



## **CYBERSECURITY BUDGET**

### **Three Approaches to Setting Cyber Security Budgets**

With evolving and emerging cyber threats, setting aside enough budget for cyber security initiatives is increasingly important. Read three approaches for setting your cyber security budget.

### **6 ways the E-rate supports digital and mobile learning**

School internet access is critical to digital learning—here's the latest look at how schools are able to connect and meet bandwidth demands.

### **USDA Invests \$12.8 Million in Rural Broadband for Illinois Families**

The USDA has invested \$12.8 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure that will create or improve e-Connectivity for more than 1,650 homes in rural Illinois. This is one of many funding announcements in the first round of USDA's ReConnect Pilot Program investments.

### **Finally, an app that lets you livestream drone footage**

Whether used to search for missing mountaineers, locate suspects or discarded evidence, analyze crash sites, crime or disaster scenes, surveil criminal hideouts or monitor large crowds, drones are becoming essential assets to public safety agencies around the world.

### **\$120K for dorm Wi-Fi upgrades? College CIO does it himself instead**

In an era when internet access has become an essential tool to complete coursework, students staying in the dorms struggled even to access basic websites, let alone video streaming devices or other more bandwidth-intensive services.

### **Lightbulb moment: Fiber via electric conduit**

Like many cities, Eugene, Ore., wanted to implement a fiber-optic network, but costs threatened to derail the plan — until officials had an idea: install the cables inside existing electric conduits.

### **Amazon rolls out new Alexa feature to let consumers refill prescriptions**

Amazon is rolling out medication reminders as a new feature of its Alexa device in partnership with pharmacy chain Giant Eagle. The new feature, could be the first step in the tech giant's broader effort to use the voice assistant to help consumers manage their medications.

## Local Election Officials Can Get Free Election Auditing Software from the Feds

If foreign adversaries target the 2020 elections as top homeland security officials have warned, they could not only wreak havoc on Election Day but also raise doubts about the accuracy of the results. To ensure more confidence in the democratic process, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is offering state and local election officials free access to election auditing software.

## Internet Shutdowns Have Massive Economic Consequences

Iran experienced a week-long internet shutdown in November. According to NetBlocks' Cost of Shutdown Tool, the economic damage to the Islamic Republic amounts to around 61 million U.S. dollars per day. By way of comparison, a one-day total network shutdown in the United States would cost an estimated 7.3 billion U.S. dollars.

## Can colleges launch data science programs fast enough?

Higher ed has struggled to keep up with the surging demand for data scientists, but a new open-source curriculum from IBM could help.

## Despite Election Security Concerns, 'Vulnerabilities Abound'

Hacking is not the only problem. Misinformation campaigns and the refusal of politicians to admit defeat all serve to undermine voter confidence. Now, states also need to anticipate new threats.

## Gigabit Availability Report: 1 in 20 People Worldwide Can Get 1 Gbps Broadband

The United States leads the world in gigabit broadband, with 68.5 million people having the service available to them. The Gigabit Monitor found that gigabit connectivity is available for 354 million people across 51 countries worldwide. This is about five percent of the global population.



**BROADBAND STRONG:** Delivering **FLEXIBLE** broadband and **FAST** experiences to meet the growing broadband needs of education, government, public safety, and healthcare in Iowa.

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