UEN Funding Request for FY2015

Ongoing

Priority 1: Elementary Connectivity and Growth

$600,000 ongoing

With legislative support, UEN has completed two of three phases to equalize connectivity charges for Utah elementary schools. To complete the final phase of a multi-year strategy, UEN requests an additional $450,000 in ongoing funding.

Growth has a major impact on Utah's education network. As student enrollments increase and new schools open, it is essential that UEN provide additional internet connectivity and instructional applications to meet those needs. Enrollment growth, increased demand for connectivity with the number of devices in use, and increased software licensure costs based on student enrollment, all contribute to the need to find an ongoing solution to meet the demands of growth. UEN requests $150,000 in ongoing funding for this system-wide growth.

Priority 2: Security and Retention

$500,000 ongoing

Security of the state's education network is an ongoing concern. UEN continues to see a rise in security issues and incidents. The frequency and sophistication of these attacks continues at a pace that is outgrowing our ability to manage with current resources.

UEN has the responsibility of protecting assets while also providing security tools and assistance for Utah's education institutions. In order to maintain high levels of security and security assistance for institutions and districts, UEN seeks an additional $500,000 in ongoing funds to retain critical staff and strengthen security operations.

One-time

Priority 1: Capital Equipment Replacement

$8.5 million one-time

UEN manages over $22 million in equipment, with over $14.2 million identified as most critical for our state's educational technology infrastructure. Much of this equipment is over ten years old, making it incompatible with current systems, prone to failure, and obsolete. One-time funding of $8.5 million will address the highest priority, mission critical items on this list. With this funding UEN would proactively replace outdated equipment before it fails, reducing disruptive Network downtime and costly emergency repairs. It will also enable UEN to upgrade to newer, more efficient protocols that cannot be run on older platforms.

Summary of UEN FY2015 Funding Request	
ONGOING	
1. Elementary Connectivity and Growth	$600,000
2. Security and Retention	$500,000
ONE-TIME	
1. Capital Equipment Replacement	$8,500,000
Total Request	**$9.6 million**

Leaders speak out on how UEN serves education

Technology infrastructure is critical to the success of higher education. UEN plays an important role supporting the network infrastructure of the state's colleges and universities. Institutions within the Utah System of Higher Education are large enterprises serving over 170,000 students a year.
The quality of those institutions depends on a solid physical and technological infrastructure–not just in instruction, but also research, campus life, public safety and administration. The Utah System of Higher Education values its partnership with UEN in providing this critical support.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

The Utah Education Network (UEN) is a longstanding and essential partner to the Utah State Library (USL) and to public libraries all across Utah. Their services ensure that USL can fulfill its mission to improve the quality of public libraries, especially smaller ones, across the state. This partnership has been a crucial catalyst for three major initiatives benefiting Utah's public libraries: first, Pioneer, Utah's Online Library with in-depth educational resources; second, broadband internet for most of Utah's public libraries; and third, E-Rate assistance that provides broadband access to libraries at substantial savings.

Donna Jones Morris
State Librarian
Director, Utah State Library Division/Department of Heritage and Arts

UEN is essential to the Utah College of Applied Technology in its mission to meet the needs of Utah's employers for technically skilled workers by providing market-driven technical education to both secondary and adult students. UEN provides the technological backbone to our campuses and provides means whereby colleagues can meet over interactive video conferencing cutting down on expensive travel. Campuses also use UEN provided technology to deliver distance education to provide opportunities to students not located near campuses.
UEN is great to offer support to our administration and campuses. UEN technical support staff are always courteous and professional. They respond quickly to resolve issues, move equipment or to help with logistics.

Robert O. Brems
President, Utah College of Applied Technology

UEN infrastructure makes it possible for us to engage in 21st century learning, including use of the internet, using electronic resources, receiving digital broadcasts and distant learning. Without the infrastructure the "information Highway" would be significantly more expensive and inaccessible to our students.

Martell Menlove
Superintendent, Utah State Office of Education