



The **Orion Project** is a high-speed Community Network, connecting El Paso's independent networks with a one-stop portal for online access and delivery of K-Gray education. The founding members of the Orion Project are the El Paso Community College (EPCC), the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and the El Paso Independent School District (EPISD).

The Vision of the Orion Project is to provide a community-wide infrastructure that transforms the models for delivering continuing and community education, and creates an advanced and flexible architecture for information access and resource sharing for the El Paso community that can be used to focus on specific community educational, health, training and economic development needs.

### **Its Mission is three-fold:**

- Provide educational leadership through wider access to learning applications; flexible study times; consistent, pervasive technology; and synergy with community and workforce initiatives.
- Improve productivity through a shared, customized portal experience; easy access to information and familiar applications; improved communications; and a common delivery platform for shared applications.
- Provide lower total cost of ownership through shared development costs; shared operation costs; a common delivery platform for shared applications; and economies of scale in pricing for connectivity, content, software licenses and hardware.

### **Some Orion Project deliverables include:**

- High quality video, voice and data transmission
- Access to online library and healthcare resources
- Platforms for shared applications
- Easy access to information
- Flexibility in taking and scheduling classes
- Increased parental involvement
- "No Child Left Behind" compliance
- Increased avenues for teacher recruitment and retention efforts
- A better educated workforce for economic development

The Orion Project is looking ahead and seeking to collaborate with other area school districts, business and community entities. Future plans include:

- Providing access to the learning objects of partnership institutions
- Developing an accurate inventory of all learning objects
- Sharing research data
- Collaborative grant writing
- Increasing student outreach for recruitment, enrollment and transfer opportunities

### **For additional information, please contact:**

**El Paso Community College**  
**Fabiola Rubio, CPA**  
CIO/Vice President for Information Technology  
(915) 831-6392  
[fabiolar@epcc.edu](mailto:fabiolar@epcc.edu)

**University of Texas at El Paso**  
**Elizabeth F. Cardona, CPA**  
Assistant to the Vice President  
Information Resources and Planning  
(915) 747-7872  
[ecardona@utep.edu](mailto:ecardona@utep.edu)

**El Paso Independent School District**  
**Terri K. Jordan**  
Executive Director for Technology and Info. Systems  
(915) 887-6810  
[tkjordan@episd.org](mailto:tkjordan@episd.org)

Visit our website at  
[www.orionprojectelpaso.net](http://www.orionprojectelpaso.net)

