



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

**Rhode Island Telecommunications Educational Access
Fund
Bandwidth Upgrade Form**

Must be returned by: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 for Funding Year 2015/16

School/District/Library Name

Address City State Zip Code

Your Name Title

Phone Number Ext. Cell Phone Number

Email Address

Increasing your line capacity is entirely optional and should be done at the discretion of the school/library's network administrator.

I do NOT wish to increase my line capacity at this time.

I DO wish to increase my line capacity at this time **and** have attached a spreadsheet with justification for the request.

There are many factors that influence a decision to increase LINE CAPACITY. The underlying lines that serve your school, district or library are part of the state's K12 network. They may or may not be the same size as the INTERNET ACCESS you purchase. Please contact RIDE if you need help to distinguish between your LINE CAPACITY and INTERNET ACCESS.

Reflecting on the goals outlined in the school/district/library's Technology Plan, will help in determining how much bandwidth (line capacity) will be required to provide your school/district/library with adequate functionality. Consult with RIDE if you are not sure as the appropriate amount of bandwidth needed. They can help you check on the capacity of the underlying telecommunications lines that you have been awarded by the RITEAF program.

Keep in mind that with an increase in the amount of Internet connected devices, there must be an equal increase in bandwidth to maintain a specific level of performance. Also consider that increased bandwidth leads to increased cost; your maximum bandwidth should be limited to what the technology plan suggests is necessary to effectively function. This enables all schools to receive their fair share of the RITEAF budget.

If demand outweighs funding, RIDE will ensure that a minimum amount of bandwidth will be allocated to all schools based upon their needs according to their respective technology plans.

If RIDE believes that a school, district, or library will not be able to demonstrate the existence of a Technology Plan for the upcoming program year that meets the guidelines provided by the USDOE or SLD, RIDE will refuse to list such school, district or library in its E-Rate applications, and deny free line services to such school, district or library.

It is possible to opt out of the E-Rate program, however by doing so a school forfeits all of its technology subsidies from the State of Rhode Island's RITEAF program. RIDE is obligated by law to match RITEAF funds with E-Rate funds.

If you decide to request an increase in line capacity...

Attach a spreadsheet listing all school(s) or libraries, their current individual bandwidths and the desired upgrades. Please be sure to include ALL schools and administrative locations where you desire service. Highlight the locations with requested increases. **Also include detailed justification** for the increase request. All locations must be eligible and in the SLD database of schools and libraries. Check to verify their eligibility on the SLD web site or call the SLD help desk.

Telephone (401)222-4600 Fax (401)222-6178 TTY (800)745-5555 Voice (800)745-6575 Website: www.ride.ri.gov

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