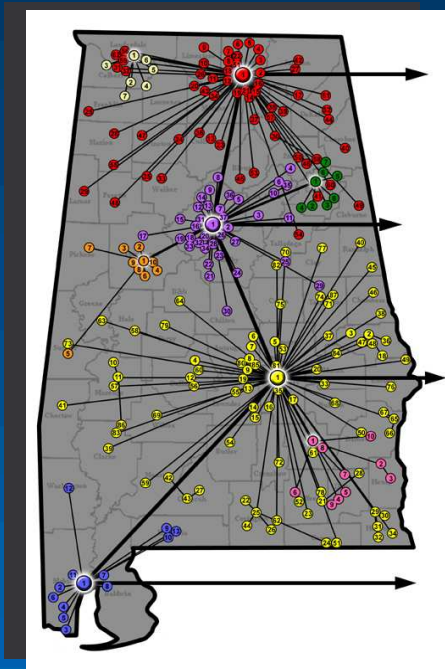




Alabama Supercomputer Center Alabama Research and Education Network

E-rate and the AREN Consortium



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E-rate and the AREN Consortium

- Overview of Consortium
- AREN Consortium Internet Access Services
- E-rate Time Line
- Documentation & SLD Forms Required for AREN Consortium Application



Overview of AREN Consortium

- Formed for First E-rate Funding Year (23 Members)
 - Application for Internet Access services has been filed and funded each E-rate Year (YR 7 still in review)
 - E-rate Team attends annual training by SLD
 - Most recent Training Session
 - September 27-28, 2004 Arlington, VA
 - Assists schools and libraries in application process
 - Assists in training for applicants
- Expanded in 2000-2001 and offered to all K-12 systems at no direct cost to school systems in cooperation with SDE and Governor's Office
- Any newly formed system may join consortium and receive End to End Internet Access services at no direct cost to school system
 - Contact Kim Carroll, kcarroll@asc.edu



AREN Consortium Internet Access Services

■ **Internet Access Services Available**

- Priority 1 End to End Internet Access services to all state K-12 school systems at no direct cost to systems
 - Includes, Minimum 1.5 Mbps Internet Access, leased on premise equipment needed for Internet Access (router, TSUs or media converters), 24X7 Basic maintenance and technical support, basic training on leased equipment
- Internet access to numerous public libraries
- WAN Internet Access services
- Network & technical expertise support
- Basic Maintenance
- Provides a 24x7 help desk service
- Network consulting including network analysis, network design, and network security (Not E-rate Eligible)
- E-mail/Web servers and services
- Web hosting services
- Firewall Services
- SPAM & VIRUS E-mail Protection Services (Not E-rate Eligible)
- Provides CIPA compliant content filtering services through a state license at no direct cost to schools or libraries that are members of the consortium (Not E-rate Eligible)
- Provides E-Rate guidelines and application support to K-12 school systems and libraries



E-rate Time Line

- **Typical Funding Cycle**
 - **July 1, 200X-June 30, 200X**
 - **July-Dec/Jan**
 - Technology Plans written to back up Form 470 requests
 - Form 470 -advertising for services to be bid posted
 - Bids received And contract signed after 28 days
 - New rule for YR8 RFP must be available for 28 days
 - Contract must be signed by both parties
 - **Nov-Jan/Feb**
 - Consortium LOAs must be in hand prior to filing Form 471
 - Application Form 471 filed for services based on signed contract before closing date of application window
 - Form 471 Certifications made prior to closing of window
 - Item 21 Attachments sent to SLD
 - **Feb-???**
 - Application is reviewed, inquiries made by PIA and funding awarded or denied
 - **July-**
 - Funding year begins and new funding cycle begins for following year
 - File SLD Forms 473, 486 and 479 or 500 if requirements have changed
 - Discounted billing or file BEAR (Form 472 or Form 474)



E-rate Time Line (cont)

- **Current E-rate Year 7**
 - **July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005**
 - **Majority Funding still on hold**

- **E-rate Year 8 - Application Window Scheduled to Open in November**
 - **Eligible Services List still not approved as of 10/4/2004**
 - **FCC Rules established a 60 day window for eligible services list to be posted prior to application window opening**
 - **expected to be waived**
 - **Funding will cover July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006**



Documentation & SLD Forms Required for AREN Consortium Application

- Letter of Agency (LOA)
- Copy of School Technology Plan & Approval Letter
- Free & Reduced Lunch Verifications on School Letterhead
- Non Instructional Facility Verifications on School Letterhead
- SLD Form 479
 - CIPA Certifications



Documentation & SLD Forms Required for AREN Consortium Application (cont)

- **FCC RN**
 - **New Requirement**
 - **Must Have by Nov 1, 2004**
 - **File on Line**
- **Budget Amounts for Resources to Support Funding Request**
 - **Consortium Lead must include \$\$ each member plans to spend for**
 - **Professional Development**
 - **Computers**
 - **Internal Connections**
 - **Item 25 Certifications-Item 25 Select Review items**
- **Documentation Required to be Kept for 5 Years**



Questions & Answers