

# Statewide Broadband Pricing Project

Presentation to the  
Joint Commission on Technology and Science  
Education and Technology Advisory Committee

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# Purpose

To improve broadband access across the Commonwealth and ensure that every school has digital learning-ready bandwidth to the classroom

- Collaboration among DOE, the Office of the Secretary of Technology, and EducationSuperHighway
- Virginia is the first of two states selected for the project
- The project was officially launched by Governor McAuliffe on June 3, 2014



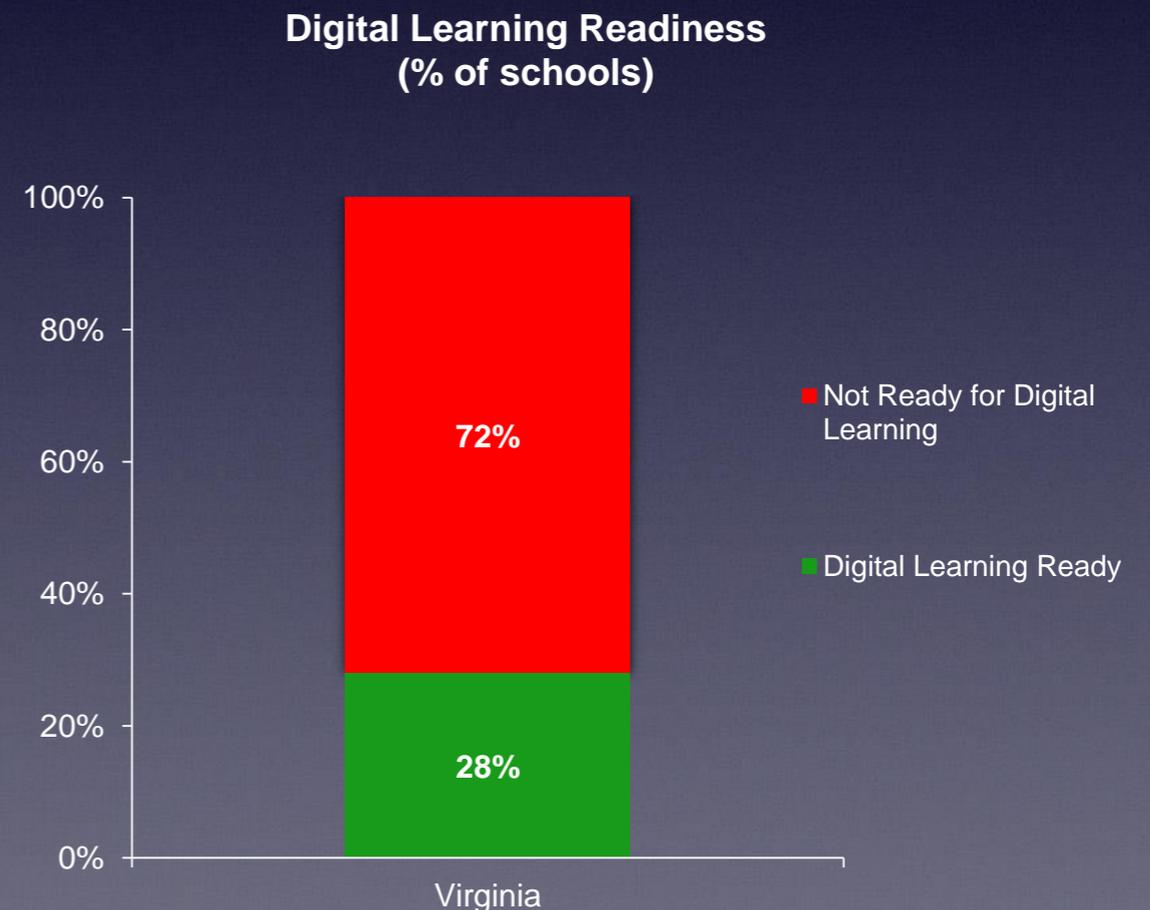
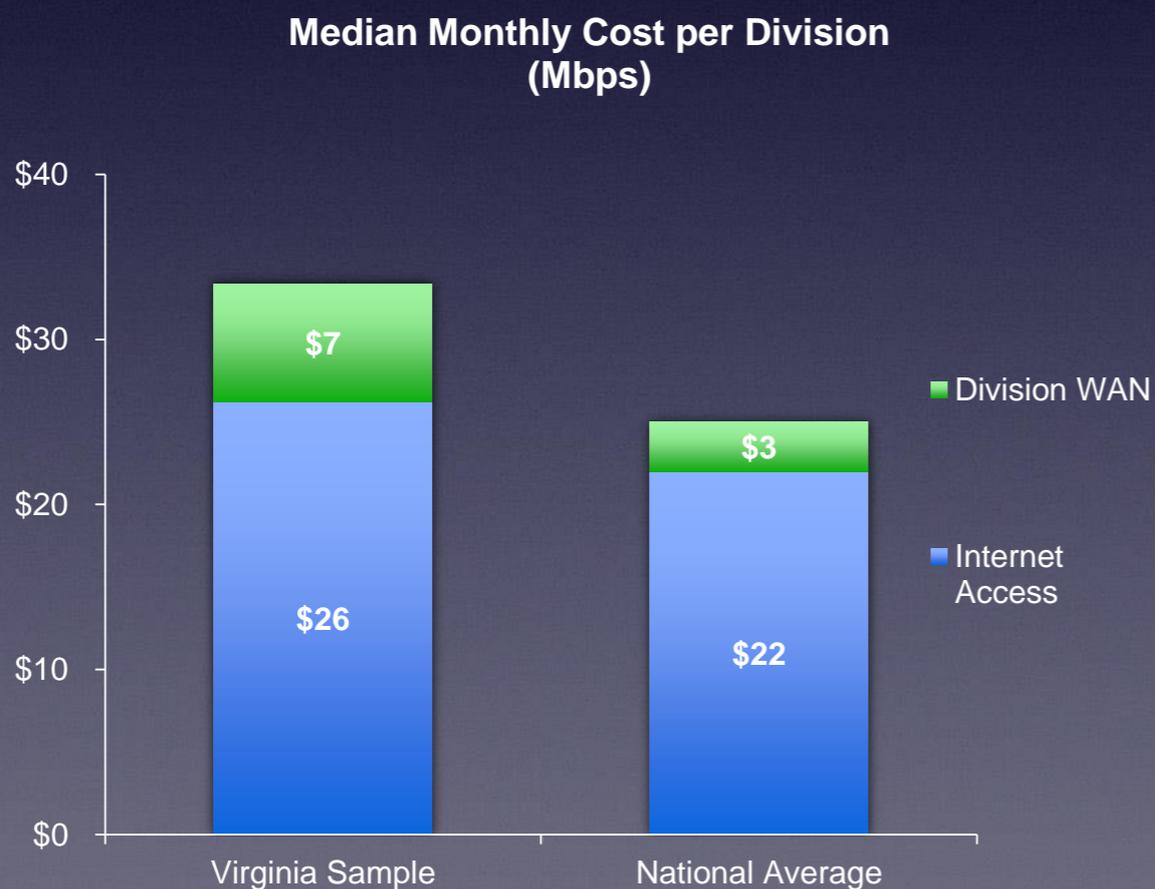
# EducationSuperHighway

