

MEMO

To: State Library Commission
From: Suzanne Reymer
Re: E-Rate Program Update
Date: May 30, 2000

Here are some summary figures for Montana libraries for Years 1 and 2 of the E-Rate program as well as for Year 3 to date.

I've calculated the average amounts received for each library as well as average and median figures for all of our public libraries in the state. The median is probably a more representative figure. Most of our libraries receive average less than \$2000/year in E-rate funding. The few libraries receiving more than \$10,000 tend to skew the average.

The libraries with names in bold print have participated and received E-rate funding in all 3 years of the program. Participation in the program nearly doubled from Year 1 to 2 (from 38 to 63 libraries) and it looks like we've had a very good participation rate in Year 3 as well. The libraries with names in italics have applied successfully for E-rate for the first time in Year 3. 53 Montana public libraries have already received funding in the first 4 waves. In fact 37 received funding in the first wave. This early funding was due largely to a successful push toward electronic filing. The average numbers in bold are the final averages through Year 3. I presume that the overall averages as well as the individual averages of many other public libraries will change somewhat as the waves continue.

Additionally, I've included the figures for 1999, which were shared with Montana's legislators at the 2000 Legislative Day. The congressmen were very appreciative to have these figures.