North Carolina's ISP for K-12 Education

Introducing MCNC and NCREN

MCNC is a broadband non-profit organization that operates the North Carolina Research and Education Network. This world-class, 2,600-mile fiber network and MCNC's operational expertise provides a strong foundation for change and innovation in educational systems in North Carolina.

Advancing Education in North Carolina

North Carolina school districts and charter schools leverage NCREN to implement digital learning strategies so students throughout the state have reliable access to educational content to help them become college and career ready.

Engineered to Grow

K-12 schools are increasingly integrating broadband-dependent technologies in teaching, learning, and administration. Access to this educational technology is required both on campus and at home. Implementation of new digital learning environments legislated in the state is further proof that demand for middle-mile bandwidth in education will continue to increase.

Cost-effective Connectivity

North Carolina's school districts and charter schools use more than four times the amount of bandwidth today than three years ago, and the cost on a per Mbps basis has decreased by more than 40 percent.

N.C. School Connectivity Initiative

All 115 K-12 public school districts were connected to NCREN in 2009 through the N.C. School Connectivity Initiative (SCI). Contract awards to MCNC through a competitive bid process in 2011 and 2014 gave MCNC the opportunity to continue providing Internet access on NCREN. There are also more than 150 charter schools in operation across North Carolina today with MCNC providing connectivity services to more than 100 of them with steady growth expected. The fast implementation and success of the SCI was achieved through collaboration among many public/private partnerships forged throughout the state. Since inception, MCNC has been responsible for providing two services of the SCI: NCREN connectivity services and Client Network Engineering.

Community of Collaboration

MCNC supports education efforts like the N.C. Business Committee for Education's Students@Work, Teachers@Work, and Distinguished Leadership in Practice, which provides MCNC an opportunity to help students, teachers, and principals prepare for the future by offering job shadowing and other experiences to bridge the school environment to the workplace. MCNC periodically offers summer internships for students to learn more about day-to-day operations while also providing training and professional development opportunities for the NCREN Community throughout the year such as the Summer Institutes and the Certified Educational Chief Technology Officer (CeCTO) program.

What's Next?

MCNC will continue to collaborate with partners to provide the necessary services that support digital learning in all its forms. This includes wireless infrastructure and high-speed fiber connectivity as well as security services to help keep students safe while online. MCNC continues to support efforts with NCEdCloud to bring modern instructional and administrative systems to schools, including an Identity and Access Management Service. MCNC also is focused on developing pilots for Federated Identity Management solutions geared specifically for K-12 applications. MCNC remains committed to Connecting North Carolina's Future Today.

Did You Know?

✓ Wireless network assessments through MCNC help NCREN users determine if their wireless LAN infrastructure can support emerging digital learning initiatives in North Carolina schools.

✓ MCNC's Network Operations Center in Research Triangle Park monitors all services provided on NCREN 24x7x365.

✓ MCNC has helped 113 CeCTOs and Leaders for the 21st Century enter North Carolina schools since 2010.

✓ Client Network Engineers are available to work with MCNC clients to help design, implement, and support their network and security infrastructure.

"The CNE team provides a unique service for our education community; collaborating with our state education agencies and public schools to ensure our school networks can support the transition to digital learning and effectively leverage NCREN broadband services."

Dave Furiness, Senior Director of Client Network Engineering

K-12 Support & Contacts

The Network Operations Center can be reached at 877.GO.NCREN or 919.248.1111 or trouble@ncren.net. For issues related to firewall or web security, contact SysOps at 919.248.4111 or support@mcnc.org *(for firewall issues please reference your ITS Customer ID for properly routing your request)*. For network consulting services contact the CNE team at cne@mcnc.org.

POWERED BY NCREN
NORTH CAROLINA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK

- All 115 K-12 public school districts
- More than 100 charter schools
- Growing number of K-12 private schools

✓ North Carolina's K-12 school districts use more than **four times** the amount of bandwidth today than three years ago.

✓ **Approximately 65%** of the115 K-12 public school districts in North Carolina take advantage of content filtering and other advanced security protections to help keep students safe while online.

✓ The performance of NCREN through the N.C. School Connectivity Initiative has exceeded expectations with a reported **average 99.95% uptime** across all public school district and charter connections.

All North Carolina LEAs have at least a
100 Mbps connection

MCNC
Connecting North Carolina's Future Today

Contact us today by calling 919.248.1900
visit www.mcnc.org