



WiFi Access



A guide to finding free and affordable WiFi using the community resources and working offline on the Chromebook.

To support families, many companies are offering free internet access. Additionally, internet providers have opened [public WiFi hotspots](#) for student use.

Lifeline Program

Lifeline is a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service. Lifeline helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare, and more.

- Eligible consumers can get up to \$9.25 off the cost of phone, internet, or bundled services.
- Eligibility for Lifeline based on income or participation in a government assistance program.
- Limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household

Click the link below to learn more about the program, to see if you qualify, and how to enroll.

[USAC Lifeline Support](#)

Home options:

Comcast:

Comcast, which owns Xfinity, offers an internet access program for low-income families for only \$14.95 a month.

[Comcast Comprehensive COVID-19 Response](#)

[Comcast Increases Access to and Speeds of Internet Essentials to Support Americans Through Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

- All new customers receive a free self-install kit that includes a cable modem with a Wi-Fi router.
- To sign up, applicants can simply visit www.internetessentials.com.
 - A video chat with customer service agents is available for individuals needing [American Sign Language](#)
- Once you're an Internet Essentials or Internet Essentials Plus customer, you're eligible to purchase a new Dell laptop or Chromebook for just \$149.99 plus tax. Learn more [HERE](#)

Spectrum:

[Spectrum Internet Assist](#) provides qualified customers with reliable, high-speed internet at an affordable price of \$25 a month. The program has no contracts, data use caps or hidden fees.

Spectrum Internet Assist includes:

- 50-Mbps high-speed internet
- Parental Controls
- Security Suite
- Internet modem

ATT:

[Access from AT&T](#)

Unlimited AT&T Home Internet – All AT&T consumer home internet wireline customers, as well as Fixed Wireless Internet, can use unlimited internet data.

- Approval can be based on participation in an approved government program - Click [HERE](#) to apply
- Approval can be based on meeting a household income threshold - Click [HERE](#) to apply

Verizon:

[Verizon Forward](#)

Customers who meet income requirements or participate in certain government assistance program may be eligible for home internet for as low as \$20 a month.

- Qualifying customers receive a service discount on their Fios, 5G Home or LTE Home Internet plan price.
- New or existing customers
- One discount per household

T-Mobile:

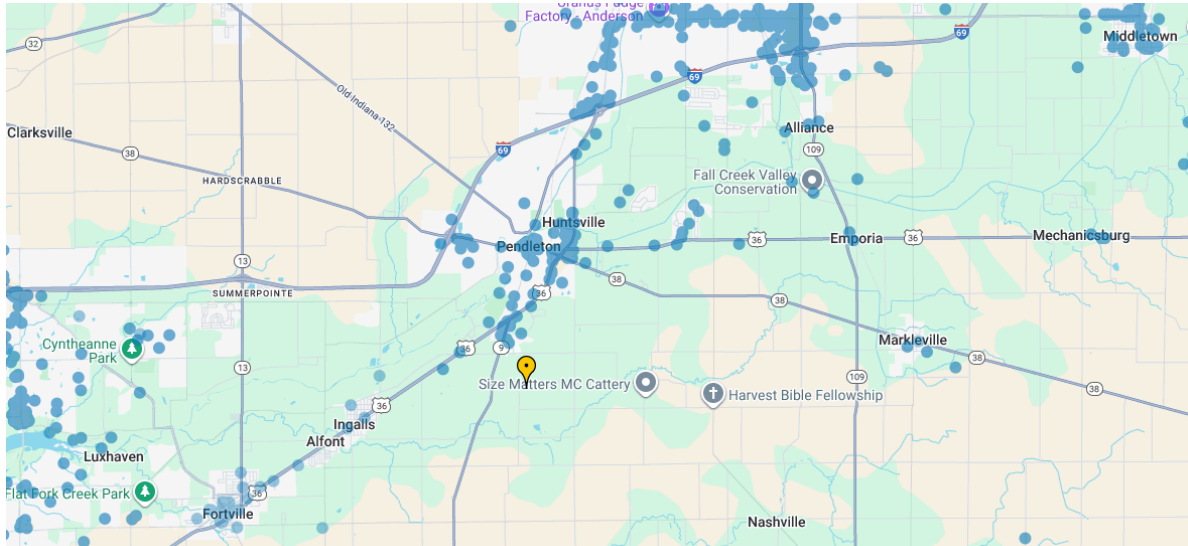
T-Mobile has a number of programs and services to assist families in gaining access to quality, reliable, and affordable Internet.

- Free Assurance Wireless Unlimited Plan - <https://www.assurancewireless.com/Partner/bwin>
 - T-Mobile's Project 10 Million - <https://www.t-mobile.com/business/education/project-10-million>
-

Free WiFi is offered in numerous public businesses and spaces. Look at the map below to find local businesses where students can work and access free WiFi.

WiFi Hotspots:

Xfinity has opened public access to a range of hotspots across the nation. [See map for locations](#)



Pendleton Area: Love’s Truck Stop, McDonald’s, Falls Perk Coffee Shop, Pendleton Community Public Library, and others

Anderson area: 29th St. Cafe, Anderson Public Library, Starbucks, Panera Bread, Bob Evans, Culver’s, and others

Affordable Access at Home

Some of you are interested in getting WiFi for your home at an affordable price. Internet companies offer many options for low-income families and families on free or reduced lunch. Below, you will find more information to help you get started on connecting your home with WiFi.



Use the internet to locate affordable access at home

1. Visit the public library (see the next page for library details).
2. Visit <http://everyoneon.org/>
 - Click “Find Low-Cost Offers” and type in your zip code.
 - Enter your zip code
 - Answer the question on step 2 to see if you’re eligible.
 - If you are, you’ll get a list of offers as well as a phone number (small print under the offer) to finish the process by phone.



- * FREE Public WiFi for ALL
- * FREE computer use with a library card (or use a free guest pass).

- * 5G WiFi hotspots available for check-out. (7 day rental - one renewal - Only 9 AVAILABLE)
- * FREE internet and Microsoft Office software (Word, PowerPoint, Excel)
- * Access to GOOGLE suite
- * Available computers: 12 adult and 6 teen PCs (4 children’s PCs available with limited programming)
- * Laptops available for in-library use only (3 available)
- * One-hour sessions (90 minutes if no one is waiting, or you can request additional time at the front desk).



Library hours

Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- Computers are shut down 20 minutes before closing

Offline Access

[CLICK HERE](#) for instructions.

Additional Tips:

1. Make sure to download all necessary documents or files before leaving school. That way you can access those documents anywhere, even if you don't have the internet.
2. Get the "Save to Google Drive" Google Chrome extension to help with saving various online content or images/screenshots to Drive. Extensions can be found on the Chrome Web Store. Access the store while on WiFi.
3. Tell your teacher as soon as possible if you do not have access to the internet at home. Keep that channel of communication open as the school year progresses.
4. When you do have access to WiFi, whether that is at school -- before and after school, during study hall -- or at a relative's house, use that time wisely to access school work and content, complete assignments, and turn in work.



Questions? Contact:

Pendleton Elementary | Maple Ridge Elementary | East Elementary
Erika Matthews, Media/STEM Specialist | ematthews@smcsc.com

Pendleton Heights Middle School | Pendleton Heights High School
Matthew Vosburgh, District eCoach | mvosburgh@smcsc.com