



Bringing A World Of Information To Texans



Delivering advanced network capabilities to underserved Texas communities.

To deliver advanced networking capabilities to underserved communities in Texas LEARN, *the Lonestar Education and Research Network*, needs funding from the NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Currently, we deliver 1 and 10Gbps service to strategic points of presence in Texas, serving 93% of the students in public universities in Texas, 58% of all higher education students, and a rapidly growing number of K-12 institutions with a state-of-the-art network. We also provide the Texas path to national and international research and education networked services and participation in Internet2 and the National Lambda Rail systems. Our fiber-based network provides infinite capacity and a "future-proof" solution for the research, education and health science communities it serves. While national deployment of universal broadband has been disappointing, LEARN and other regional optical networks have stepped up to provide an internationally competitive network environment for the research and education community. Continued funding is critical to providing the same powerful service to underserved communities in Texas.

Imagination and collaboration means everyone wins.

We expect to initiate and operate this project in conjunction with the LEARN member organizations, consisting of 37 public and five private universities, 50 community and junior institutions, and K-12 educational service centers. Plus, we will join forces with several private sector telecommunications companies to create advanced services where needed. The current LEARN infrastructure strategies include a combination of fiber we own, fiber we operate under a twenty-year indefeasible right-of-use, and long-term capacity agreements



with private companies. We believe that this ARRA funded expansion will again involve a combination of these three strategies. Our preferred solutions, which provides the greatest good for the unserved areas of Texas, are those where we partner with private sector participants. By doing so, we guarantee public, non-profit, educational and health science interests will have state-of-the-art network connections far into the future and our for-profit partners will be able to provide service to all businesses and residents in those communities.

A proven track record means reliable ROI with LEARN.

LEARN will create access points to underserved communities. We will make it easy for the students, faculty and staff of schools, universities, community colleges, libraries and health care clinics to connect to our hubs at any level of bandwidth they need. Just as we succeeded as the only regional education and research network in Texas, especially in the NTIA's BTOP "Middle Mile Projects," this will assure profound and durable advantages for these communities. Finally, LEARN is eager to work with others seeking funding from either NTIA or the RUS program to deliver maximum benefit to Texans.

See the current and planned LEARN service points on the reverse, and go to www.tx-learn.net for more information about LEARN.

