



Central Community College maximizes student and community success

Ebony E. Cooksey Market Development Manager Nextlink Internet via email ecooksey@team.nxlink.com

Dear Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program,

On behalf of Central Community College (CCC), I am writing to voice our support of Nextlink Internet's application to Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program to expand into underserved rural areas within our service area.

CCC serves a 25-county area in central Nebraska that is exceedingly rural and access to reliable high speed internet service is limited. Access to the internet, with sufficient bandwidth or reliability, is essential for the development of an information society; and lack of adequate broadband connectivity is preventing widespread use of internet in education in our rural area. CCC serves Platte County with a physical campus located in Columbus, online courses, and high school juniors and seniors with early college programming. All of these students, whether attending classes in person, in high school, or online require reliable internet service in their homes to complete homework and access learning materials.

The internet improves the quality of education in many ways. It opens doorways to a wealth of information, knowledge, and educational resources, increasing opportunities for learning in and beyond the classroom. Teachers use online materials to prepare lessons, and students to extend their range of learning. Interactive teaching methods, supported by the internet, enable teachers to give more attention to individual students' needs and support shared learning.

I welcome Nextlink to bring broadband to their proposed areas if funded under the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program. The ability for students and teachers to continue the educational process online as needed in and of itself makes this project vitally important for our community.

Sincerely,

-DocuSigned by:

Dr. Matthew Gotschall College President

Matthew Gotschall.

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