

2025 Chronology – AT&T Cellular Services

The Division of Information and Instructional Technology (DIIT) seeks approval to renew cellular services through AT&T Mobility, Inc. to support DeKalb County School District (DCSD) staff with reliable communication tools essential for safety, emergency response, and continuity of operations.

As part of the district's ongoing operational support structure, DIIT provides mobile devices and connectivity to employees whose job functions include emergency response, crisis communications, transportation management, facilities oversight, and real-time IT and infrastructure support. Cellular service is mission-critical to ensure seamless communication during daily operations, after-hours incidents, and emergencies that affect school safety or district operations.

DeKalb County School District is designated as a First Responder district by AT&T and participates in FirstNet, a nationwide high-priority cellular network built specifically for public safety and emergency services. This designation allows district users to benefit from prioritized cellular traffic, increased reliability during high-volume events, and access to emergency-ready devices and network features.

Key Services:

- ***Device Inventory:***
 - 1,060 Smartphones currently in use
 - Capacity to expand up to 1,500 phones/accessories within budget
 - 25 Hotspot Devices for mobile internet access

- ***Operational Management:***
 - DIIT's Telecommunications team monitors active usage and removes inactive lines to control costs.
 - New devices include updated Apple iPhone hardware, improving performance and security.
 - High-priority FirstNet service provides uninterrupted cellular access for designated users during emergencies.

Key Benefits:

This investment directly supports:

- Emergency preparedness and real-time communication during critical incidents.
- District-wide operational continuity, including transportation coordination, facilities oversight, and after-hours dispatch.
- Safety and security compliance as part of broader risk mitigation strategies.
- Equity of access by ensuring key personnel in every school and department have timely access to communication channels.

Cost Determination:

The projected cost of up to \$774,000 was calculated based on the current number of active devices (1,060 smartphones and 25 hotspots), with capacity to expand to approximately 1,500 devices and accessories within the approved budget. Pricing is governed by the existing State of Georgia GTA Contract (9800-GTA794-A), which provides negotiated rates through AT&T.

Financial Impact:

Year	Cost
2022-23	\$600,000
2023-24	\$670,000
2024-25	\$774,000
2025-26	\$774,000 requested