THE HUB

The Alabama Supercomputer Authority Newsletter

THE YEAR OF THE X-2024

2024 is the year of the X, as in ASA-X. ASA-X is the tenth supercomputer in the history of the Alabama Supercomputer Authority. ASA-X replaces the DMC. Currently, ASA-X has 1,214 users including students and faculty from K12 schools, community colleges, and universities all over the State of Alabama. The purpose of ASA-X is to provide HPC resources to Alabama's Academic Community.

ASA-X is made up of:

- 4,688 x86-64 Processors (AMD & Intel)
- Shared/Distributed Memory Architecture
- InfiniBand high-speed/low latency network
- 512GB-6TB memory per node
- 32 TB total memory
- 1.4 PB shared storage via Panasas

For more information on High-Performance Computing (HPC) Services provided by ASA, visit the High-Performance Computing page on asc.edu.
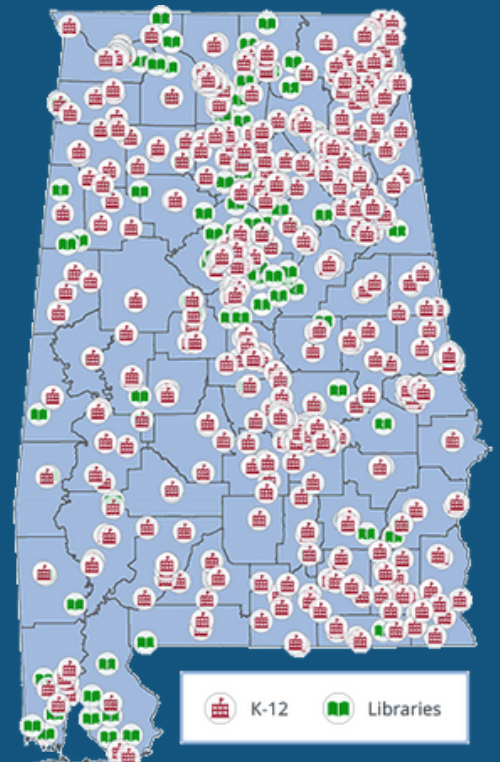
This issue:

E-RATE UPDATE
BY NICHOLE GIPSON – CLIENT SERVICES DIRECTOR

The E-rate application filing is upon us once again! ASA will file a State Consortium application for all consortium members to fund and provide Managed Internet Access Services for E-rate Funding Year 2024 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). Schools and libraries should review their E-rate Productivity Center (EPC) Profiles to ensure the information is accurate. If any updates are needed, please submit those updates in EPC before the Administrative Window closes on Friday, January 12, 2024. For any updates needed after January 12, you will need to contact USAC's Customer Service Center at (888) 203-8100 for assistance. The Filing Window will open on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, and close on Wednesday, March 27, 2024. ASA emailed the FY2024 Consortium Announcement and Letter of Agency to schools and libraries in September 2023. Thank you to the schools and libraries that have submitted their FY24 Letter of Agency, which authorizes ASA to include your school district or library in our E-rate application. We're looking forward to a successful filing.

Current E-Rate Coverage Map

This E-Rate coverage map shows all of the K12 Schools and Libraries that are part of the AREN Consortium. Every county in the state has at least one AREN Consortium member. Each year, ASA files an E-Rate application for Category One Services for all AREN Consortium members. This year, we will file E-Rate applications for nearly 1,000 sites.
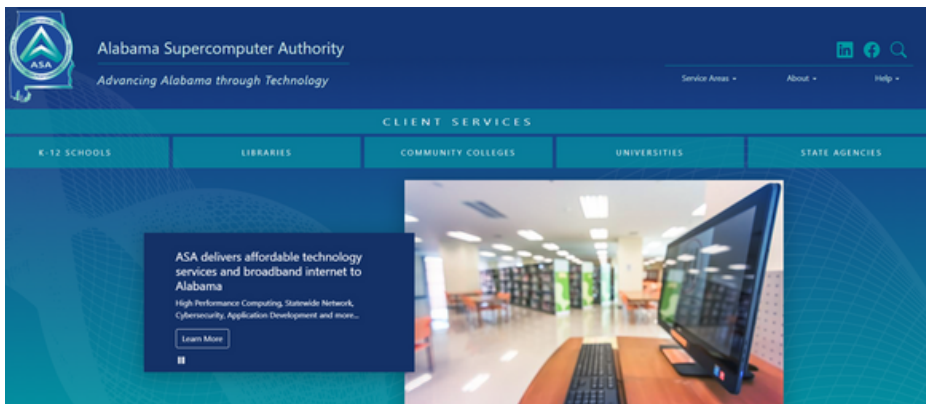
A Message from the CEO - Debra Wallace

Supporting ACCESS Distance Learning

Supporting ACCESS Distance Learning In the realm of narrowing the digital gap and promoting educational equity, Alabama stands out with the invaluable support of Governor Ivey and Dr. Eric Mackey, championing the integration of technology in education. ASA takes pride in contributing to this transformative initiative in Alabama. Notably, the Alabama Supercomputer Authority has been instrumental in providing connectivity for ACCESS Distance Learning since its inception in 2005, collaborating seamlessly with the Alabama State Department of Education.

A recent feature in the Madison Record sheds light on the commendable impact of the ACCESS virtual-learning program, ensuring equal educational opportunities for students across Alabama. The program offers a diverse range of courses, including regular and advanced-placement classes, foreign languages, and electives. With its outreach extending to 396 schools and serving 18,640 students statewide, ACCESS Distance Learning is making significant strides in fostering inclusive education.

We would like to welcome Kerri Butler (Client Services Specialist), Sawyer Knowles (Governmental Affairs Director), Linda Lupian (Financial Analyst), and Payton Nelson (Administrative Assistant) to ASA! We are excited to have you as a part of our team!

For more information on the services we offer, go to asc.edu.