

E-Rate. What's eligible?

Howard Computers is driven by helping our customers understand technology products and services that could benefit their organizations. That is why we have compiled this E-Rate summary of commonly sought eligible and ineligible products offered to you through this extraordinary program. This reference list places the information you need at your fingertips making it readily available for you when you need it most.

✓ And for your convenience, we've identified all eligible services we offer through this program with a **check mark**. Contact us today to discuss your needs!



Howard Professional Services has been actively involved with E-Rate since its inception, and our personnel have over 25 years of collective experience with it. Our program specialists stay informed of program changes by monitoring a myriad of E-Rate information sources as well as attending state and national workshops and training seminars. We are available to assist you in all aspects of the E-Rate Program including performing walk-throughs during planning and proposal phases of your application, providing telephone and on-site technical assistance, and consulting services as needed.

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

Eligible Users and Locations

Eligible users and locations are those that are involved with activities that are integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students or the provision of library services to patrons.

- The presumption is that activities on school/library property meet this standard.
- "School/library property" includes district offices or similar facilities.
- Off-site telecommunications such as a school bus driver using a cell phone or paging service for teachers on field trips.
- Only employees of a school or library working at eligible locations are eligible.

Ancillary Use

If the ineligible functionality of a product or service is strictly ancillary to the principle uses or the product or service, the full product or service may be eligible for discounts provided the following conditions are met:

- Package must represent the most cost-effective bid for the eligible product or service.
- Consideration of cost-effectiveness must be made regardless of ineligible features.
- Package is a standard product offering that includes the ineligible features as an integral, intrinsic part, with no separated pricing available.
- Applicants cannot specifically seek ineligible components.

Cost Allocation

Cost allocation is a process where applicants provide a fair delineation of the eligible and ineligible components of a product of service so that partial funding can be provided.

Lease of Wide Area Network (WAN) Structure

Facilities that provide a WAN may only be leased by applicants, not purchased.

Storage

Data storage products are not eligible if used to store: application software, caching files, archival information, other ineligible software, and end user files other than e-mail files.

Technical Services

- **Design and Engineering:** Basic cost necessary for installation and initial configuration are eligible if coincident with installation of eligible products/services.
- **Installation:** Services tied directly to installation and initial configuration of eligible products/services.
- **Maintenance and Technical Support:** Basic maintenance is eligible if it is a component of a maintenance agreement/contract for eligible products/services, and it is cost effective. Only services that ensure the network is capable of transmitting information to the school/library are eligible.
- **Training:** Basic on-site instruction in the use of eligible equipment, coincident with and directly associated with installation of such equipment is eligible.

Professional Services - E-Rate

See below for a summary of commonly requested services; however, for a comprehensive list, we encourage you to review the Eligible Services List at <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/reference/eligible.asp>.

ELIGIBLE SERVICES

Telecommunication Services

- ATM, ADSL, DSL, HDSL, and ISDN
- POTS (Custom cabling, fax lines, wire maintenance, 911 lines 800 service, and custom calling services)
- Local and long distance (Toll charges and calling cards)
- Wireless telephone (Cellular and PCS)
- Paging services; however, pager is ineligible
- CENTREX
- Frame relay (PVCs, distance learning circuits, interactive TV circuits)
- Homework hotline service
- Satellite services (Academic or Internet access)
- Video service (Only from telecommunications provider)
- WAN services (May include cost of leasing on-premise equipment)
- ✓ Voice over IP (VoIP) services

Miscellaneous

- Contingency fees if necessary and normal business practice
- Per diem if part of eligible installation bid or contract
- Design and engineering costs if part of eligible installation bid or contract
- Project management for the installation and initial operation of eligible services and if part of the installation bid or contract
- Training if coincident and directly associated with installation of eligible equipment
- Travel to and from work site included in contract for eligible services
- Taxes and surcharges
- Technical services
- Voice mail services

Internal Connections

- ✓ Wireless components if part of a LAN (Local Area Network)
 - Antenna
 - Access points
 - Wireless NIC if priced separately from end user equipment
- ✓ Interfaces, gateways, and antennas
- ✓ Storage devices (Hard disk, CD-ROM, DVD, and floppy drives)
- ✓ Video Equipment
 - CODEC and video encoders
 - Enhanced Multi-Media Interface (EMMI)
 - Multipoint Control Unit (MCU)
 - Master Control Unit (MCU)
- ✓ Telephone switching system
 - PBX (Sired and wireless; can include 1 console or PC attendant console)
 - Key system (No telephone sets)
 - Wireless PBX adjunct

- ✓ Servers (DHCP, DNS, e-mail, firewall, terminal web, remote access, and web)
 - Storage products and tape backup unit for eligible servers
 - RAID for servers
 - UPS and power conditioners
- ✓ Network cabling and electronics
 - Cable (Copper, fiber, and coax), bays, jacks, blocks, panels, and terminals. (All wiring/cable necessary to transport information to individual classrooms.)
 - Raceway (Used in academic LAN)
 - Wire management
 - Racks, cabinets, and eligible equipment enclosures
 - Network electronics (Hubs, switches, bridges, transceivers, and TX-FX converters)
 - Routers and router maintenance (Smartnet)
 - CSU and DSU
 - Edge device
 - Firewall
 - Software (E-mail, voice mail and network operating system – including CALs) and documentation
 - Turnkey installation, services, certification, and warranty
 - System improvements and upgrades
 - Network maintenance and technical support
 - KVM switch

Internet Access

- Internet access and wireless Internet
- E-mail service/e-mail account fees
- Firewall service
- Web hosting

INELIGIBLE SERVICES

- VPN components
- Certain servers (Archive/data warehousing, caching, print, proxy, and application)
- Caching service (Unless bundled and cannot be separated/cost allocated and function is strict ancillary)
- Filtering (Unless bundled and cannot be separated/cost allocated and function is strict ancillary)
- Internet content or website creation fees
- Telephone or speakerphone
- Pager (Service is eligible; pager is not)
- CD-ROM tower
- Electrical system upgrades
- Spare parts or equipment
- Homework hotline equipment
- Intercom system or PA system