
Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission

Role and Overview

The Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission (OETNC) provides independent oversight, planning, and expertise to support Ohio's educational television, educational radio stations, radio-reading services, educational technology agencies, and other agencies of state government. However, to more efficiently use scarce state resources, the OETNC and the Ohio SchoolNet Commission will be merged and some of their responsibilities will be given to existing state agencies beginning in fiscal year 2006. In addition to reducing costly overhead, this change will allow the redesigned agency to concentrate on its core responsibility of promoting educational achievement through the use of technology. Some specialized operations will be transferred to other agencies as appropriate.

A task force will be convened and present recommendations regarding which programs should be retained by the new agency, which programs should be transferred to other existing agencies, and which programs should be discontinued. These recommendations are due to the Governor by the end of March 2005, upon which the Governor will develop a plan for the merger of these agencies. The funds available for the new agency as well as for any programs which may be transferred to another agency are to be appropriated and held within the Controlling Board's (CEB) budget. These funds are equal to the total amount of the combined budget requests of OEB and NET.

Through June of 2005, the Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission will remain the policy-making body for the development and operation of the statewide educational telecommunications network. The commission will operate and maintain a high-capacity fiber optic network, a network operations center, a satellite compound, and 23 towers around the state on which state and local public safety and communications antennae reside. The commission will also provide operating and capital improvement grants to educational television and educational radio stations, radio-reading services, the Statehouse News Bureau, and the Ohio Government Telecommunications Studio.

The commission employs a staff of approximately 27, headed by an executive director, and has an annual budget of approximately \$10.7 million.

LINE ITEM SUMMARY - Educational Telecommunications Network

FUND	ALI	ALI TITLE	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 ACTUAL	FY 2004 ACTUAL	FY 2005 ESTIMATE	FY 2006 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE	FY 2007 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE
GRF	374-100	Personal Services	1,519,034	1,364,245	1,297,799	1,300,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-200	Maintenance	890,799	646,210	784,092	800,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-300	Equipment	46,654	27,793	67,756	77,500	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-401	Statehouse News Bureau	234,414	200,279	249,600	244,400	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-402	Ohio Government Telecomm Studio	297,997	762,146	731,660	716,417	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-403	Ohio SONET	0	1,999,975	1,176,687	1,768,150	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	374-404	Telecom. Operating Subsidy	4,786,970	4,087,528	3,761,015	3,632,413	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL General Revenue Fund			7,775,868	9,088,176	8,068,609	8,538,880	0	(100.0)	0	.0
4F3	374-603	Affiliate Services	2,387,769	2,294,087	1,327,901	3,067,447	0	(100.0)	0	.0
4T2	374-605	Govt Television/Telecomm Oper	5,510	149,865	150,000	250,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL General Services Fund Group			2,393,279	2,443,952	1,477,901	3,317,447	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL Ed Telecom Network Commission			10,169,147	11,532,128	9,546,510	11,856,327	0	(100.0)	0	.0