

Centralia City School District #135

Centralia, IL, 62801

E-Rate provides funding that is vital to establishing, upgrading and maintaining telecommunications access for Centralia School District #135. The single-largest source of education technology funding for our school district is E-Rate funding that provides access for the students we serve.

It is imperative that the FCC permanently raise the E-Rate cap. The single biggest obstacle threatening the E-Rate program is a lack of adequate funding. As schools deferred, delayed and cancelled connectivity and infrastructure updates within their own budgets in response to the recession, E-Rate dollars proved essential in helping schools keep their fiber 'lit.' E-rate funding is now a driving force in bringing quality education to our community.

The looming implementation of online assessments will highlight how far we have come in connecting schools and E-rate funding is essential for us to have continued success. Please continue E-rate funding and permanently raise the E-rate cap to ensure school districts can maintain this critical access.

Thank you,

Tomas W. Hawkins

Interim Superintendent

Centralia City School District #135