



BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

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Organization:	MCNC
Project Name:	North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative
Project Type:	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
State:	North Carolina
Federal Award:	\$75,757,289

ABOUT THE PROJECT

MCNC's North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative project proposes to extend the benefits of its \$28.2M BTOP Round One award to deploy infrastructure in eastern and western North Carolina by constructing over 1,300 more miles of fiber infrastructure to community colleges, libraries, schools, health and public safety facilities, and other community anchor institutions in 69 of the most economically disadvantaged rural counties primarily along the northern and southern borders of North Carolina. The project proposes to build out a 100 Gbps middle-mile network with a 3 Mbps wireless component to support eLearning and advanced statewide research initiatives, improvements in public health and electronic medical records, and improved network connectivity for existing network infrastructure, as well as access to high-speed educational networks.

The North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative also proposes to:

- Directly connect more than 170 anchor institutions, including as many as twelve public safety entities, 54 libraries, 58 K-12 schools, 45 community colleges, and seven additional institutions of higher learning, including six historically black colleges and universities.
- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to approximately 2.3 million households and 160,000 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize almost 2,000 points of interconnection on the project's open network.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

MCNC, established in 1980 as a catalyst for technology-based economic development, is an independent not-for-profit broadband provider that has operated the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) for more than 25 years. The network provides backbone and ISP services to community anchor institutions, including almost all public and private education institutions in the state. MCNC has experience designing and building middle-mile networks with public and private.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- The Golden LEAF Foundation
- North Carolina Departments of Transportation, Environment and Natural Resources, and Cultural Resources
- The University of North Carolina and area community colleges
- ERC Broadband
- CenturyLink
- BalsamWest FiberNET
- Zayo Bandwidth

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

Made possible by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

