

MPS Student Cellular Hotspot Program

Policy and Guidelines

1. Program Purpose

The purpose of this program is to provide equitable access to the internet for students who lack reliable home internet service. The cellular hotspots are to be used exclusively for educational purposes by students in the household to support their learning, homework, and access to school-provided resources.

2. Eligibility and Application

A. Who can apply?

This program is open to families of currently enrolled students who are certified to receive either free or reduced-price school lunch.

B. Application Process

Families must complete an application form to request a hotspot. The application will require:

- The names and student IDs of all students in the household.
- Confirmation of the family's eligibility for the free or reduced-price lunch program.
- A signed agreement acknowledging and accepting the terms and conditions of this policy.

C. Distribution and Prioritization

- **One per family:** Only one hotspot device will be issued per household, regardless of the number of eligible students in that home.
- **Prioritization:** In the event that demand for hotspots exceeds the available supply, devices will be distributed based on grade level, with high school students receiving the highest priority, followed by middle school students, and then elementary students. This is based upon expected homework and project work assigned for completion outside of the classroom.

3. Device Use and Expectations

A. Acceptable Use

- The hotspot is to be used solely for educational purposes, including accessing school-related websites, online learning platforms, and completing homework.
- All use of the hotspot must comply with the district's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for technology. Board Policies [3116](#) and [5208](#).
- Any non-educational use, such as streaming movies, playing online games, or accessing

inappropriate content, is strictly prohibited. The district reserves the right to monitor internet traffic and terminate service for misuse.

B. CIPA Compliance and Content Filtering

- In accordance with the [Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](#), the hotspot device and its associated internet service are equipped with content filtering to block access to obscene, pornographic, and other content deemed harmful to minors. This filtering will be active at all times, on and off school property.
- Students and families are prohibited from attempting to bypass or disable the content filtering measures.

C. Care of the Device

- The family is responsible for the proper care and security of the hotspot device.
- The device must be kept in a safe location, away from food, liquids, and extreme temperatures.
- Any damage, loss, or theft of the device must be reported to the main office staff at the student's school immediately.

4. Terms and Conditions

A. Ownership and Return

- The hotspot device remains the property of the school district at all times.
- The device and all accessories (charger, etc.) must be returned to the district at the end of the school year or upon the student's withdrawal from the district.
- Failure to return the device may result in a fee equivalent to the replacement cost.

B. Service and Data

- The district will provide a limited amount of data service with the hotspot. Heavy data usage for non-educational purposes may result in a review of the student's eligibility for the program.
- The district is not responsible for any issues with cellular reception or service in the student's home.

C. Privacy

- The district reserves the right to monitor student Internet activity. The district may collect aggregate data on usage and will track attempts to access blocked content as required by CIPA.
- All use of the hotspot device and network is subject to the district's established privacy policies.

5. Enforcement

- Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the student handbook, including but not limited to the suspension or revocation of the hotspot device and its internet service.
- The district reserves the right to modify this policy at any time with prior notice to families.