

## State Laws Restricting Public Broadband Networks

**CLAIM:** Twenty states have laws similar to Act 1050.

**FACT:** Twenty states have laws restricting whether or how **counties, cities** and **other subdivisions of government** offer broadband services but only one makes it unlawful for K-12 students to connect to an existing State research and education network.

State	Restrictions on municipal broadband?	Does the state have an R & E network?	Municipal law restricts K-12 access to R&E?
1. Alabama	•	•	
2. Arkansas	•	•	•
3. California	•	•	
4. Colorado	•	•	
5. Florida	•	•	
6. Louisiana	•	•	
7. Michigan	•	•	
8. Minnesota	•	•	
9. Missouri	•	•	
10. Nebraska	•	•	
11. Nevada	•	•	
12. North Carolina	•	•	
13. Pennsylvania	•	•	
14. South Carolina	•	•	
15. Tennessee	•	<i>No network exists</i>	
16. Texas	•	•	
17. Utah	•	•	
18. Virginia	•	•	
19. Washington	•	•	
20. Wisconsin	•	•	

There are three states that make K-12 schools ineligible to connect to a public research and education optical network but Arkansas is the only state that restricted access to a pre-existing research and education optical network resource built primarily with federal dollars.

## Active State R&E Networks and Community Anchor Institutions Currently Served

**CLAIM:** Other State/public research and education networks that connect to Internet2 prohibit K-12 access.

**FACT:** Of the 42 state/public networks connecting to Internet2, ARE-ON is the only one prohibited by state law from serving K-12 schools.<sup>1</sup>

State	State/Public R&E Network	Universities	Community Colleges	K-12	Libraries	Healthcare	Government or Pub.Safety
Alabama	Alabama REN	●	●	●	●	●	●
Alaska	AK20	●	●	●	●		
Arkansas	ARE-ON	●	●			●	●
Arizona	Connects via CENIC	●	●	●	●	●	
California	CENIC / CaREN	●	●	●	●	●	
Colorado	EAGLE-Net / Front RangeGigaPOP	●	●	●	●	●	●
Connecticut	CEN	●	●	●	●		●
Florida	Florida LambdaRail	●	●	●			
Georgia	PeachNet	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hawaii	HERN	●	●	●	●		
Idaho	IEN/IRON	●	●	●		●	●
Illinois	ICN	●	●	●	●	●	●
Indiana	I-Light	●	●	●			●
Iowa	ICN	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kansas	KanREN	●	●	●	●		●
Kentucky	KyRON	●	●	●	●		
Louisiana	LONI	●	●				
Maine	MaineREN	●	●	●	●		●
Maryland	MDREN/OMBN	●	●	●	●	●	●
Massachusetts	MEC Net/MITI	●	●	●			
Michigan	Merit Network	●	●	●	●	●	●
Minnesota	Learning Network of MN/MSEG	●	●	●	●		●
Missouri	MORENet	●	●	●	●		●
Nebraska	Network Nebraska	●	●	●			
Nevada	NevadaNet	●	●	●			●
New Jersey	NJEdge	●	●	●		●	
New Mexico	CHECS	●	●	●			
New York	NYSERNet	●	●	●	●	●	
North Carolina	MCNC / NCREN	●	●	●	●	●	●
North Dakota	STAGENet	●	●	●			●
Ohio	OARNet	●	●	●		●	●
Oklahoma	OneNet	●	●	●	●	●	●
Oregon	NERO/ Oregon GigaPOP	●	●	●	●		●
Pennsylvania	KINBER/PennREN/MAGPI	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rhode Island	OSHEAN	●	●	●	●	●	●
South Carolina	South Carolina LightRail	●				●	
South Dakota	REED	●					●
Tennessee	Connects via ENA		●	●	●		
Texas	LEARN/TETN	●	●	●		●	●
Utah	UEN	●	●	●	●		
Vermont	NECC	●	●	●	●	●	
Virginia	NetworkVirginia	●	●	●	●	●	●
Washington	K20 Education Network	●	●	●	●		
Wisconsin	WiscNet	●	●	●	●	●	●

■ Eligible to connect to the network

● Connected to the network

<sup>1</sup> Two states, South Carolina and South Dakota, are not members of Internet2. <https://k20.internet2.edu/get-connected>.

Note: This is an updated version of data first published in *Connections, Capacity Community*, a 2011 report from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Information is based on R&E Network Web sites, public sources, as well as interviews with R&E network leaders and sector experts. It reflects the current status in a very dynamic environment and is subject to change. Last verified: 5/13/2014