

LUMEN[®]

Empowering Innovation and Enabling Student Success

Powering the future of
education IT



Powering the Future of Education IT

Universities operate in an environment where technology needs are rapidly evolving, yet procurement processes often remain complex and time consuming. Whether it's modernizing IT infrastructure, improving cybersecurity or enabling student success, universities require flexible, scalable and cost-effective IT solutions.

Lumen Technologies is a proven partner for higher ed, delivering high-performance networking, cloud and security solutions through streamlined procurement vehicles. By leveraging the Lumen nationwide fiber network, advanced edge computing capabilities and comprehensive cybersecurity services, universities can enhance operational efficiency while maintaining regulatory compliance.



Partnering with an experienced, industry-leading network solutions provider such as Lumen can help colleges and universities build future-ready network environments that position them well for successful digital transformation.

The most “significant challenges” for IT departments in the education sector include dealing with security concerns (69%), supporting remote/hybrid work (54%) and systems integration/managing multiple vendors (47%).¹

Lumen solutions for higher education

Cutting-edge solutions to help universities modernize IT infrastructure, improve service delivery and enhance security that include:

Cybersecurity and Zero Trust

Advanced threat protection, identity management and compliance-ready security services to safeguard government and education data and protect funding by meeting all third-party compliance standards.

Cloud and Edge Computing

Scalable compute and storage solutions that help universities optimize operations, reduce costs and improve data management.

Next-Generation Networking

Secure, high-performing, fiber-based connectivity, LAN, NaaS, IPVPN and SD-WAN solutions to support education institutions.

Improved Communication for Student Success

Secure voice, video and messaging solutions designed to improve communication and productivity for students, staff, families and the community.

Lumen is committed to empowering universities with the technology solutions they need to serve their communities effectively.

Did you know?

Legacy systems pose significant barriers to adopting modern data tools in higher education, with many colleges and universities still dealing with aging infrastructure that does not support real-time data decision-making or AI integration.

Why Lumen?

Lumen is the optimal technology partner for universities **striving to restore trust**, enable **data-powered decision making**, and foster **collaboration** across campus and across the globe. Through our high-performance networking solutions—including fiber-based connectivity, Networking as a Service (NaaS), and IPVPN—**Lumen empowers colleges and universities to modernize infrastructure** and deliver reliable, scalable access to digital learning environments.

Our Unified Communications and Collaboration (UC&C) offerings **integrate voice, video, and messaging into a seamless platform**, helping enhance **hybrid learning** and improve communication among students, faculty and staff. With Lumen you have the ultimate flexibility and choice, whether you're looking to bring your own equipment or leverage our partnerships with Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or Cisco Webex. If you use multiple vendors, we can streamline the vendor management on your behalf.

And our security portfolio, built on Zero Trust principles and advanced threat protection from Black Lotus Labs®, supports compliance and helps safeguard sensitive academic and research data. This is critically important for higher education – a sector in which the average cost of a data breach has increased to \$4.4 million per event.²

For institutions seeking to use technology and data to enhance their reputations of being competent, caring, data-driven, and resilient, Lumen is a trusted enabler of innovation, student success, and institutional transformation.



Black Lotus Labs® is the award-winning, in-house threat research arm of Lumen Technologies. The team of data scientists, reverse engineers, security engineers, and threat analysts leverages their unmatched visibility into the Lumen network to protect customers and help keep the internet clean.

Black Lotus Labs use advanced threat technology to identify and eliminate threats quickly, employing machine learning algorithms to automate protection and neutralize threats. The team has been involved in the identification and takedown of some of the most high-profile malware of the past decade.

40%
faster apps

reported by Lumen®
Networking Solutions
customers.³

31%
fewer attacks

reported by Lumen®
DDoS Mitigation
customers.⁴

31%
annual cost savings

reported by Lumen®
UC&C customers
compared with previous
solutions.⁵

200 billion
NetFlow sessions

and 46,000 C2 servers
monitored by Black Lotus
Labs every day.



Lumen holds **prime contractor status** on a variety of cooperative purchasing agreements, which helps reduce procurement complexity and enables universities to quickly access the latest technology solutions at competitive prices.

In addition, our **flexible Master Service Agreements** enable you to add, expand and personalize your services as your needs change.

Procurement made simple

Key contract vehicles include:

- **NASPO ValuePoint** - A leading cooperative purchasing program that enables state and local governments to efficiently procure IT solutions, cybersecurity services and advanced networking technologies. *(Available until Sept. 15, 2026)*
- **Omnia Partners and Sourcewell** - Cooperative purchasing networks that provide direct access to cybersecurity and data protection solutions contracts (Omnia) and consulting services (Sourcewell) while eliminating the need for lengthy procurement cycles.
- **Internet2 Net+ Services** - Members can modernize their communication infrastructure, reduce costs, and prepare for future tech needs while maintaining flexibility and control over their deployments.
- **MiCTA** - Higher education institutions can gain access to pre-negotiated contracts for Lumen networking, connectivity, communications and security services via their MiCTA membership.
- **GSA Schedule 70 Cooperative Purchasing** - Eligible educational institutions can procure Lumen networking, connectivity, communications and security services at pre-negotiated, federal rates.
- **The Quilt** - Through The Quilt's competitive RFP process, Lumen was selected as a vendor that's capable of meeting the consortium's rigorous standards for IP transit services. Universities within The Quilt community can access select Lumen services at discounted rates.
- **State-specific contracts** - Lumen holds 140+ direct contract agreements with states, allowing for faster and more efficient acquisition of technology solutions tailored to education needs.

"Higher ed needs access to contract vehicles that provide a full suite of integrated solutions while taking the friction out of procurement. This helps them reduce IT overhead, address technical debt and realize the benefits of modern architectures faster."

- Dave Lovelace, Lumen director of national SLED strategy

Get started with Lumen

**Contact a Lumen
higher-ed technology
adviser today**



Schedule a meeting

Our higher-education experts in technology, connectivity, communication and security are here to help you navigate the complexities you face in selecting and procuring cost-effective, mission-critical tech solutions.

For more information, visit our [education sector page](#) today.

¹ Frost and Sullivan | Growth Opportunities for Advanced Information & Communications Solutions in the Education Vertical | August 2024

² IBM | [Cost of a Data Breach Report](#) | 2025

³ IDC | [The Business Value of Lumen IP Solutions](#) | March 2024

⁴ Forrester | [The Total Economic Impact of Lumen DDoS Mitigation Solutions](#) | April 2023

⁵ IDC | [The Business Value of Lumen Cloud-based and UC&C Solutions](#) | March 2024

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