



The Economic and Social Benefits of Keeping the “E” in EBS

May 15, 2019

The Federal Communications Commission is considering how to license the 4,000 available licenses in the Educational Broadband Service (EBS), the only wireless spectrum in the U.S. specifically dedicated for educational use. Two proposals dominate the debate - here's how they measure up.

IMPACT

Assign the remaining licenses to educational entities, Tribal Nations

Auction the remaining licenses to commercial providers

Reduction of Digital Divide

- 18.28% reduction
- 8,356,000 new subscribers

- 0.18% reduction
- 581,562 new subscribers

Increase in GDP

- \$70.928 billion from increased penetration

- \$4.21 billion from increased penetration

Reduction of Rural Homework Gap

- 29.6% reduction
- 196,346 children connected

- 1.13% reduction
- 7,467 children connected

Social Effects

- 22,448 additional students graduating high school

- 1,394 additional students graduating high school

Economic Surplus

- Consumer: \$89.52 M
- Producer: \$98.62 M

- Consumer: \$0
- Producer: \$0

Contribution to Treasury

- \$ 0 auction revenue

- \$ 52.25 M auction revenue