

Categories have been arranged for alignment with CEN’s 2019-2024 [Strategic Plan](#).

1. Provide Value

- K-12 Calculated cost savings against pricing in border states (E-Rate data source).

	Annual Cost	Annual Cost Difference	Percent Increase
CT	\$3,017,146.80	-	-
CT with NY pricing	\$7,178,438.04	\$4,161,291.24	137.92%
CT with MA pricing	\$5,691,724.65	\$2,674,577.85	88.65%
CT with RI pricing	\$3,589,680.84	\$572,534.04	18.98%

- DDoS Mitigation / Threat Management
 - 168 mitigated incoming attacks since the last Commission meeting (June 3, 2019)
 - 662 mitigated incoming attacks since January 1, 2019
 - Market value for services is approximately \$10,000,000 - \$18,000,000 Annually
 - Does not include lost productivity calculations
- CT Library Fiber Consortium Project
 - Project to connect libraries through federal E-rate and matching State Library bond funds.
 - Many project sites connect underserved communities where connectivity options have remained relatively unchanged for decades. This project provides high quality service at reasonable costs to bridge gaps in the digital divide and help libraries continue to thrive as community assets.
 - Phase 5: 14 of 18 sites have library/town approval to move forward. New Haven libraries (4) are waiting for final approval
 - The current project across all phases (1–5) will bring total fiber-connected libraries to 168 (including 47 branches), representing 70% of all 239 libraries statewide
 - Total savings on previous 4 funding years is \$1,392,000 (FCC/USAC E-Rate dark finder IRU savings)
- New Members/Customers since the last Commission meeting (June 3, 2019)

ACES (Leeder Hill)	Flanders Fire Dept	Niantic Fire Dept
Andover Public Library	The Foote School	Plymouth Police Dept
CCSU (Gaming Center)	Hamden Hall School	Prospect Public Library
Danbury Fire Engine #25	Marlborough Fire House	Torrington Police Dept

2. Ignite Innovation

- Managed Firewall Service <https://ctedunet.net/managed-firewall/>
 - Goal is to provide a high quality, high capacity next generation firewall experience that can scale with member bandwidth growth and provide a front-line defense for our organizations.
 - Incremental growth, 12 members committed, 3 utilizing.
 - Solicitation for a security services sub-contracted firm to provide full monitoring and alert assistance near complete.
- Cloud Connect Service <https://ctedunet.net/cloud-connect/>

- Goal is to provide connectivity to cloud providers to enable more advanced and robust services at scale to benefit member business and service needs
- In partnership with Internet2, no-cost transport for community anchor institutions to Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud Platform, and Microsoft Azure Express Route
- Since announced in April, four members committed and are in various stages of progress
- Eduroam <https://www.eduroam.us/>
 - Goal is to help with digital divide issues impacting students in learning areas and provide more seamless network access experience for students attending Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy
 - Tom Dillon helping coordinate activities as CET Infrastructure Advisory Council Chair, with CEN resource and fiscal support
 - Discussions with Metro-Hartford Hartford Information Systems (MHIS) and Trinity College about a pilot to include the school and local library branch
- Other services are in development and will be prioritized based on community feedback
 - <http://bit.ly/CENSurvey19>

3. Foster Collaboration

- 2019 CEN Annual Conference: May 7-8, Hartford CT
 - Day 1 pre-conference workshops and training; Day 2 traditional CEN Annual Conference format
 - Planning for 20-year celebration of CEN
 - Event registration site should be up this month
- Engagement and Development Advisory Council (EDAC)
 - Chairs: Karen Warren (Wesleyan); Rebecca Osleger (Suffield)
 - Digital Accessibility Workshop: 10:00 AM, Thursday, June 6 (various locations)
<http://bit.ly/2XobqQG>
 - Hosting [Cyber Defense Clinic](#) - October 3, 2019
 - Attending CECA CASL Conference – October 20, 21
 - Conference participation plans for FY20 include: CCM, CAIS, CLA, EdCamp
- Service Management Advisory Council (SMAC):
 - Chairs: Matt Ross (Farmington Public Schools), Jonathan Garbutt (SCSU)
 - Survey for additional services and prioritization is active: <http://bit.ly/CENSurvey19>
 - Evaluating second CIPA filtering option (in collaboration with TAAC)
 - Assisting with service lifecycle criteria from inception to sunseting
- Technical Advancement Advisory Council (TAAC)
 - Chairs: Ken Ross (Plainville Public Schools and town), Tim Sheets (Yale)
 - Developing technical criteria for NextGen CEN network
 - Evaluating second CIPA filtering option (in collaboration with SMAC)
- Director Kocsondy elected as the Quilt CEO Roundtable Vice Chair
 - <https://www.thequilt.net/programs/new-program-page/>

