



NevadaNet Connection Policy **(Revised 9/22/2005)**

1.0 General

In 1970, the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) founded NevadaNet with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide high-speed telecommunications infrastructure for research and use by higher education within the State of Nevada. NevadaNet currently operates a statewide digital network supporting various voice, data and video applications.

The role of NevadaNet expanded in the mid 1990's with the passage of Nevada Assembly Bill 606 and Senate Bill 204. This legislation provided for the inclusion, to a limited degree, of the rural K-12 educational community within the scope of the NevadaNet mission.

By the late 1990's the role of NevadaNet had expanded to also include support of telemedicine and rural health initiatives throughout the state.

While not its primary mission, NevadaNet also provides support to other non-profit state and local public service entities on a case-by-case basis.

The network is comprised of a high-speed backbone network connecting main hub locations in Reno, Carson City, Elko, and Las Vegas. From these main hub locations, radial spur circuits extend to numerous communities throughout the state. Capabilities of the network include H.323 video conferencing and centralized scheduling, intra-network data connectivity, and external connection to the commodity Internet (I1) and the high-speed research network called Internet2.

2.0 Who Can Connect to and/or Use the NevadaNet Network?

The prime directives of NevadaNet are to support the research, instructional, telemedicine/rural health, and administrative needs of NSHE affiliated institutions and to provide K-12 wide area connectivity throughout the state.

Secondarily, NevadaNet may provide, subject to prior approval by the SCS Director – Network Services/NevadaNet, wide area data and video connectivity to non-profit state or local public service entities, when these services are not available from any other state agency or commercial source.

These connections will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to ascertain that their purpose aligns with the NSHE mission prior to approval. In every instance where a connection is approved, the non-profit entity desiring access to NevadaNet will be required to provide funding to cover the cost of providing service.

Use of the NevadaNet network is limited to those entities meeting NevadaNet connection requirements and directly supporting the research, educational, telemedicine/rural health, administrative, and research objectives of the NSHE and the K-12 communities. Use of the NevadaNet network by for-profit entities or non-profit entities whose purpose is not in direct support of the State of Nevada or NSHE mission is strictly prohibited.

Non-NSHE affiliated entities whose mission is of a non-profit public service nature, and whose purpose directly supports of the needs of the State of Nevada may, on an exception basis, be allowed to utilize the video network on an “as available” basis during normal working hours subject to prior approval by the System Computing Services (SCS) Director – Network Services/NevadaNet. For additional details on non-NSHE video usage, see the **NevadaNet Video Scheduling and Usage Policy**.

3.0 Making a Connection to NevadaNet

Any entity or institution meeting the connection requirements stated in paragraph 2.0 who wishes to make a connection to NevadaNet should submit an email request for connection to SCS Engineering staff at:

ts_managers@nshe.nevada.edu.

The request should include such information as the purpose of the connection, the anticipated applications to be used, service location, type of service(s) required, required in-service date, and appropriate contact information.

Once a request has been submitted, SCS Network Services personnel will engineer a network connection that adheres to NevadaNet design standards at the location specified. An engineering estimate will be prepared outlining specific equipment and circuit requirements needed to support connection at the desired interconnection point. This estimate will be forwarded to the user along with a copy of a Facilities and Services Agreement detailing the specific terms and conditions relating to the interconnection. Execution of the Facilities and Services Agreement serves as formal approval to proceed with final design and material specification.

Once a final design has been completed and material delivery dates have been established, a final project construction schedule will be completed and forwarded to the service requester.

The connecting entity will be responsible for procuring necessary equipment as specified in the SCS equipment list subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the Facilities and Services Agreement as well as funding the ongoing operation and maintenance costs associated with equipment installed on the connecting entity's side of the demarcation point.

SCS personnel will install and test equipment and services to the agreed upon point of demarcation.

4.0 NevadaNet Operating Policies

Once connected to NevadaNet, connected entities will be required to abide by all NevadaNet operating policies. These policies will govern the use of network facilities and services.

All NevadaNet participants assume responsibility for providing reasonable publicity of the NevadaNet operating policies at their sites and for communicating these policies to a proper administrative authority at all sites within the participant's internal network.

5.0 Cost Recovery

Because NevadaNet receives substantial funding from the Nevada State Legislature via the NSHE Board of Regents to provide services in support of its research and instructional mission, it is necessary that services provided to non-research and instructional entities, if approved, be supplied on a cost recovery basis. NevadaNet bases cost recovery solely on the cost to provide service with no profit included. Should these costs apply, they will be clearly delineated in the Facilities and Services Agreement signed by the NevadaNet Participant prior to connection to the network.

All NevadaNet participants are also responsible for their respective circuit charges associated with ad hoc voice and videoconferences terminating outside the NevadaNet network.

6.0 Modifications To This Policy

NevadaNet reserves the right to modify these policies at any time by notifying appropriate representatives of NevadaNet member institutions.

7.0 Information

Questions related to NevadaNet connection policies should be addressed to:

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