

BROADBAND SERVICES

Information gathered from:
<https://www.tn.gov/ecd/rural-development/tennessee-broadband-grant-initiative/tnecd-broadband-covid-19-resources>

With school closures and so many Tennesseans working from home, it is possible that broadband access is more important now than ever. Access is critical for our communications, education, and health. Therefore, Tennessee's Department of Economic and Community Development has put together resources to help you stay connected. Follow this link to see what services the providers in your area are offering during this difficult time:

<https://tnecd.com/news/stay-connected-during-quarantine/>.

Assistance varies with each provider, but some examples include:

- ✓ Free Wi-fi access to households with school-age children
- ✓ Unlimited data or pausing data plans
- ✓ No disconnection or late fees



In response to COVID-19, many internet service providers have also updated their low-cost internet service programs to ensure that every family, regardless of income, can obtain service. Just visit www.everyoneon.org/find-offers, type in your zip code, and check any boxes that apply to your household to find out what offers you may qualify for!

While more broadband access for our community is a great thing during this difficult time, we also want to warn our public that cybercrime may increase with this availability as well. Parents—always be aware of what your children are doing online. Access users—do not give any identifying information out to unknown sources via untrusted websites or chatrooms and do not open any untrustworthy links. Scammers are always ready to benefit from someone else's difficult circumstances.



SAFETY FIRST

THANK YOU! We understand that getting consistent, reliable internet to everyone during a pandemic is not an easy task; therefore, we want to thank our local broadband companies for the efforts they are making to ensure McMinn County stays connected.

This is a collaboration between the following offices and will be updated as soon as possible when new or additional information becomes available. Please submit any updates to Kimberly@MakeItInMcMinn.org

