CENIC Serves California and the Public Good | In 1996, visionary leadership within California’s research and education institutions came together to form CENIC, a non-profit organization providing the world-class broadband network CalREN (the California Research and Education Network) essential for innovation, collaboration, and economic growth statewide. CENIC provides cost-effective, high-bandwidth networking capacity and connectivity to support research and education conducted by our members: the University of California System, the California State University System, California Community Colleges, Stanford, Caltech, USC, and California’s public K-12 schools and libraries, along with affiliated educational, governmental, medical research, and cultural institutions throughout the state. CENIC serves shared long-term public goals of technological innovation, democratic vitality, and opportunity for the next generation.

CENIC Positions California for the Future | Our state has long been a leader in innovation and scientific breakthrough. As the 6th largest economy in the world, connectivity is the currency of growth and opportunity. California’s leaders are dedicated to solving the most pressing issues confronting the globe. In every realm of research and scientific inquiry, ultra-high bandwidth speed and capacity are a necessity. CENIC’s role is critical to California’s continued advancement in all realms of innovation. Our future relies on the engagement of all Californians in the digital economy, and CENIC equips them with the high-bandwidth, high-capacity network to enable that engagement by partnering with national and international research and education networks, governmental networks, and commercial networks to expand access broadly, working to support broad public access to the educational, research, and cultural assets that position California for a prosperous future.
CENIC Provides a World Class Network | CENIC connects the state’s research and education institutions to peers around the world, with an estimated 20 million Californians using CENIC’s services. CENIC is part of a global ecology of research and education, government, and commercial networks, and manages a vast portfolio of integrated networks on behalf of its members and partners, delivering quality, efficiency, and value for all.

For educators and students, effective learning and teaching methods require seamless access to all types of information and resources. In the realm of science, researchers need access to one another, to vast data sets, and to singularly expensive and complex scientific instruments around the world. CENIC provides this access to its members through the groundbreaking Pacific Research Platform – a data superhighway for science and medicine.

Another major partnership is with the Energy Sciences Network (ESnet), managed by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. ESnet is a high-performance platform for science discovery that, through CENIC, connects the U.S Department of Energy’s 40 facilities across the nation with California’s research and education institutions.

In healthcare, CENIC supports the California Telehealth Network and academic medical research institutions statewide. Through its partnership with the State of California’s Department of Technology (CDT), CENIC provides access for its members and local government organizations to CDT’s vast catalogue of cloud resources and services.

Current CENIC Initiatives

• A 100Gbps upgrade to the CENIC backbone, making it one of the most heavily used research platforms in the world.

• A $77M Broadband Improvement Grant program in K-12, bringing 1Gbps to some of the least well-served schools in California, and working with commercial carriers to accomplish this ambitious goal.

• Enhancements to broadband fiber infrastructure supporting the California State University System.

• The Pacific Research Platform, an innovation initiative supporting advanced big-data research at all of California’s research universities.

• Connectivity for all California public libraries to CalREN, working with commercial carriers, with nearly 800 libraries connected in the first two years of the initiative, most at gigabit speeds, some at 10 or 100Gbps - the first state to do so in the nation.

• 1Gbps to 10Gbps upgrades across the California Community College System.

• Connecting California’s cities, supporting two significant efforts: the California Cities Data-Sharing Project, and the Big Data, Big Cities Initiative.

For more information please visit www.cenic.org