

Chronology ERATE Category 2

The DeKalb County School District applies for reimbursement funding from The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) for goods and services that are classified as internal connections within a school building that support the attachment of student devices to the “Top of Rack” Category 1 Switch. ERATE is administered by the “Universal Service Administrative Company” (USAC) and based off the DCSD free and reduced lunch percentage. Since 2005, DCSD has owned its own buried fiber optic network which includes almost 240 miles of buried cable, connecting the district together in a Wide Area Network (WAN). This year DCSD has applied for ERATE reimbursement for the following Category 2 services.

- Wireless Access Points and Licenses – This is to provide wireless access to the new facilities and provide licenses for all DCSD Access points
- New Sites Access Switches and Associated Hardware (Dresden, Cross Keys, Sequoyah and Kroger Building) these switches attach to the Category 1 “Top of Rack Switch” to allow internal connections and internet access within the building

Year	Description	Vendor	Amount Spent
2025-2026	Switches	MGT	\$2,429,772.60
2025-2026	Access Points	CDW-G	\$ 554,680.23

Category 1 Services:

- **Definition:** These are services that provide the basic infrastructure needed for schools and libraries to access the internet, including data transmission services and internet access.
- **Examples:** Telecommunications, telecommunications services, and internet access.
- **Focus:** Connecting schools and libraries to the internet.
- **Budget:** There is no budget for C1 services.

Category 2 Services:

- **Definition:** These services are designed to enable high-speed broadband connectivity and internal connections within schools and libraries.
- **Examples:** Internal connections (IC), Managed Internal Broadband Services (MIBS), and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections (BMIC).
- **Focus:** Providing high-speed internet access within the school or library building.
- **Budget:** C2 services are subject to a pre-discount cost ceiling, which is a five-year budget calculated based on the number of students in the school or the square footage of the library.

- **Equipment:** Includes equipment and services needed for local area networks and wireless local area networks inside schools and libraries.