4. Promote Advocacy

- Website overhaul <https://ctedunet.net/>
 - Near complete, still refining, and adding content all the time
 - Special 'thank you' to UConn Web Development for their services, time, and effort
- Education Superhighway (ESH)



- <https://stateofthestates.educationsuperhighway.org/?postalCd=CT#national>
- CEN to be recognized as a 'Connectivity Leader' for the 5th year in a row; National Leader overall
- Meets/exceeds the FCC bandwidth goals for minimum 100 kbps / student; ESH calc = 791kbps
- High marks/recognition for bandwidth per student, affordability, connecting every district
- State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA)
 - CT/CEN/CET profile in the 'K-12 Broadband Leadership 2019' report, April 2019
 - <https://www.setda.org/master/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Broadband-State-Leadership-2019-Final-a.pdf> (page 18 of doc, page 21/37 of the .pdf)
 - Director Kocsondy presented on April 9, 2019 on the CEN delivery model and approach to supporting CT schools
 - <https://home.edweb.net/webinar/digitalcontent20190409/>
- Newsletter
 - Quarterly newsletter has been re-formatted and re-started.
 - <https://ctedunet.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/2510/2019/08/Summer-Newsletter.pdf>
- CSDE Performance Matters Forum, October 17, CT Convention Center,
 - Douglas Casey and Ryan Kocsondy to present: State Technology Resources and Student Success
- Statement on Security
 - <https://ctedunet.net/policies/>
 - Statement intended to help clarify CEN's role, current capability, and plans in providing a secure network environment.
 - Provided in response to district requests and recent CTIC communication on reporting cyber crimes for K-12 districts and municipalities.
 - Sent through CIBE and CEN respective communication channels.
- Communicating Value
 - Submitted project brief to UConn School of Business - MS Business Analytics & Project Management Program (MS-BAPM).
 - Concept accepted and will be presented as Spring 2019 Senior Project concept for helping calculate value of CEN services to key stakeholder groups.
- Re-working collateral for distribution to CEN members, CET members, key constituents, and State Gov't leadership
- CEN Video Testimonial <https://ctedunet.net/testimonials/>

5. Enhance Core Resources

- CEN Staff
 - CEN currently has 9 full-time staff members, 6 part-time student workers, and 1 volunteer (1 day /week).
 - Melanie Raczkowski - transitioned to ITS in Storrs after 7 years of service
 - Brad Tudisca, new Network Technician, starts Sept 13
 - Business Services Supervisor interviews start Sept 16
 - Program Administrator: 1 search underway
 - DevOps Network Engineer (Computer Programmer): Job description in development
- Funding: \$1.5M Bond authorized & allocated to CEN; June 26, 2019 Special Meeting
 - Monies to target the distribution layer of the network that is end of life/end of support.
 - CEN will test two newly released devices from two different vendors for possible integration into the infrastructure.



- Federal tariff on network hardware products manufactured in China resulting in a 10-25% increase in equipment costs.
- Crown Castle Fiber Contract and IRU Renewal
 - Multi-year negotiation to update contract terms for fiber builds and fiber maintenance
 - State has multiple options to renew fiber maintenance without re-purchasing 20-year IRUs
 - Huge cost avoided by negotiating the maintenance term extension options.
 - ~ 2600 miles of fiber @ \$50,000/mile (market rate)
- Policy Review
 - No change: Plan is to revise / update as needed, provide for comment
- NYC Buildout
 - NEREN Collaboration (MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT).
 - Connectivity into one of the busiest telco areas in the world, increasing CEN's capability and reach.
 - Will result in more diverse options and lower commodity Internet rates, commercial peering to reduce costs, backhaul opportunities to Ashburn (VA) and Chicago, and peering partnerships with other Regional Optical Networks (RONs) within the research and education network space.
 - Current Status: hardware mounted; agreements are in procurement contract review.

