

## New Membership Category: Internet2 R&E Network Member

### **Definition:**

The category of Internet2 R&E Network Member is open to any US-based non-profit or not-for-profit organization that is sub-state, state or multi-state in scope and that has a principal mission to provide network infrastructure and services primarily to the research and education community in the relevant geographic area, including, but not limited to, access to the Internet2 national network infrastructure and services. This definition applies to any organization meeting the above definition, regardless of whether it serves as a direct connector to the Internet2 network. Any for-profit organization that otherwise meets the above definition will be invited to become a Corporate Member of Internet2.

### **Membership fee:**

2007: \$12,000

2008: \$12,500

### **Policy regarding payment of membership fees:**

State or regional networking organizations that act as direct connectors to the Internet2 network and pay associated fees make a significant commitment to the Internet2 community and its goal to provide advanced networking infrastructure and services for research and education. Based on this commitment, Internet2 believes that membership status should be formally attached to signing a connection agreement and be extended without any additional fees, as a reflection of its own commitment to partner with state and regional networking organizations and to include them fully in the membership community and in the governance of Internet2.

Therefore,

- Any organization meeting the above definition that signs a connection agreement with Internet2 to aggregate member and other traffic to the Internet2 network and upon submitting appropriate documentation will become an Internet2 R&E Network Member.
- The organization signing the agreement is assumed to be the member, and will receive all benefits of membership for this category, regardless of whether an associated University or other Member serves as its fiscal agent.
- The fee for R&E Network Membership is included in the connection fee.
- The applicable year for the membership is the calendar year.

- In cases where an existing Internet2 University Member serves as the aggregator for Internet2 network traffic in its region and signs a connection agreement, it will remain a University Member, pay associated fees, and receive all benefits of this membership category.
- In cases where a University Member is working to form a regional network in their area and therefore serves as the aggregator for traffic from other Internet2 members, it may also have status as an R&E Network Member and receive all benefits, and the R&E Network Member fee will be included in their connection fee.
- Organizations meeting the above definition that aggregate traffic but that do not connect directly to the Internet2 network are eligible for membership as R&E Network Members and will pay the associated fee and receive all benefits of membership.
- R&E Network Membership extends only to the network organization itself, not to its constituent members.

**Transitioning existing Affiliate Member connectors:**

There are 12 current Internet2 Affiliate Members that appear to fit the definition of an R&E Network Member. A number of these have or will become connectors to the Internet2 network in 2007, after having already paid their 2007 Affiliate Member fees. The policy below outlines the process for transitioning these existing members and handling their 2007 membership payments.

- Existing Affiliate members that fit the above definition and are therefore eligible for this membership category will be invited to submit a letter stating their intention to join as an Internet2 R&E Network Member.
- Existing Affiliate Members that become R&E Network Members and that also sign a connection agreement and pay associated fees to Internet2 for the purpose of aggregating traffic directly to the new Internet2 network will not pay additional membership fees and will be refunded for the relevant portion of any already-paid 2007 fees.
- 2007 membership fees already paid to Internet2 will be refunded based on a prorated calculation from the date the connection is made or the date the connection agreement is signed, whichever comes first. The refund will be issued once the connection agreement is signed.