

UEN Funding Request for FY2016



UEN FY2016 Total Funding Request		
1	Sustainability – Ongoing	\$4.5 Million
2	Equipment – One-time	\$6.2 Million

UEN requests funding for Sustainability and Equipment. The demand and cost of UEN services continue to outpace available funds. UEN seeks a \$4.5 million increase in ongoing funding to address this shortfall. UEN also seeks a one-time appropriation of \$6.2 million to help upgrade or replace aging equipment with newer technology. Both of these requests help address vulnerability in Utah’s infrastructure for educational technology.

Priority 1: Sustainability = \$4.5 Million ongoing

State Funding for State Resources

While our circuit costs have almost doubled over the past eight years, our annual ongoing legislative appropriation has declined. We have been able to fill a portion of the shortfall by finding additional revenue from grants and E-Rate. We have also postponed essential equipment purchases. We request \$4.5 million in ongoing funding to support the ongoing operations and services of UEN.

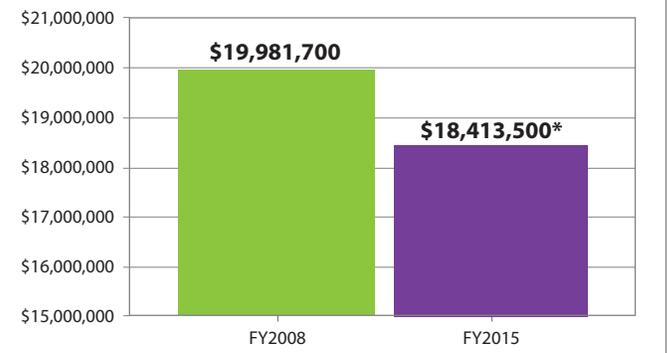
Increased Operational Demand

Utah has more schools, students, devices and apps on the network than ever before, and demand continues to outpace our current infrastructure.

$$\text{schools} + \text{students} + \text{devices} + (\text{students} \times \text{apps}) = \text{demand}$$

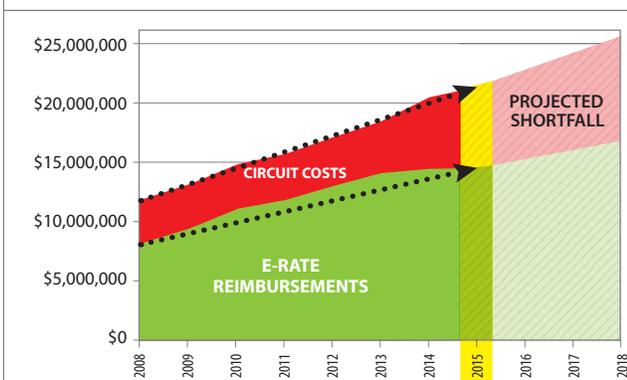
UEN is scheduled to connect an additional 35 K-12 schools in FY2016 to accommodate the growth of the student population. As enrollments increase, so do the costs of licensed applications which are priced on a per student basis.

UEN Ongoing State Appropriations



*Does not include \$345,000 for the Utah Data Alliance.

Comparison of E-Rate Funding to Circuit Expenses



	FY 2008	FY 2015	NET INCREASE
Circuit Costs	\$11,861,321	\$ 21,000,000	\$ 9,138,679
Less E-Rate Reimbursements	(8,000,359)	(14,300,000)	(6,299,641)
= Funding Shortfall	\$ 3,860,962	\$ 6,700,000	\$ 2,839,038

We filled a portion of the shortfall with grants (both ongoing and one-time) and by deferring capital equipment purchases, but **this model is not sustainable**. UEN needs ongoing state funding for the ongoing operations of the Network.

Existing schools are also using more bandwidth as students and educators rely on more devices running more applications. Thus far 52 existing schools need additional bandwidth, and two school districts require increased backbone capacity to meet demand.

Last Phase of Elementary Circuit Connectivity

The Utah Legislature increased funding for elementary school circuit connectivity for the past three years. UEN now funds five-sixths of all elementary circuit costs. This will complete the final phase of elementary connectivity at 100% of all elementary circuit costs.

Network Security

Like other large networks in Utah and throughout the world, UEN must be highly secure. Nearly eight percent of our backbone traffic can be attributed to malicious attacks sourced from and targeted at UEN and its connected customers. UEN continuously responds (24 x 7 x 365) to mitigate those attacks and does it with two FTEs. This ongoing funding is needed for two additional FTEs and security monitoring tools.

Priority 2: Equipment = \$6.2 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 more than ten years old, making it incompatible with current systems, prone to failure and obsolete. One-time funding of \$6.2 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.

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.

Robert O. Brems
President, Utah College of Applied Technology

Modern skyscrapers were made possible because of structural advances in the bundled tube design. Bundled tubes allow hundred-story buildings not only to withstand the stress and strain of their height and weight, but to be built in creative ways to meet the needs of building occupants. UEN supplies the digital version of bundled tube design to 21st century learning in Utah. UEN's statewide digital backbone gives public schools, libraries, and higher education institutions the strength to carry out cutting-edge learning over the vast expanse of Utah and the flexibility to deliver it in ways that best suit the needs of individual teachers and students.

Brad C. Smith
State Superintendent of Public Instruction