## PREPnet (Pennsylvania Research and Economic Partnership Network)

**Address:**
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**Description:**

PREPnet is a mid-level network serving Pennsylvania since May 1988 for purposes of education, research, technology transfer, and economic development within the state. PREPnet was initiated through the joint efforts of the government of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania, and the PREPnet consortium of universities (Carnegie Mellon, Drexel University, Lehigh University, Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, University of Pennsylvania, and University of Pittsburgh). The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the inter-LATA carrier and Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania is the network operator, the owner of the equipment, and the marketing agent for network access. Supercomputing resources and a gateway to the Internet (NSFNET) are provided by the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center. Other member institutions have made a variety of information resources available on PREPnet, such as university library catalogs, bulletin boards, and various other databases containing statistical, agricultural, demographic, economic, and medical data. The network architecture consists of a T1 backbone connecting hubs in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Allentown/Bethlehem, and a 56-Kbps connection to a hub in Scranton. PREPnet uses the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

**Network Access:**

Any IP host of any member or affiliate organization may access PREPnet. Access options range from T1 connections to asynchronous SLIP connections.

**Who Can Use the Network:**

PREPnet is available to serve Pennsylvania clients who have a valid reason to use the Internet. Organizations operating within Pennsylvania involved in education, research, technology transfer, or the economic development of Pennsylvania are eligible to participate. Non-profit institutions may become members, and others may affiliate. Usage consistent with the above purposes is considered acceptable. Examples of unacceptable usage would include commercial order-entry or invoicing, or advertising of commercial products. PREPnet does not presently carry transit traffic whose source and destination are both outside the state.

**Miscellaneous Information:**

Executive Director: Thomas W. Bajzek, twb+@andrew.cmu.edu

NIC Manager: Marsha L. Perrott, mlp+@andrew.cmu.edu

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