cost per Meg (First 50 Districts)		2022 Cost Per Meg (First 50 Districts)	
District Name	Cost Per Meg	District name	Cost per Mbps
KIRKLAND ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$510.00	Whiteriver Unified School District 20	\$57.83
WIDE RUINS COMMUNITY SCHOOL	\$350.00	Double Adobe School	\$30.00
SUPERIOR UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$339.70	Valentine Elementary District	\$30.00
MAINE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$206.67	Sacaton School District 18	\$29.31
SECOND MESA DAY SCHOOL	\$169.00	Baboquivari Unified School District 40	\$29.13
CONCHO ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$166.67	Kayenta Unified School District 27	\$24.50
MANY FARMS COMMUNITY SCHOOL	\$152.26	Pinon Unified School District 4	\$21.75
CEDAR UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$147.55	Owens Elementary School District 6	\$17.00
AGUILA ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$142.66	Grand Canyon Unified School District	\$15.09
TONTO BASIN ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$137.50	Canon Elem School District 50	\$14.93
HOPI JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL	\$134.44	Cedar Unified School District 25	\$12.75
MCNARY ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$133.55	Peach Springs Unified District	\$12.50
MOENCOPI DAY SCHOOL	\$132.32	Window Rock Unified School District 8	\$12.50
BOUSE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$124.76	Blue Elementary District	\$11.40
ROUND VALLEY UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$124.55	Alpine School District 7	\$10.40
WHITERIVER UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$118.71	San Fernando Elementary District	\$10.10
HAYDEN-WINKELMAN UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$116.67	Antelope Union High School	\$10.00
VERNON ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$115.97	Sanders Unified School District 18	\$9.71
ALPINE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$111.20	Fort Thomas Unified School District 7	\$9.42
CANON ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$105.11	Bicentennial Un H S District 76	\$9.00
BLUE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$102.60	Mohawk Valley School District 17	\$9.00
BLACKWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOL	\$101.84	Red Mesa Unified School District 27	\$8.25
PAINTED DESERT DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS INC.	\$99.00	Kirkland Elem School District 23	\$7.60

RED MESA UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$97.27	San Carlos Unified School District 20	\$7.36
LITTLE SINGER COMMUNITY SCHOOL	\$97.02	Colorado City Unified School District 14	\$7.30
PINON UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$92.23	Fredonia-Moccasin School District 6	\$7.30
RAY UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$90.03	Topock Elementary School District 12	\$6.80
KAYENTA UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$89.00	Tuba City Unified School District 15	\$6.62
EDGE SCHOOL INC. THE	\$88.93	Naco School District 23	\$6.00
QUARTZSITE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$85.05	Ganado Unified District 20	\$5.81
BICENTENNIAL UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$85.00	Concho Elementary School District 6	\$5.70
LEUPP SCHOOL INC	\$80.00	Madison School District # 38	\$5.63
WINDOW ROCK UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$75.00	Arlington School District 47	\$5.41
STEPPING STONES ACADEMY	\$74.76	Bouse Elem School District 26	\$5.25
LIBERTY TRADITIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL	\$74.15	Bonita Elementary School	\$4.75
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$74.15	Aguila Elem School District 63	\$4.74
DILCON COMMUNITY SCHOOL	\$71.25	Morristown Elementary School District No. 75	\$4.54
PAGE UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$68.10	Wilcox Unified School District	\$3.72
SANDERS UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$64.59	Ajo Unified School District 15	\$3.50
HIGHLAND FREE SCHOOL	\$63.40	Skull Valley School District 15	\$3.33
PEACH SPRINGS UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$62.90	Wenden Elementary District	\$3.25
TUBA CITY UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$60.00	Duncan Unified School District 2	\$3.10
TOMBSTONE UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$53.96	Williams Unified School District 2	\$3.10
SACATON ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$53.62	Seligman Unified School District 40	\$3.07
TOPOCK ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$50.93	Mcrary School District 23	\$3.06
YOUNG SCHOLARS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL CORP.	\$50.00	Vernon Elementary District	\$3.06
STANFIELD ELEMENTARY DISTRICT	\$49.75	Chinle Unified School District 24	\$2.92
HEBER-OVERGAARD UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$49.69	Bagdad Unified School District 20	\$2.86
HOLBROOK UNIFIED DISTRICT	\$48.57	Ash Fork Unified School District 31	\$2.86

With \$3M from the Governor's office and \$8M from the Arizona Corporation Commission (AUSF Fund) this program has been hugely successful and is a proven model for other states in providing high speed internet access to schools in rural areas.

Made possible by;

Funding for this initiative:

- Governor's Office – Doug Ducey
- Arizona Corporation Commission

Fully Supported by:

- Arizona Department of Administration - Director Andy Tobin
- Arizona Corporation Commission - Commissioner Lea Marquez Peterson
- Arizona State School Superintendent – Kathy Hoffman
- Education SuperHighway
- Apache County School Superintendent – Joy Whiting
- Yavapai County School Superintendent – Tim Carter
- Cochise County School Superintendent – Jacqui Clay
- Gila County School Superintendent – Roy Sandoval
- Navajo County School Superintendent – Jalyn Gerlich
- La Paz County School Superintendent – Dru Wagoner
- Coconino County School Superintendent – Cheryl Mango-Paget
- Santa Cruz County School Superintendent – Alfredo Velasquez
- Yuma County School Superintendent – Tom Tyree
- Mohave County School Superintendent – Mike File

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