

## 10 – Home and Mobile Connectivity

### Action Item Template Response

#### General Action Item Information

Lead Division/Office: Networks

Action Item Number: 10

Action Item Short Name: Home and Mobile Connectivity

Dependencies with other EP Action Items: 6, 40

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#### I. DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS ACTION.

##### A. Home Connectivity

1. Negotiate contracts with local broadband providers to provide discounts to IU users.
2. Negotiate peering agreements with local broadband providers to provide low-latency, high-bandwidth connectivity between local broadband users and Indiana University.

##### B. Mobile Connectivity

1. Investigate options to provide IU users with access to one or more large networks of Wi-Fi hotspots. There are companies known as "hot-spot aggregators" that sell access to tens of thousands of hot spots around the world. IU should investigate options such as a university-wide contracts and/or discounts with one or more of these Wi-Fi Hotspot aggregators to provide IU users with Internet access at locations such as airports, hotels, and restaurants.
2. Investigate options for providing cellular data access to faculty and staff in a more cost-effective manner. This could take the form of a cellular data card checkout system for faculty and staff and/or a university discount on cellular data service to provide faculty and staff with a lower-cost option for mobile connectivity when they are traveling.
3. Pursue opportunities to provide free or low-cost Wi-Fi access to IU users in areas local to IU campuses. This could involve negotiations with local telecommunications companies and hot-spot providers as well as collaborations with local municipalities that are considering municipal Wi-Fi projects. UITS is already collaborating with the City of Bloomington to investigate the possibility of common Wi-Fi network that spans the IU campus and outdoor areas around downtown.

#### II. WHAT ARE THE POLICY AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR PLANS?

Practical implications include the possibility of an increase in support contacts from remote users accessing IU resources, especially after-hours contacts, the need for a greater focus on security for

remote users, and the possibility of a significant increase in Internet bandwidth utilization and VPN utilization.

### **III. IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS.**

- UITS Networks
- UITS Enterprise Infrastructure
- UITS Support
- IU Purchasing
- Local Support Providers