



William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent

Dear School District of Philadelphia Parents and Guardians,

We at the District are deeply thankful that for the 2021-2022 school year, we were able to welcome our students back into the classrooms where they belong. While we are doing all we can to support student learning while they are inside our schools, we know that our students still face significant challenges outside of the school walls. Many of our students still lack the reliable internet access they need to complete their homework assignments and stay connected to their teachers and fellow students in situations that keep them out of school.

In 2020, the City of Philadelphia and the School District of Philadelphia partnered to connect families in need to free high-speed internet service through PHLConnectED. Eligible pre-K–12 families will receive Internet Essentials from Comcast or, for those who need a mobile internet solution due to housing insecurity or movement among households, a T-Mobile hotspot, at no cost to them.

The City recently extended PHLConnectED through July 2023, so it's not too late for you to find out if your family is eligible to enroll.

To help you get connected through PHLConnectED, we have partnered with United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey to establish the PHLConnectED 211 hotline, available in over 150 languages 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Just dial 2-1-1. For language services, press 8. You will be connected to a Resource Navigator who will help you start the process. The 211 hotline can:

- Provide basic information about PHLConnectED;
- Check your eligibility;
- Provide an enrollment code for Internet Essentials from Comcast;
- Point you to the right location to get a T-Mobile hotspot;



Scan the QR code to find a letter and flyer that contains this information in your language.

Lack of internet access should not affect our children's ability to learn and achieve at the highest levels. I hope that PHLConnectED will be a helpful resource for you and your family.

Sincerely,

William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent
The School District of Philadelphia