

# 2023 North Carolina E-Rate & Technology Survey

This data is being collected by DPI and Friday Institute to better inform the State Board of Education and prepare for the 2023 E-Rate procurement.

This data will be used to determine what portion of the non-discounted Category Two expenses will be covered by DPI School Connectivity Initiative funds. If the aggregate request is less than the total funds available, then DPI will be able to cover all of the non-discounted portion (up to the FCC \$167/per student budget) for requests made against the contracts established by DPI under Form 470 number 200000716.

Districts and charter schools not seeking Category Two funds this year should also complete the survey as it will help us predict the demand for state funds and also provide feedback on a number of other topics to help improve the program in the coming years. Each district or charter school seeking state funds for Category Two must complete this form by **January 17, 2023**.

**Please complete the form once per PSU only.** If you need to make corrections or adjustments contact [rlzeisz@ncsu.edu](mailto:rlzeisz@ncsu.edu) for help.

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\* Required

1. District Name or Charter School Name \*

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2. PSU Identifier (3-Digit DPI Identifier) \*

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3. Your e-mail address \*

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***WAN and Cloud***

4. If any of your schools have **less than 1 Gbps** WAN service, please list them here. If possible include the building BEN and circuit speed.

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5. If you administratively manage cloud-hosted services such as Amazon AWS, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud (GCP), or Rackspace, please list the fully-qualified domain name of the server or IP address and/or subnet. Please describe what services are provided by these servers.

Do **not** include cloud-hosted services you use, but do not have administrative control of the server (for example PowerSchool, Gmail and Canvas). Only include servers/subnets which you have moved off of MCNC's network into a cloud-hosting data center. We are collecting this data to determine the proliferation of off-site (non-MCNC based) services and the need for increased cybersecurity and data privacy funding for off-campus servers.

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6. If you run BGP and announce a Autonomous System Number (ASN) other than MCNC's, please provide the number here:

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***Category Two Project Questions***

7. Approximate number of schools in which you expect to utilize Category Two E-Rate \* in 2023:

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8. Estimated **total cost** of Category Two products and services for the 2023 E-Rate cycle: \*

Dollar amount, no punctuation or delimiters, total cost

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9. How confident are you in this cost estimate? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- +/- 1% (Very confident)
- +/- 10% (Still determining exact needs)
- +/- 25%
- Not sure at all, too many variables to predict at this time.

10. Are you planning to use the DPI Form 470 and DPI contracts in the 2023 E-Rate cycle? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- Not filing for Category Two at all in 2023
- No, but we will file for Category Two in 2023 using a different Form 470

11. What types of products or services do you plan to buy in the 2023 E-Rate cycle?

*Check all that apply.*

- 802.11ax (WiFi 6E, with 6GHz band) Wireless Access Points
- 802.11ax (WiFi 6, without 6GHz band) Wireless Access Points
- 802.11ac (WiFi 5) Wireless Access Points
- Cloud-Based Wireless Controller Licenses
- On-premises Wireless Controller
- Ethernet Switches
- Firewall
- Cable / Cable Installation
- UPS / Power
- Managed Service for Network Operations
- Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. What is your preferred Firewall solution: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- MCNC managed firewall service (Palo Alto Networks)
- NC DIT managed firewall service (Cisco)
- Check Point
- Fortinet
- Cisco (excluding Meraki)
- Meraki
- Palo Alto Networks
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. How many school buildings in your PSU are in need of more than \$10,000 of new cabling to ensure sufficient connections to Wi-Fi access points?

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Do you have a location outside of a school where students cannot be counted as "full time" for the purposes of Category Two budgets? If so, please describe here.

A number of PSUs have centers or academies that do not have full-time students. This information will be used to understand potentially underfunded locations with regard to Category Two funding in the future.

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**Cybersecurity**

These questions will help DPI and the Friday Institute better inform the State Board of Education and the FCC on topics related to cybersecurity, and to clearly articulate the need for more focus on cybersecurity funding.

15. Which of the following products and services, if any, would you like to have a statewide convenience contract from which to select vetted and compliant products?

*Check all that apply.*

- Advanced E-mail security
- Offsite, immutable backup for servers
- Offsite, immutable backup for employee desktops
- Security cameras, environmental sensors and physical access control systems
- PSU security assessment and pen testing
- Cyber insurance
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Which of the following cybersecurity services, provided free of charge (DPI-funded) to PSUs, would you be interested in learning more about?

A DPI or Friday Institute staff member will contact you. Your information will not be shared with vendors.

*Check all that apply.*

- Managed Endpoint Protection (CrowdStrike)
- Network Asset Discovery (runZero, formerly Rumble.run)
- Cybersecurity Training (KnowBe4)
- Managed Firewall
- External IP Asset Vulnerability Scanning
- Wi-Fi Performance Testing for Teachers and Staff
- CIPA-compliant Content Filtering
- Network and Security Consulting Services

17. Which products and services, if any, do you think the FCC should make eligible for Category Two, even if the 5-year E-rate budget is not increased?

*Check all that apply.*

- Advanced firewall, including deep packet inspection, VPN and application-aware firewalls
- Web Application Firewalls
- Endpoint protection for servers
- Endpoint protection for staff
- Endpoint protection for students
- CIPA-compliant content filtering
- Wi-Fi and Ethernet networking in Non-Instructional Facilities (NIFs)
- Voice Over IP Gateways and/or cloud-hosted VOIP
- Voice Over IP Phones
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Final  
Thoughts***

Thank you for taking time to provide this data so we can continue to plan for digital teaching and learning in North Carolina. In the last seven years, over a quarter billion dollars of Category Two expenditures have been processed through the DPI Wi-Fi expansion program. Your feedback will help us ensure this valuable program remains funded by the State.

18. How helpful has the DPI School Connectivity E-Rate support team been in ensuring your PSU obtains the maximum benefit from E-Rate and the School Connectivity Initiative?

*Mark only one oval.*

Not helpful

1

2

3

4

5

Extremely helpful

19. Please feel free to write any other comments here:

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