

Eligible Services for E-Rate FY2021

Category 1:

Telecommunications – Voice – no longer eligible – this includes both landline and cellphones as well as all supporting services (PRI Lines, SIP trunks etc). WAN or Internet lines supporting VoIP are still eligible.

Telecommunications – Data – no changes to discount rate

Data Lines / WAN / Fiber (any technology)

Wireless / Fiber / Radio Links

Internet Access

Access Lines/Ports - any technology/ any speed

DNS/DHCP/Firewall/Managed Router Services may be included

2021 Update – several efforts are underway to expand Category1 eligibility to include at-home Internet and WiFi hot spots but so far there have been no changes.

Category 2: FY2021 is the first year of a new 5-year cycle for Category 2 Budgets.

1. Your school or district budget for Category 2 will be approximately \$167/student over the next five years. This is a pre-discount amount and represents the total amount over 5 years. For example; if you have 1000 students then you have \$167,000.00 to spend on Category 2 items over the next 5 years. The amount of your reimbursement is based on your discount rate.
2. This amount is no longer tied to individual schools and the equipment purchased is allocated to the district overall – not to individual schools. Thankfully – you now have only a single, district-wide Cat2 budget to manage.

Eligible Items for Category 2:

Internal Connections (*may include Project Management, Installation and Configuration*)

Cabling / Connectors / Racks (fiber and copper)

UPS Equipment

Wired LAN/WAN - Switches / Routers

Wireless LAN/WAN – Access Points / Controllers

Firewalls

Caching Servers

BMIC – Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

Break/Fix Maintenance of all eligible equipment

Software Upgrades, Tech Support

MIBS (Managed Internal Broadband Services)

This is a fixed fee management of your WiFi network. Can be equipment that you already own or it can be a 'service' where the vendor retains ownership of equipment. Benefit is that this eligibility includes network management. See SLD's definition below.

Per SLD Eligible Services List: Services provided by a third party for the operation, management, and monitoring of eligible broadband internal connections are eligible managed internal broadband services (e.g., managed Wi-Fi).