Mission: Upgrade the Internet infrastructure of every K-12 public school in America for digital learning

- 1+ Mbps/student Internet and WAN connectivity
- Ubiquitous, high speed wired and Wi-Fi networks
- Nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in January 2012
- Believes that digital learning can improve outcomes, engagement, and 21<sup>st</sup> century preparedness in schools
- All services are provided at no cost to the Commonwealth; funded by numerous foundations and individuals

# An Opportunity to Decrease Costs, Increase Bandwidth

- Preliminary data suggest that Virginia's average Internet access and WAN costs are higher than the national average
- Over 70% of Virginia's schools have Internet access and WAN bandwidth that is below SETDA's 2014 digital learning readiness goals (100+ Kbps/student)



Sources: 2013-14 Item 21 attachments from VA divisions; SchoolSpeedTest results

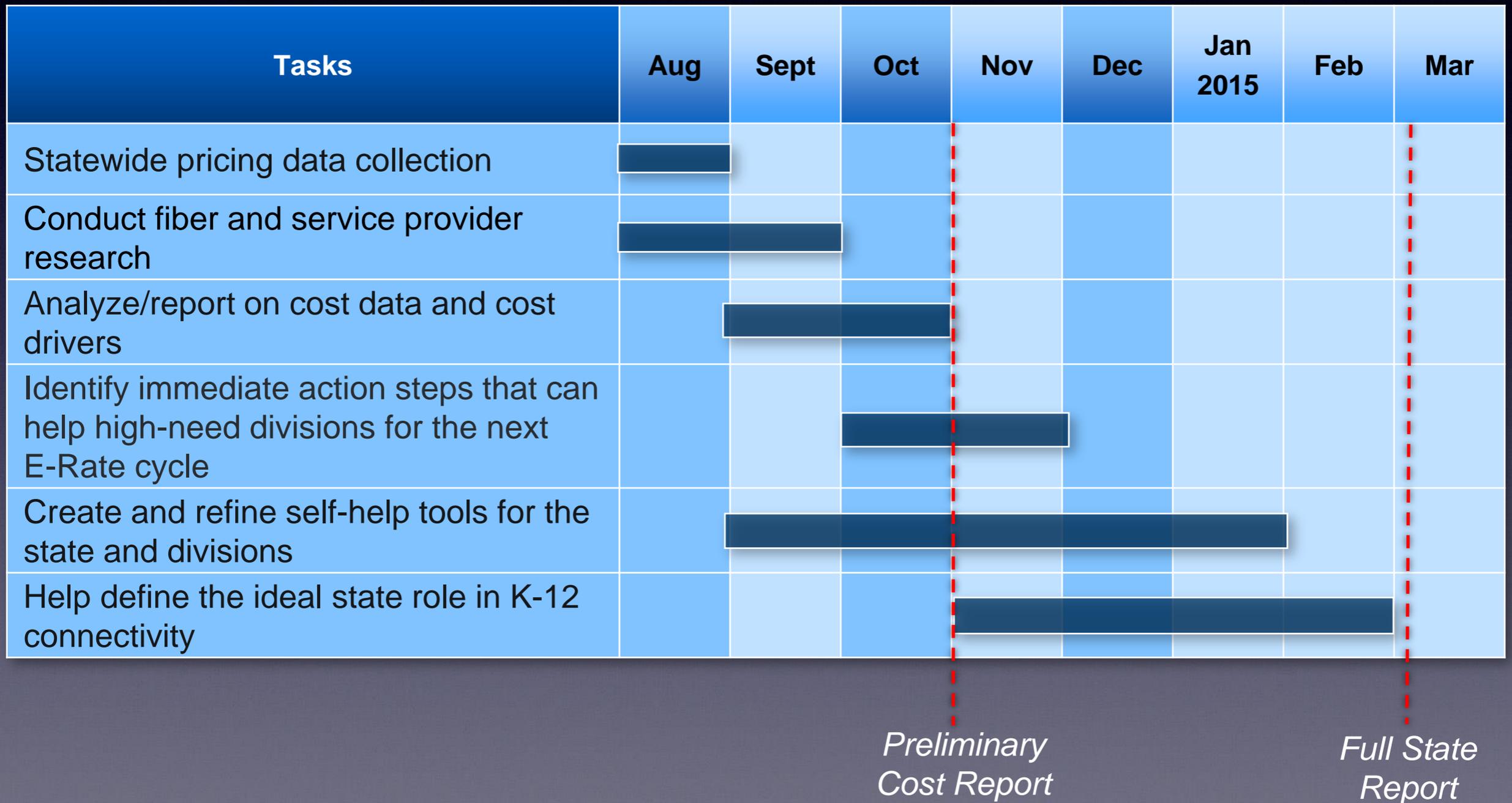
# Goal

Collect and analyze the data necessary to develop a plan to upgrade every school in Virginia to meet 2018 ConnectED targets using a financially sustainable approach

# Steps

- 1 Collect and report on Internet access and Wide Area Network (WAN) cost data for every school division in Virginia
- 2 Identify and analyze key bandwidth cost drivers, including fiber access and service provider competition level
- 3 Pinpoint ways Virginia can increase access and lower costs using existing and/or new resources and organizations, both in the short-term and long-term

