

# The “TeenNet” Concept

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# Summary

## Objective

The present Education System has failed America by not offering poor and lower middle class families a used/refurbished laptop or desktop computer so teens can have a “virtual library” via the Internet to help them in researching topics such as civics, the environment, space exploration, biology, culinary arts, architecture, or building construction. It is vital to our economy that more teens get the education they deserve so they can find a career/job that will give back to the economy.

## Goals

To provide a great resource for Middle School or High School Students  
To provide help from high school teachers/college professors from all over America  
To help students discover which college, university, vocational school, or military option is best for them  
To expand their knowledge and learn more about a particular subject  
And to make sure our economy is strong once more

## Solution

Like the Digital Television Converter Box Program, the “TeenNet” Program will offer to each poor/lower middle class family a \$300 to \$500 grant via a “Coupon” Debit-Like Card that can only be used at retailers such as Best Buy, Circuit City, or online vendors such as usedlaptops.com that will deduct all or most of the cost of the used/refurbished laptop or desktop computer. The following Oses (Operating Systems) would be offered : Microsoft’s Windows XP Home Edition with MS Office 2007 Home Edition or the Fedora Project’s Fedora 10 (which is a free download at fedoraproject.org.) Each computer must have a 56K modem, either built-in or an external version that can be plugged in easily. For Internet Service, AOL or EarthLink should be provided for low cost or free access. Wireless options should also be available in towns and cities.

## Conclusion

America can be strong again when Education is affordable and accessible which will lead to a career which will in turn help the Economy in the long term. Please consider what I propose, America's teens deserve better from the Federal Government. It is time to use high technology for a greater good. It is time to establish a network in America that connects teens of all classes with the power of knowledge. Together, we can make a difference. Why the name "TeenNet?" It could be the name of this massive nationwide network of teens who want to learn more about our world. I will also say that college tuition must be brought down to reasonable levels so more teenagers or adults who need to return to college have that opportunity to do so.

Thank you for your time and attention...

*Markus McLaughlin*