

# OSD Hotspot Information

## General information related to OSD cellular hotspots:

- The district maintains 300+ T-Mobile cellular hotspots for student use.
- Each hotspot contributes 2Gb/month to an overall district pool of data.
- All OSD hotspots use data from the collective data pool.
- If the pool is depleted, bandwidth to all OSD hotspots will be throttled down until the next month.
- OSD hotspots can only be used with OSD mobile devices. Personal devices cannot be connected to them.
- Bandwidth for the hotspots can be directly related to the signal strength they are receiving from the closest T-Mobile cellular tower.

## Obtaining an OSD Hotspot

- Supplies are limited for OSD hotspots. Hotspots are intended for families that have hardships obtaining Internet at their home. Please help us reserve these devices for those in the most need.
- If you are interested in obtaining an OSD hotspot, please contact the OSD Technology Helpdesk to inquire about availability and/or to be placed on a waiting list. The OSD Technology Helpdesk can be reached by emailing: [helpdesk@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:helpdesk@osd.wednet.edu) or calling (360) 596-8530.
- If you need a hotspot for more than one device in your household, please let the Helpdesk know. They can be set up to be used by more than one OSD Chromebook simultaneously.

## Tips for Using OSD Hotspots

- Try to avoid streaming video/Zooming with more than two devices at a given time.
- Find the location in your home that has the best signal strength possible.
- Keep the district Chromebook close to the hotspot.
- Keep the Hotspot charged and/or plugged in.

## Other Items to Note

- Please be respectful of all OSD hotspot users. Use the device for OSD educational purposes, not for personal media streaming. Personal overuse can result in the entire

data pool being depleted, impacting all OSD hotspots.

- Some families can qualify for the Comcast Internet Essentials or Centurylink Lifeline program. Each of these programs provide broadband access to qualifying families for \$10 +tax/month. Visit [Comcast Internet Essentials](#) (Phone: 855-846-8376) or [Centurylink Lifeline](#) (Phone: 800-244-1111) for more information.
- For homes without access to Comcast and/or Centurylink and have poor or no cellular coverage, all OSD school parking lots will have wireless coverage. Capital and Olympia HS already have good wireless coverage.
- Comcast XFINITY has opened up their Business Internet locations for public use. This is only their Business connections, not residential service.
- The Washington Department of Broadband is asking for all WA residents help to map out Internet speed and gaps across the entire state. This endeavour will help city planners, broadband providers and others determine where poor or no broadband service exists. Please help provide data to this program by visiting: [The Washington State Broadband Access and Speed Survey](#).