# Timeline

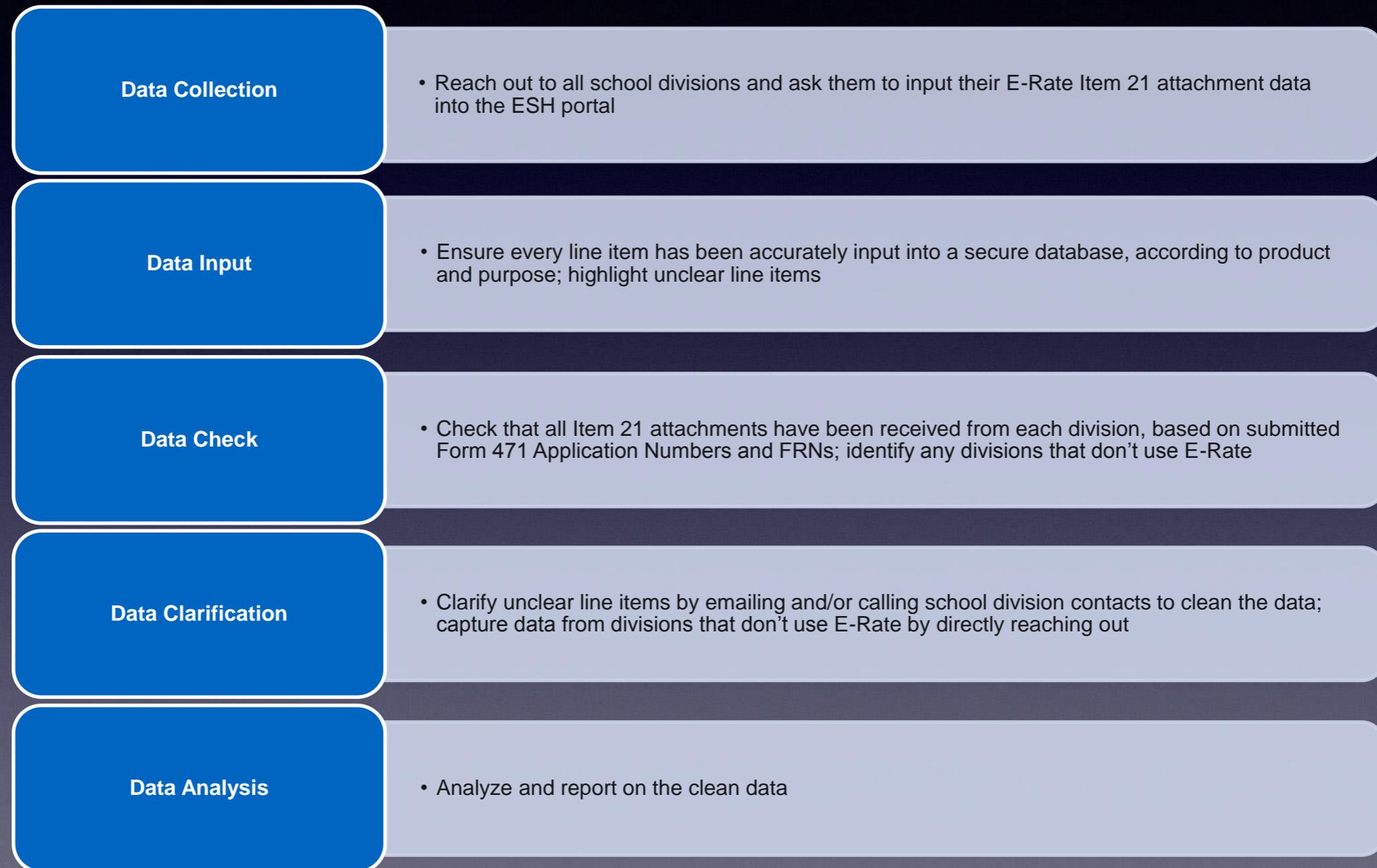


# Data Collection

- June through August 2014
- Goal of 100% participation
- Outreach to all public school divisions that filed for 2014-15 E-Rate Funding Year
- School divisions enter all E-Rate Item 21 data (including Internet access, WAN, mobile and telephony) on ESH Item 21 Entry Portal

# Item 21 Data Collection and Analysis Process

*Key steps to collect and analyze Item 21 attachment data from divisions*



# EducationSuperHighway: Item 21 Entry Portal

**ITEM 21**  
ENTRY PORTAL

MY E-RATE

MY ORGANIZATIONS

IMPORT

Lindsey Dowswell ▾

Enter your E-Rate  
Item 21 information.

