Lumen for Higher Education

Delivering AI-ready connectivity to support citizens and communities

Higher education institutions are under pressure to modernize fast. AI adoption is accelerating—but many campuses lack the network performance and data readiness to support AI-driven learning, research, and operations. At the same time, students expect their digital experiences to be seamlessly connected across classrooms, campuses, and devices. Cyber risk is an added challenge as threats grow more sophisticated, meaning universities must do more to protect student, faculty, and research data.

Lumen helps schools overcome these challenges with a secure, AI-ready network foundation built for modern higher education. Our solutions are designed to help institutions improve student, faculty and staff experiences via reliable connectivity that safeguards sensitive data enables them to confidently prepare for an AI-powered future.

Benefits for higher education

- **AI readiness.** Our network is built on an AI-ready foundation, allowing us to help universities prepare their infrastructure so they have the speed, security, and reliability to support modern AI workloads. In addition, Lumen has earned ISO 42001 certification*, which reaffirms our role as a global leader in responsible AI.
- **A partner who can manage complexity.** Our technology gives institutions the flexibility and adaptability to modernize at their own pace. It works seamlessly with their existing infrastructure, so they do not have to start from scratch. We also use our contracting expertise to streamline procurement. This makes it easy for universities to acquire the connectivity they need to support students, faculty, and staff.
- **Cost effectiveness.** We help educators use their budget wisely with a full range of network, IT, and cloud solutions that provide secure, high-bandwidth, low-latency connections. Our solutions are built, supported, and managed together, which helps improve efficiency and security, and they help lower costs by reducing the need to buy additional services and plugins.
- **Comprehensive security.** We provide Zero Trust-aligned cybersecurity that helps protect student data, enables continuity, supports compliance, and builds trust. Our in-house threat intelligence team fortifies your security by identifying and stopping threats before they reach your environment.



Our networking customers report…

66%
more bandwidth for greater efficiency

61%
less unplanned downtime

40%
faster application performance

Source: IDC, The Business Value of Lumen IP Solutions, March 2024

Solution areas

Infrastructure Services
Lumen accelerates readiness with modern, AI-ready infrastructure that moves data quickly and securely, from core to edge, while enabling predictable performance for critical workloads.

Connectivity Services
Lumen provides universities with connectivity solutions designed to be agile, secure, and compliant. This enables rapid deployment, seamless cloud integration, and resilient operations that support innovation and regulatory needs.

Communication Services
We support universities with secure, scalable, and reliable communications that modernize legacy systems, help improve collaboration and enhance productivity for students, faculty, and staff.

Security Services
Lumen helps protect university systems with integrated, Zero Trust-aligned defenses that secure infrastructure from edge to core, strengthen cyber resilience, support compliance, and guard against evolving threats.

*Source: Schellman Compliance, December 2025.

LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES

Proof points

- **Runs on one of the largest, most connected IP backbones in the world**—providing unmatched global visibility into emerging threats
- **Holds ISO 42001 certification**, meeting rigorous global standards for responsible AI governance
- **Saves significant costs**—with customers reporting **31%** lower annual costs compared to their previous environment[1]
- **Increases IT efficiency**—with **82%** of customers seeing measurable time savings among IT staff[2]
- **Aids agility and innovation**—with **70%** of customers saying they can support new IT projects more cost-effectively[2]

Education experience

- **University of Denver.** Lumen partnered with UD to upgrade the school's network infrastructure, enabling digital transformation and supporting secure connectivity for its campus. The partnership provides robust, high-speed, and reliable solutions to foster innovation across UD's research and academic environments.
- **The New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion.** OBAE chose Lumen to build the New Mexico Statewide Education Network (SEN), providing high-speed fiber internet to K–12 public, charter, and tribal schools statewide.
- **Link Oregon.** This Oregon-based REN partnered with Lumen to expand high-capacity fiber broadband to underserved, rural, and remote areas across the state—strengthening the backbone for Oregon's schools, libraries, and public institutions.

1. IDC, The Business Value of Lumen Cloud-based UC&C and Voice Solutions, 03/2024
2. IDC, InfoBrief: Migrating Voice to the Cloud, 05/2025



How to buy

Alongside our broad procurement expertise, Lumen offers flexible Master Service Agreements and holds prime contractor status on a variety of cooperative purchasing agreements. This reduces complexity for our customers and helps them quickly access the latest technology solutions at competitive prices.

Contract Vehicles

- Internet2 Net+
- The Quilt
- GSA Schedule 70
- NASPO ValuePoint
- MiCTA
- Omnia Partners
- Sourcewell
- NPPGov
- Many state contracts

Learn more

Visit **lumen.com** to explore our capabilities and connect with our higher education solution experts.



Why Lumen?

For more than 60 years, Lumen has built, owned, and secured a digital backbone that connects universities and Research & Education Networks (RENs) across the country. Our cybersecurity, connectivity, communications, and AI-ready solutions are designed to provide the secure, reliable and modern IT systems educators need to improve productivity, maximize budget, support students and keep their institutions moving forward with confidence.

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