

## NYS Smart Schools Bond Act and E-Rate: Leveraging the Possibilities for Expanded Access to Broadband

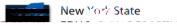
## **Introduction**

The passage of the Smart Schools Bond Act has provided districts with an unprecedented opportunity to upgrade network infrastructure to meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> Century classrooms. This brief provides information on how to use Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA) allocation funds to help leverage federal E-rate reimbursements to support modernization goals.<sup>1</sup>

## **Funding Categories**

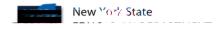
Select a SSBA expense in the left column and find its corresponding eligibility, if available, for federal E-rate Program funding in the right column.

SSBA Category <sup>2</sup>	E-Rate Implications
(All public New York State school districts have received an allocation from this bond.)	(Most public New York State school districts are eligible for at least some % discount on eligible purchases, depending on their FRPL enrollment.)
SSBA funds may be used to reimburse for purchases made in the following four categories:	The federal E-rate program provides two categories of expenses E-rate



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additional network capacity from the ISP or hub) in the fiber build project.	
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2. Classroom learning technology equipment and facilities



capacity to the new classroom or building  $\pm$ some of the soft costs (project management, architectural fees, etc.) may be covered by SSBA.<sup>8</sup>

, W  $\P$  V XVHIXO WR OLQH XS WKH WLPHOLQHV IRU \RXU SURMHFW WR cycles. For example:

E-rate