

Seamless campus connectivity: powering next-generation learning

The digital divide is real

2.2 billion

young people under 25 still lack internet access at home, nearly two-thirds of the world's youth¹

Only 72%

of U.S. teens in lower-income households have computer access vs. **94%** in higher-income homes²

Students impacted by the divide lose
7 to 14 months
of learning³

83%

of U.S. parents want schools to provide more guidance on digital learning tools at home⁴

15%

of lower-income students lack a suitable device for remote learning⁵

Without equal digital access, the gap in education keeps widening



Closing the gap: What can schools do?

Universities, colleges and other schools can bridge the divide by building a secure, scalable and sustainable campus network that:

Supports high-demand apps (IoT, AR/VR, AI, cloud-based platforms and real-time video)

Delivers reliable access everywhere, from classrooms to remote locations

Empowers all students to learn without barriers

Such a campus network can enable more effective learning for all students, resulting in more polished graduates and a heightened institutional reputation.

Conversely, an unsatisfactory network experience can result in frustrated students and weaker performance.

Why does it matter?

84%

of students living in dormitories and residences consider reliable internet access as crucial as campus safety and academic program quality⁶

85%

report connectivity problems have directly affected their schoolwork⁷

At University of Iowa, internet satisfaction scores jumped from **4.34 to 5.99/7** after upgrading to enterprise-grade Wi-Fi⁸

Smart connectivity for smart learning

Next-gen learning thrives on uninterrupted, campus-wide connectivity that delivers:

Consistent, high-performance connectivity

Support for bandwidth-heavy applications like IoT, AR/VR, AI-driven analytics and real-time video

Frictionless collaboration across all devices and locations by facilitating a secure, scalable and sustainable campus

With robust, future-ready infrastructure, education can bridge the digital divide and unlock true innovation.

However, without strong, campus-wide connectivity, smart learning and other digital tools fail to deliver value.

90%

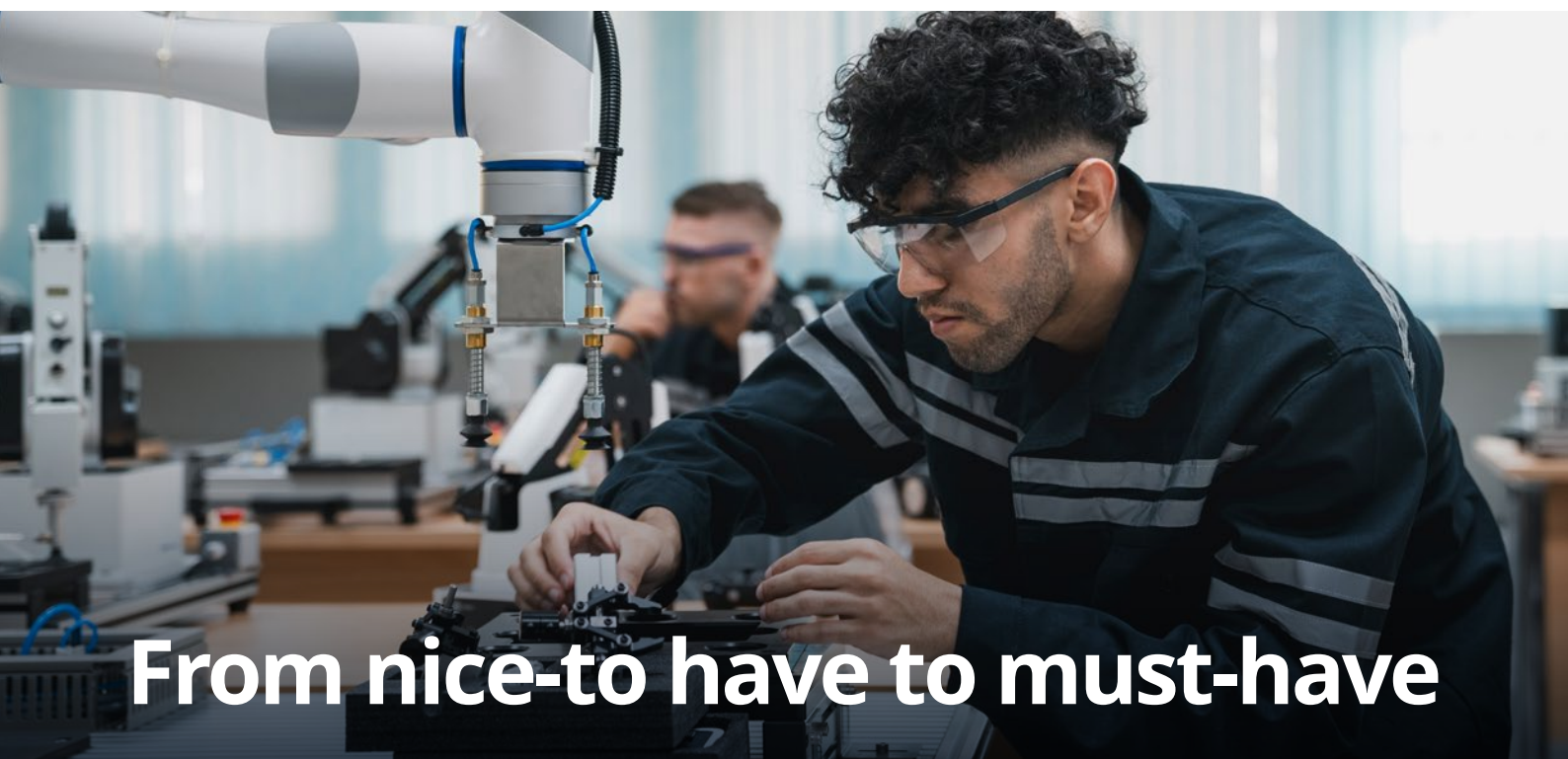
of education ministries worldwide now support some type of remote learning policy⁹

74%

of U.S. school districts now provide bandwidth of 1Mbps per student, up from just 8% in 2015¹⁰

85%

of faculty use a learning management system (LMS), with 56% using these tools daily¹¹



From nice-to have to must-have

Cutting-edge networking and collaboration are no longer optional – they're the backbone of a truly smart environment capable of delivering next-generation learning, operational efficiency, reduced long-term costs and flexible, student-centric learning models.

Power next-gen learning with Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise education solutions. Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise provides the digital backbone for education, with:

Zero downtime • Simplified management • Future-proof scalability

This helps institutions boost collaboration, enhance student engagement and spark innovation.

To learn more about ALE education solutions, visit al-enterprise.com/en/industries/education

Sources

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