There are a variety of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) available for accessing the Northwestern University network. But how do you find the best plan for you?

Northwestern University Information Technology (NUIT) provides information you need to help make an educated choice. Check out the NUIT Web site for Internet connection comparisons and provider information.

To safely connect to the NU Network and access all the resources available to you, use Virtual Private Network (VPN). VPN technology enables you to securely transmit data through a “tunnel” between your computer and the campus network over the Internet.

Some ISPs block VPN traffic. If you are having problems connecting to VPN, please contact your ISP to verify that they allow VPN traffic.

... on the Web

Connecting from Off Campus
Research options for accessing the Northwestern University Network from off campus.
www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus

Internet Connection Comparison
Compare high-speed Internet connection options.
www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/providers

Internet Service Provider Information
See pricing and features for several area vendors.
www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/offcampus–highspeed/vendor-info

VPN (Virtual Private Network)
Set up your computer for VPN connection.
www.it.northwestern.edu/oncampus/vpn/native

Tips & Tricks

- For your security, use a personal firewall if you use an “always on” connection, such as DSL or cable modem. Find out more about firewall settings at:
www.it.northwestern.edu/security/securing-machine/software.html

- If you live off campus, make sure your automatic AntiVirus updates are coming from an off-campus server. If your AntiVirus software is not up-to-date, you could be vulnerable to viruses.
Switch to off-campus Symantec™ LiveUpdate™ by using the switch tool available at:
www.it.northwestern.edu/software/sav/symantec-faq.html