Membership Benefits

Merit Network is an independent non-profit organization. We pride ourselves on providing the best solutions for our Members and the Community.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

- Merit regularly provides opportunities for Members to learn from each other and share best practices in the networking arena. Forums include the Michigan Information Technology Executive (MITE) Forum, Merit Joint Technical Staff (MJTS), Networking Summit, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Summit, and the Merit Member Conference (MMC).

- The Merit Advisory Council (MAC) has a direct voice to our Board of Directors and leadership through which feedback and recommendations are provided.

- The Merit Services Innovation Group enables Members to provide suggestions and feedback regarding current and future services.

COLLABORATION

- Merit partners with over 20 networks to provide peering relationships with other networks – a direct path to and from these networks for exchanging data.

- We are the only provider of Internet2 Network access in Michigan.

- Merit has been an E-rate eligible Internet Service Provider since its inception.

- Merit facilitates collaboration between Members and regularly contributes staff and resources to educational and research activities.

SUPPORT

- Merit Support Center provides support for services 24x7, 365 days a year.

- Member Relations provides high-touch, knowledgeable assistance in finding the appropriate solutions for your organization.

UNIQUELY MERIT

- Professional Learning events are tailored to the needs of our Members and are offered at reduced cost, including 20% off courses provided by New Horizons.

- Merit offers a variety of specialized services, including discounted email, phone service, cloud services, Michigan Cyber Range cybersecurity training, and more.

- Merit's connections with national initiatives, other regional networking organizations, and Michigan's educational communities puts it in a strong position to identify trends, key technologies, and opportunities for learning.

PATHWAYS TO MEMBERSHIP

An organization can become a Merit Member which enables them to purchase services from Merit, such as Internet network connectivity, MeritLicensing, MeritMail, MeritVoice, or active membership in the MITE Forum.

Pricing is specific to the purchased service and the Member's needs. Annual membership fees are as low as $750, and are waived for organizations that purchase a dedicated Internet connection service package.

For more information about becoming a Merit Member, please call 734-527-5785 or email sales@merit.edu.

OUR VALUES

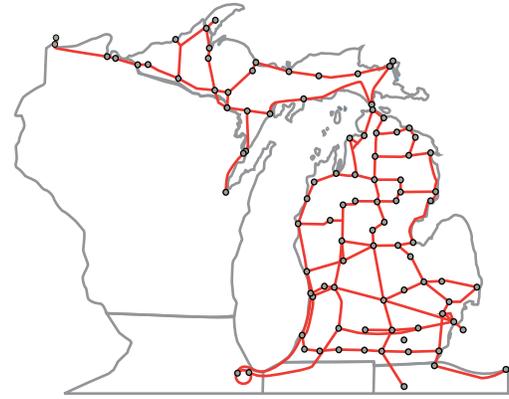EXCELLENCE · COMMUNITY · INTEGRITY · PEOPLE · INNOVATION

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MERIT'S STATEWIDE FIBER-OPTIC NETWORK COVERS OVER 3,800 MILES

Merit's fiber-optic network provides high-speed Internet and network connectivity to hundreds of organizations across Michigan.
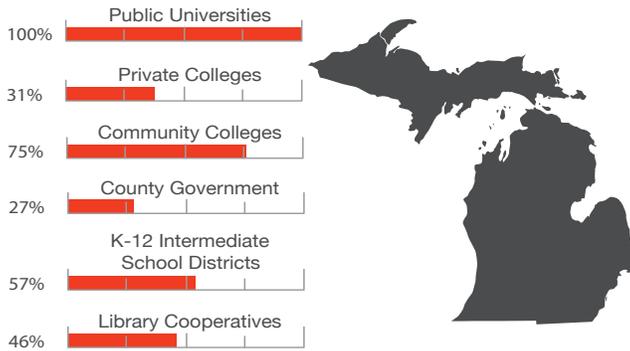
Merit's network shares exchange points with major carriers and other regional networks, and has peering agreements with over 20 networks.

Merit has nearly 50 years of experience in advanced networking. Our network has evolved to encompass a 100 Gbps facilities-based core network. Utilizing dark fiber, Merit has deployed CWDM and DWDM optical equipment to light and operate a state-of-the-art network across Michigan.

MERIT MEMBERSHIP IN MICHIGAN

Percent of organizations that are Merit Members, based on the organization type.

Public Universities
100%

Private Colleges
31%

Community Colleges
75%

County Government
27%

K-12 Intermediate School Districts
57%

Library Cooperatives
46%

SERVING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Merit's integrated IT services are provided to organizations using Merit's advanced fiber-optic network and Internet2. Merit is the only provider of Internet2 connectivity in Michigan.

INTERNET2®

CATALYSTS FOR INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

The Michigan Information Technology Executive (MITE) Forum is hosted by Merit, providing a sounding board and collaborative environment for IT executives from over 30 educational institutions in Michigan.

The Michigan Cyber Range is the only unclassified cybersecurity training environment of its kind in the United States. It also provides cybersecurity training and certifications to individuals and organizations across the U.S.

The Merit Joint Technical Staff (MJTS) provides bi-annual meetings for the technical staff at Member organizations to share ideas and best practices.

The Merit Member Conference is an annual gathering for Members, with national speakers, presentations and opportunities for collaboration.

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