



# Connecting Alaskans to the World with OWL

## OWL Connects Alaskans to the World

E-Rate is a federal program which subsidizes telecommunication and internet costs in schools and libraries. In 2015, E-Rate paid 79% of internet costs for OWL public libraries, while OWL paid 19% of these costs. Every dollar of state OWL funds leverage \$4 of federal E-Rate support. OWL dollars are critical to preserving this infusion of federal funds into Alaska's economy.

## OWL Brings the World to Alaskans



"This is the first time that we have been able to reach a remote place and get the fire prevention message to school age children."

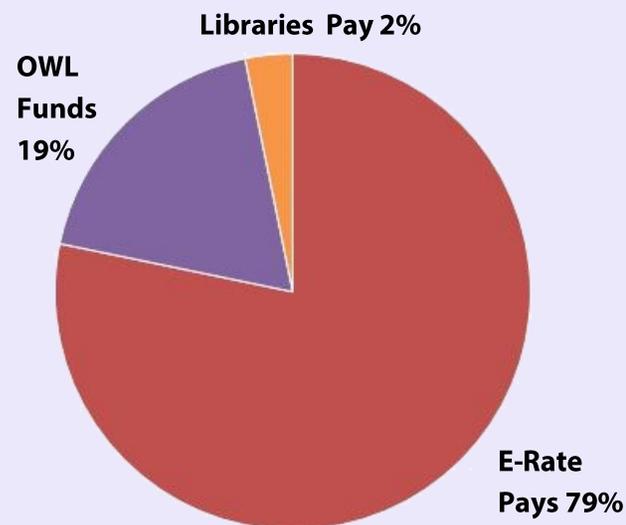
**Michael Warzewick**  
*State Fire Marshall's Office*

In 2015, Alaskans participated in 532 interactive video conferences using the OWL video conferencing network. State agencies, school districts, non-profits, and private businesses used the OWL network to save thousands of dollars in travel expenses, while educating and enlightening Alaskans. A few of these agencies are listed below.

**State Fire Marshall's Office**  
**Alaska Library Association**  
**US Coast Guard**  
**Providence Hospital**  
**Alaska Sea Life Center**  
**Office of Children's Services**

**Adult Protective Services**  
**Foraker Group**  
**Department of Labor**  
**49 Writers**  
**Denali National Park**  
**Alaska State Library**

## How OWL Libraries Pay for Internet Connectivity



"Due to our faster internet, my family was able to watch a live video stream of an educational show offered through the history channel yesterday!"

**Dordie Carter, Hollis Public library**

"180 BLM firefighters and personnel were in our community using the library broadband to help fight the Beaver Log Lake fire. The Library has the only broadband available in a geographic area the size of the state of Ohio."

**Carol Schlentner, Lake Minchumina Public Library**

**Shane Southwick, OWL Coordinator**  
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