



Policy – OARnet Peering Policy

Issued: 01/09/2018

Updated: 01/09/2018

Background

OARnet is a project of the Ohio Department of Higher Education operated out of the Ohio State University. The physical infrastructure is primarily a facilities based network, via dark fiber IRUs with optical and routing equipment provided by and operated by OARnet. OARnet historically is a higher education research and education network but now serves multiple public sector constituencies including higher education, state agencies, K-12, and PBS.

Uniqueness of OARnet

OARnet is unique amongst networking entities in the state. First, as an Ohio based entity, it has one of the largest backbones in the state. It currently spans the entire state as well as extending into neighboring states. Secondly, it is very high bandwidth, the backbone runs at 100 Gbps and in some locations 200+ Gbps. Thirdly, it is required to support big data research activities as a key component to its core mission. Lastly, OARnet has a constrained client base. It can only serve public entities and so is not in competition with private carriers, rather, it serves as an aggregation platform for Higher Education, K-12 and, state and local government entities in order to acquire wholesale pricing for those public entities, thus saving Ohio tax payers money.

Guiding Principles and Policy for OARnet Peering

OARnet does recognize peering will benefit its constituents. By extension of our mission to the greater good of the state, it also acknowledges peering will help create a more robust broadband infrastructure. Potential peers must agree to the following:

1. The peering must benefit the OARnet mission. Examples include the OARnet peer serves commuting college students, K-12 or other citizens desiring access to OARnet client resources.
2. The peering must cause no harm to OARnet. Explicitly, peering cannot be used to undermine OARnet's client base and mission.
3. The peering is not intended to be used by OARnet's peers to serve OARnet member entities.
4. The preferred peering point is Ohio IX. (Cologix)
5. All peering is bilateral.
6. Peering is at the sole discretion of OARnet.
7. OARnet will consider exceptions on a case-by-case basis.
8. All requests must be submitted to peering@oar.net