

Access to Digital Learning

1. **Purpose:** The 2018 legislature appropriated \$900,000 in one-time state funds to leverage federal funding from the E-rate program to enable more student access to digital learning.
2. **Description of services provided:** Schools received funding for network infrastructure improvements such as wireless access points, cabling, switches, or broadband access.
3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:** Schools must demonstrate need for network infrastructure improvements and also be able to apply for and receive matching E-rate funds.

Beneficiaries in 2018-19 School Year:

of School Districts: 31
of Students: 78,000

of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 0
of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0

FY 19 Funding:	State Appropriation:	\$900,000
	Federal Appropriation:	\$0
	Other fund sources:	\$2,100,000
	TOTAL (FY19)	\$900,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain.** Yes. The availability of state matching funds provided an additional 10% discount for districts using the funds to install fiber connectivity.
5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY19	\$900,000	\$898,120

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., schools, students, districts) history:**

Fiscal Year	# of districts
FY19	31

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:** The \$900,000 in state funding was matched by over \$2,100,000 in E-rate funds to support network infrastructure improvements worth over \$3 million for Washington's schools. Had additional funding been available, over \$1.3 million in state funds could have been used to leverage even more E-rate funding.
9. **Major challenges faced by the program:** Timing requirements of the E-rate application process did not synch well with the state fiscal year, causing two districts to be unable to utilize their funds in a timely way.
10. **Future opportunities:** If additional funds are made available in future legislative sessions, the need is still present, along with the opportunity to leverage future E-rate matching funds.

11. **Statutory and/or Budget language:**

Budget Proviso: SSB 6032, Sec. 501 (67) - \$900,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2019 is provided solely for the office of the superintendent of public instruction to leverage federal funding from the e-rate program operated by the universal service administrative company, under the federal communications commission. Funding is provided to enable more student access to digital learning.

12. **Other relevant information:**

13. **List of schools/districts receiving assistance:** See OSPI [website](#).

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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