



Franklin County LIBRARIES

WiFi Hotspot Guidelines

Franklin County Library System (FCLS) has WiFi hotspots for patrons to borrow for free. These devices give our patrons access to the internet during a time of need. Our library can provide information to help those needing long-term internet access.

The library has received funding from the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) to provide these hotspots. Any ECF-supported equipment and services can only be provided to patrons who declare they do not have access to the equipment or services sufficient to access the Internet. A signature is required on the back of these guidelines.

What is a hotspot?

A hotspot is an easy-to-use wireless access point that connects your tablet, laptop, or other WiFi-enabled devices to the internet.

Is there a usage limit?

You can connect up to 10 devices at a time, with up to 20 GB of data, for the duration of the checkout. Download speeds may vary according to network coverage. Generally speaking, 20 GB will allow you to browse the internet for almost 250 hours, listen to 4,000 songs, **OR** watch 40 hours of standard-definition video. Hotspots may not be used outside the USA.

How do I check out the device?

Hotspots cannot be reserved through our website. Call your library or stop in to see if a hotspot is available. If one is unavailable, a staff member will do their best to obtain one for you as soon as possible. You will need an adult or juvenile library card to borrow a hotspot. If your library card is either a temp card or an e-card, you must confirm your home address with a staff member to change it to an adult or juvenile card before checking out a hotspot.

How long can I keep it?

Hotspots circulate for 28 days and are non-renewable. A hotspot may be

checked out three times a year per individual.

Note: If the hotspot is not returned to the library when it is due, wireless service will be disconnected, and the hotspot will be unusable.

What happens if I lose it?

The cardholder acknowledges financial responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged equipment. The replacement cost is \$100. The library does not accept replacement hardware, software, or peripherals in place of payment.

Connect to your hotspot:

Make sure WiFi is enabled on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

- Turn on the hotspot by pressing and holding the Power button on the front until you see the screen turn on.
- The WiFi name and password can be found on the back of your hotspot or by tapping the WiFi Name/Password on the screen.
- Go to your device and select the WiFi Name of your hotspot.
- Enter the hotspot's network password and hit connect.
- Your device will display a message indicating it has connected to the hotspot network.

*The Hotspot does not need to be plugged in to work; however, if the screen does not turn on after holding the power button, your device needs to be charged. Also, do not always keep your hotspot plugged in, as it can damage the battery over time.

Hotspots are unsecured wireless networks. Hotspot borrowers are cautioned against transmitting sensitive or personal information, including credit card information, and do so at their own risk.

Our hotspots were funded by the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). They can only be provided to patrons who declare they do not have access to the equipment or services sufficient to access the Internet.

By signing this statement, I declare I do not have access to such equipment or services.

Patron signature

Date