



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Office of International Education
International Student and Scholar Services

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS IN THE BUFFALO AREA

Information for International Students, Scholars and Employees

Issues to consider before choosing an Internet Service Provider

Before choosing an Internet Service Provider, we suggest that you consider the following points:

- How much can you afford to pay per month? Internet service varies greatly in price depending on the provider and speed of the Internet service. Generally, the faster the Internet service the more money you will pay.
- How fast do you need your Internet service to be? Internet speeds can vary greatly. How fast your service is determines how quickly web pages will open and media can be downloaded. Dial-Up Internet service is the slowest and cheapest because you must use your existing landline telephone, while DSL is slightly more expensive but is much faster than Dial-Up because it uses a dedicated telephone line only used for connecting to the Internet. Another option is Internet service run through fiber optic cables. This is generally the fastest option and also the most expensive. If you intend to download music, movies or other multimedia, you may need to consider DSL.
- What is the service provider's cancellation policy? Some services require that you sign a contract, usually one year in length. Be sure to ask how you cancel and if there is an additional fee to get out of a contract early.
- Do you want a landline telephone and/or cable television? If so, some companies offer packages which include Internet and landline telephone service, and cable television for a discounted price for a certain period of time.

Internet Service Provider Options

Time Warner Cable

Time Warner Cable has several Internet options including: Wideband High Speed, Road Runner High Speed and Earth Link High Speed.

Prices generally range from \$30-\$150 per month

For more information or to sign up:
www.timewarnercable.com
1-866-668-6044

Note: Internet service is provided through a cable line so you DO NOT need a land telephone line for this service.

Verizon

Verizon has several Internet options including: High Speed Internet, High Speed Internet Enhanced and FIOS Internet.

Prices generally range from \$15-\$140 per month and include a wireless router at no cost.

For more information or to sign up:
www22.verizon.com/Residential/Internet/#
1-877-483-5898

Note: Internet service is provided through a cable line so you DO NOT need a land telephone line for this service.

Dial-Up Providers

Dial-Up Internet is generally 20-50 times slower in speed than DSL and about 100 times slower than a cable connection. There are still several companies providing this service.

Prices range from \$10-\$20 per month

Below are a few of the most common Dial-Up providers:

Earthlink - www.earthlink.net

NetZero - www.netzero.net

PeoplePC - www.peoplepc.com

ISP - www.isp.com

Note: You need a land telephone line for this service and usually you CANNOT use your telephone while you are connected to the Internet.

Wireless Internet

To reach the Internet wirelessly, you will need a wireless router in addition to your Internet connection. Wireless routers can be purchased from electronics stores such as BestBuy, or online at various electronic vendors. Some of the famous brands are Netgear, Linksys, Belkin and D-Link. **Note: Your Internet Service Provider may also include a wireless router with your Internet service.**