



Student Technology Fee Committee (STFC) Annual Allocation Request

ALLOCATION REQUEST DATE INFORMATION

Date Created: 2020-02-28 13:09:37

Date Due: 2020-02-28 17:00:00

Date Submitted: 2020-02-28 13:15:35

ALLOCATION REQUEST TITLE/DESCRIPTION

Request Title: T Mobile 4G Wifi Hot Spots

Request Description: A request to fund two T-Mobile 4G wi-fi hotspots for students to checkout so that they can have internet anywhere.

ALLOCATION REQUEST INFORMATION

Department Name: Library

Request Code: 20A0252

Contact Names: Timothy Bostelle

UW Tacoma Affiliation: Staff

UWT Email Address: tbostell@uw.edu

Phone Number: 2536924650

Title of Request: T Mobile 4G Wifi Hot Spots

Type of Request: One Time

Department Head Approval: Department Head: Justin Wadland

Annual Request Information

1. Background: Review and discuss the context of the proposed technology in detail. Explain how this proposal will be used in conjunction with an original proposal or existing technology. If applicable, how is the current technology disabled or inadequate?

In the Ithaka S+R research report titled "Student needs are academic needs" (<https://sr.ithaka.org/publications/student-needs-are-academic-needs/>), researchers identified loaning technology as the second most valuable resource for students. Of these loaning technologies, "wi-fi hotspots" were ranked among the more valuable.

The authors of the study received 10,844 responses from students all over the country, including Washington State. And "when asked what types of materials they would find particularly useful to borrow or use, eight in ten students named Wi-Fi hotspots".

It may seem surprising that so many students want a wi-fi hotspot because we assume that everyone has internet at home. While it is true that a lot of students do have access to internet, there are some students who may find themselves in an unusual short-term situation who just need access to the internet in order to succeed academically.

These wi-fi hotspots provide flexibility for students to study almost anywhere they want. That flexibility in study location is key to older students, or non-traditional students with a family who need to take the limited time available to them to get in a few hours of studying. They are also useful for students who face unexpected travel during the middle of a quarter and need high-speed internet in order to participate remotely in their classes.

We have already had several requests (at the circulation desk) for wi-fi hotspots from students and I assume demand would increase once we advertised the service.

We are asking that the STFC fund two (2) Franklin T9 wi-fi hotspots with unlimited data (truly unlimited, no throttling at 50gb) for one year as a pilot program to see whether these items are needed by students at UW Tacoma.

2. Benefit to Students: Discuss how students have benefited from the original proposal, if applicable. How will additional funding of the technology benefit students? If this was an unforeseen technology need, discuss how students will benefit from this new proposal and why the need cannot wait for annual allocation funding.

As described above, students at UW Tacoma have already (spontaneously) requested wi-fi hotspots at the Library. Benefits to students includes giving access to students who need internet access, flexibility in that access, and allowing them to take the internet with them wherever there are T-Mobile towers.

3. Access: Describe who will be using or will have access to the resources being proposed. If the access has changed since an original proposal, be sure to note that here. In addition, all previous requestors, please provide historic data highlighting the usage and accessibility of technology. All new requestors, please provide user need data.

The wi-fi hotspots are intended for UW Tacoma student use only.

Our only user need data comes from the Ithaka report and from the two students who asked if we had these devices available for checkout

4. Timeline: Provide a timeline showing how the proposed technology can be completed during the requested period. Describe when you would like to see this proposal initiated and completed, and why.

The Library already has contacted the regional salesman for T-Mobile and received a quote for the devices and the service. As soon as funds are released the library will purchase the items and create the instructions.

The Library will also advertise the service in late summer at the new student orientations. And the Library will continue to advertise the services (along with everything else that we offer through the STFC!) throughout the school year.

5. Resources/Budget: Discuss available financial, personnel and space resources devoted to the proposed technology and level of support. Proposal must detail all the items/resources requested to be purchased. This includes filling out the Item Detail in next section.

The Library pays for student employees to cover the service desks to check out equipment and for student employees to help service this equipment. In addition, the library pays for one full-time head of Library IT who oversees the IT department and a Head of access services who hires and trains a huge cadre of student employees.

If this program is chosen the STFC will allocate \$900 to lease two T-Mobile Franklin T9 Hotspots for one year (12 months). T-Mobile will charge a monthly rate of \$29.75 per device (plus about 20% in taxes and fees) which brings the total to \$864 for two devices for one year. \$36 was added into the proposal in case tax or fees change between now and fall 2020.

Library staff will provide the STFC with a report during the next annual allocation cycle detailing the number of times the items were checked out, any problems that arose, and any successes stories.

Funding Request Items

Item	QTY	Cost Per Item	Shipping Fee	Tax Per Item	Subtotal
Franklin T9 hot spot	2	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$83.00	\$886.00
OVERALL TOTAL:					\$886.00