

News Release

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Free KUB Fiber Internet Available for Income-Eligible Student Households *KUB's ConnectED program provides free high-speed internet to Knox County Schools students*

Knoxville, TN – As KUB Fiber continues to expand, KUB has launched the ConnectED internet assistance program, making the local utility company the only provider to offer free internet to student households in Knoxville.

KUB ConnectED provides high-speed internet to Knox County Schools (KCS) student households who qualify, with funding from the City of Knoxville and Knox County.

"KUB remains committed to addressing the need to provide broadband internet to underserved and underrepresented communities. Through KUB ConnectED, we can provide our students affordable access to the fastest internet available," KUB President and CEO Gabriel J. Bolas II said. "We are proud to be the only local internet provider offering free, one gigabit internet service in our area. This program builds upon our legacy of providing local customer service and assistance to the community."

ConnectED participants receive \$80 monthly for free KUB Fiber one Gigabit symmetrical internet service, managed router services including an in-home Wi-Fi router, and enhanced services for eligible families.

"Reliable and affordable internet is a must for our students," Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon said. "We are so happy to help support this program that we know is helping families, broadening learning possibilities, and strengthening young minds in Knoxville."

KUB Fiber is currently available in portions of Rocky Hill, Parkridge, Halls, Fourth & Gill, House Mountain, South Knoxville, and West Hills in Knox County.

"In today's world, technology and access to information are vital to every child's education, so we're happy to help with the program," Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said.

Eligible households must:

- 1. Live within KUB's electric service territory and within the City of Knoxville or Knox County.
- Have KUB Fiber internet service available at their address. Check to see if your address is currently serviceable by KUB Fiber using the <u>KUB Fiber availability tool</u>.
- Meet program income requirements or be enrolled in a program that qualifies. Income requirements are currently at or below 200% of <u>federal poverty guidelines</u> or 80% of <u>area</u> <u>median income</u>.
- 4. Have a child enrolled in grades K-12 in a public Knox County School.

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ConnectED applicants will be asked to share the following as part of their application:

- Contact information (phone number and/or email address)
- KUB service address
- Proof of school enrollment
- Proof of income eligibility

For more information about how customers can apply to the ConnectED program, visit www.kub.org/connected.

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KUB provides more than 486,000 customers in Knox and parts of seven surrounding counties with safe and reliable electric, fiber, natural gas, wastewater treatment, and water services.