

E-Rate and Public Libraries



OKLAHOMA
Department of
Libraries

INTERNET AND NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE LIBRARY

E-Rate helps libraries provide reliable internet and network infrastructure. For many Oklahoma communities, especially where affordable high-speed internet may be limited, E-Rate federal funding enables libraries to provide a crucial digital connection for everything from job applications to telehealth appointments. Currently, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is reviewing whether the program should continue.



Over 90% of Libraries Use E-Rate Funding

to help customers connect with reliable internet services locally.



Oklahoma Libraries Saved > \$13.4 Million

in connectivity costs over the past five years, thanks to E-Rate.

FUNDING YEAR	COST (E-RATE)	COST (NO E-RATE)	E-RATE SAVINGS
2025	\$473,094	\$3,061,927	\$2,588,833
2024	\$568,415	\$3,186,022	\$2,617,607
2023	\$613,023	\$3,303,763	\$2,690,740
2022	\$562,959	\$3,409,193	\$2,932,235
2021	\$484,439	\$3,081,201	\$2,596,762

The FCC is asking for public comment. Here's how you can get involved!

- **File a comment by Oct. 13, 2026.** Share how E-Rate supports connectivity in your school, library, or community.
- **Contact your members of Congress.** Tell colleagues, friends, and local decision-makers how libraries rely on E-Rate.
- **Scan the QR code** for helpful tools, talking points, and more.

