STATE BOARD FOR TECHNICAL AND COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION

STATEMENT OF POLICY

POLICY NUMBER:	**4-4-102**
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POLICY TITLE:	**WIDE AREA NETWORK (TECHNET): PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS**
LEGAL AUTHORITY:	**Section 59-53-57 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, As Amended**
DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY:	**Information Technology Services**

DATE APPROVED BY BOARD:	**June 1, 1994**
DATE OF LAST REVISION:	**January 25, 2011**

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

TECHNET is a virtual network which links the computer resources of the State Board and the sixteen (16) technical colleges. This network is procured and supported via the office of the State CIO, as part of the state network infrastructure. It serves the following purposes:

1) The transmission of data, video, voice.

2) The sharing of computer resources.

3) The improvement of communications within and without the Technical Education System.

4) Distance Learning

OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF THE NETWORK

It is the responsibility of the State Board's Division of Information Technology (IT) and all technical colleges to manage TECHNET and ensure its reliability. This responsibility includes management of contracts which affect the technical college system. The IT Division and technical colleges shall take appropriate measures to keep the network available to all legitimate users and maintain an acceptable level of up time. To ensure availability and performance of the network, the IT Division shall prioritize and plan for future growth and needs to support the mission of the technical college system.

CONNECTION AND ACCESS

The State Office and each technical college shall maintain a connection to TECHNET. Other agencies, networks and systems may be connected to TECHNET via the state network as managed by the office of the State CIO. Sharing and cooperation would produce benefits which would enhance both the Technical Education System and the State of South Carolina. Connection to TECHNET by other entities is subject to approval by the State Board.

SECURITY

It is the responsibility of the State Office and the technical colleges to guard against security breaches and fraudulent use of their computer and telecommunication resources. Unauthorized access must be prevented and assurance that utilization in compliance with the Budget and Control Board Acceptable Use Policy to the greatest extent possible. Violations must be dealt with in a manner consistent with state and federal laws such as South Carolina's Computer Crime Bill and copyright laws, etc.

EMERGENCIES

In conjunction with the office of the State CIO and telecommunications companies, it is the responsibility of the IT Division and technical colleges, to monitor the performance of the network and oversee the actions taken to maintain or restore service. The IT Division and technical colleges shall also coordinate with the office of the State CIO to develop and maintain a Disaster Recovery Plan for TECHNET which includes emergency situations such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and grand scale power outages. These procedures must be consistent with those developed by the Governor's Office and/or other government agencies.

FUNDING OF TECHNET

Funds to maintain the operation of TECHNET are provided through the normal budgeting processes. Situations which require additional funds are to be resolved by the Executive Director following review of advice and recommendations of the Presidents' Council.