LIGHTING UP LIBRARIES

Bringing 21st Century high-speed Internet to California public libraries by connecting them to California’s research and education broadband network.

143 of California’s 184 public library jurisdictions are connected or connecting to the network which links universities, colleges, schools and libraries around the world.¹

Fifty-five jurisdictions have been connected to the California Research and Education Network (CalREN) by the California State Library’s broadband project; 37 are currently being connected by the broadband project team; 35 were connected before the current project started and receive support from the broadband project aggregator.

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795 of California’s 1,132 main and branch libraries are now connected or connecting.

CONNECTED LIBRARIES…

- introduce new services and programs
- are more efficient and provide staff with better training and professional development
- receive fewer complaints
- provide better support for online learning

THE FACTS

Of the libraries connected to broadband for 12 months…²

- 92% are better able to support economic development in the community.
- 100% report that more people can use their mobile devices effectively.
- 77% can better support individual online learning.

There is just no way we would have seen this success rate before connecting.

The broadband allows groups to work together on projects without being dropped from the network.

Customer complaints about our slow Internet speeds stopped IMMEDIATELY! One day you just realize that no-one has mentioned the computers running slowly.

² Library directors are asked to complete an evaluation survey when their libraries have been connected to CalREN for twelve months. The survey was first issued in December 2016 to 14 library jurisdictions. The survey was completed in 13 library jurisdictions.
The Los Angeles Public Library is the first public library in the world with a 100GB connection.

Some of our best responses to our high-speed Internet are our local teens. Many of them connect to the wireless network after school.

INVESTMENT SINCE 2014

$6,000,000
one-time funding for grants that make it easier for local libraries connect

$2,475,000
ongoing annual appropriation

MOVING FORWARD

4 new jurisdictions will begin connecting to broadband in 2018.

We are thrilled to have been included in the initial round of this project and hope to be able to add other facilities in the future.

California Research & Education Network (CalREN)

For more information please visit www.library.ca.gov/lds/broadband.html