

eduroam in our Communities: Seamless Wi-Fi Access for Local and Visiting Students, Researchers, and Faculty

What is eduroam?

eduroam (education roaming) is the secure, global, Wi-Fi roaming service developed for the international research and education community, available in more than 100 countries and 36,000 locations worldwide.

eduroam allows seamless Wi-Fi connectivity for students, researchers, and staff from participating post-secondary institutions – whether they are on their campus or visiting other participating institutions and sites.

eduroam is available in

100+ **36,000**
countries and locations worldwide

Who operates eduroam?

In Canada, the eduroam service is managed and operated by CANARIE, a member of the global eduroam Wi-Fi federation. The eduroam federation consists of an operating organization in each member country that authenticates and authorizes access on behalf of that country's post-secondary institutions. CANARIE currently supports between 17 and 36 million eduroam logins per month.

The eduroam network is broadcast where students and researchers gather, learn, and study, including university and college campuses, libraries, research hospitals, museums, and sports arenas. In many parts of the world, eduroam is also broadcast on public transit and at coffee shops and airports.

In Canada, the City of Mississauga was **the first Canadian municipality** to roll out the service throughout its public spaces, including parks, transit stations, and city facilities. Recently, the Edmonton Public Library became the first public institution in Alberta to offer eduroam, broadcasting the network at its 21 library locations.

eduroam benefits:

- **For students, research, and staff of educational and research institutions**, eduroam provides seamless connectivity on a trusted wireless network at hundreds of participating sites around the world. If they can access their home institution's eduroam network, they can access the global eduroam network.
- **For municipalities and other hosts**, eduroam helps create a virtual campus where local and visiting students and researchers can continue their research and studies anytime, anywhere. And because the eduroam network is only accessible to students and researchers with valid credentials from their home institutions, the security risks of open Wi-Fi networks are mitigated.
- **For IT departments of educational and research institutions**, eduroam minimizes the operational impact of managing users visiting their networks and eliminates the need for creating temporary user accounts. Visitors from institutions that participate in eduroam can securely and seamlessly connect and benefit from Wi-Fi access once they arrive on campus.



The eduroam opportunity for communities:

- **Uses existing Wi-Fi infrastructure**, making eduroam deployment a simple process
- **Serves a significant population in our community**: full- and part-time students and faculty at all colleges, universities, and research facilities (e.g. research hospitals)
- **Promotes the eduroam host as a leading innovator** for offering securing, seamless Wi-Fi access to students, researchers and visitors from across Canada and around the world
- **Elevates the eduroam host's standing as a Canadian tech hub** for students and researchers and improves attractiveness of the institutions in the area among prospective students
- **Strengthens the appeal of public transit**, particularly for university and college students commuting between their schools and research/tech parks for co-op and internship terms
- **Improves the security posture of public Wi-Fi** access across the community by reducing reliance on open, un-secure networks

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How does eduroam work?

When a user tries to log on to the wireless network of an eduroam-enabled site, CANARIE sends the user's log-on request to his or her home institution, which verifies the user's credentials and sends the result to the visited site. If this authentication is successful, the user is granted access to the eduroam Wi-Fi network.


What's the cost of offering eduroam in your community?

There are no participation fees for hosts to offer eduroam to roaming users – in fact, you will likely be able to leverage the Wi-Fi infrastructure you already have in place.

eduroam in our Communities

A few places where you can connect to eduroam:



 See the map of where you can roam in Canada.
canarie.ca/identity/eduroam

Want to
participate
in eduroam?

Contact us at:
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