Contribute to the effort to lower bandwidth costs in your state and across the country

Start here

# Homepage: Initial data is pre-populated

**ITEM 21** MY E-RATE MY ORGANIZATIONS IMPORT Lindsey Dowswell ▾  
ENTRY PORTAL

## My E-Rate Funding Year 2014

**MY ORGANIZATIONS**

- Madison Metro School District [Edit](#)

**Form 471 Applications for Madison Metro School District (5)** [Add 471 Application](#)

You have not yet marked the Form 471s for this organization as completed. [Mark Completed](#)

#971902 [Delete](#)

**Item 21 Attachments**

	FRN	SERVICE PROVIDER	FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED
<a href="#">Add Line Item</a>	2646141	TDS Metrocom	\$0.00

[Add Attachment / FRN](#) [Create PDF](#)

#971747 [Delete](#)

**Item 21 Attachments**

	FRN	SERVICE PROVIDER	FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED
<a href="#">Add Line Item</a>	2645936	Wisconsin Bell, Inc.	\$0.00

[Add Attachment / FRN](#) [Create PDF](#)

# Portal captures data critical to accurate cost comparison

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the ITEM 21 Entry Portal interface, illustrating the data capture process for accurate cost comparison.

- Top Screenshot (Add Organization):** Shows the 'Add Organization' form. Fields include 'BEN' (Select an...), 'Organization Name' (text input), and an 'Add' button.
- Middle Screenshot (Add Item 21 Attachment (FRN)):** Shows the 'Add Item 21 Attachment (FRN)' form. Fields include:
  - Organization: Springfield School Dist 186
  - FRN: (text input)
  - SPIN: Select a SPIN (dropdown)
  - Discount Rate: 0.0 %
  - Contract or Tariff (Month-to-Month): Contract (dropdown)
  - Contract Start: 07/01/2014
  - Contract End: 06/30/2014
  - Service Start: 07/01/2014
  - Buttons: Cancel, Save Changes
- Bottom Screenshot (Line Item for FRN #2531920):** Shows the 'Line Item for FRN #2531920' form. Fields include:
  - USAC Category of Service: Internet Access
  - Category: Data Network
  - Product: Lit Fiber
  - Purpose: Internet Access
  - Quantity: (text input)
  - Bandwidth: (text input) Mbps
  - Includes Firewall:  Burstable Bandwidth:
  - Extra Information: (text area) (Maximum 128 Characters)
  - Monthly Total Cost: \$ 0.00 Ineligible Amount: \$ 0.00
  - Non Recurring Total Cost: \$ 0.00 Ineligible Amount: \$ 0.00
  - Buttons: Cancel, Save Changes

# Captures the product and purpose within the network

## Line Item for FRN #2646141

USAC Category of Service

Internet Access

Category

Data Network

This category includes all broadband purchases such as Internet Access and District WAN.

Product

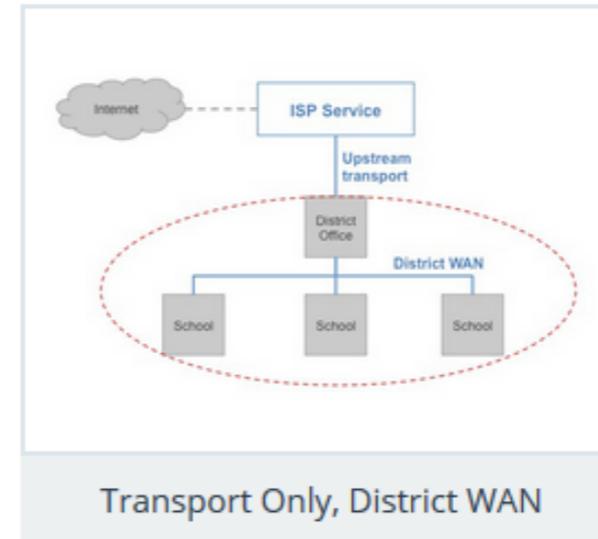
Lit Fiber

Service provided by telecommunications company for WAN, transport, or Internet access.

Purpose

Transport Only, District WA

- Internet Access
- Transport Only, District WAN
- Transport Only, to Internet
- Bundled Internet Access and WAN
- Bundled Transport Only, WAN and to Internet



# Next Steps

- Identify detailed fiber access and service provider landscape
- Develop a preliminary cost and cost driver report
- Identify high-need divisions and create immediate action plan for improving their connectivity infrastructure
- By early 2015, define the ideal state role in moving forward, with the goal of ensuring all divisions have
  - Low-cost fiber access
  - Quality and accessible technical and E-Rate support

For more information contact:

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