

THE FCC WIRELESS HOTSPOT NETWORK

GENERAL INFORMATION

The FCC Public Use Wireless “HotSpot” network (WHSN) is a service provided by the FCC for visitors to the FCC Headquarters, Portals II building. The wireless network provides limited wireless Internet access for an FCC visitor who has a Wi-Fi (802.11a or 802.11b) compliant network card installed on their personally owned portable device such as a laptop or table PC. This service is limited to specific service areas also known as “HotSpots” within the Portals II building on the Courtyard (CY), the Twelfth Street (TW), and Eighth (8) floors.

Prior to connecting to the WHSN, the FCC suggests that you read the Policy and Disclaimer provided on the back of this handout. Your use of the wireless network implies agreement with the policy.

SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Connecting to the WHSN is very simple. The WHSN is designed to allow users to connect with minimal installation and configuration effort.

In order to connect to the WHSN, you should use the default settings which are included in your Wi-Fi compliant network card. Below is some general configuration information in case you need to adjust your current Wi-Fi settings.

1. Ensure that your network protocol, specifically TCP/IP, is configured to:
 “Obtain an IP address automatically” and
 “Obtain DNS server automatically”.
2. Your Wi-Fi network card should be configured with the following settings:

Service Set Identifier (SSID)

None (default)

Network Type

Infrastructure (default)

Channel

6 (default)

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USER SUPPORT

The FCC does not offer technical support to the WHSN users. You may, however, obtain information on the operational status of the WHSN or report an outage by calling 202-418-WIFI (9434).

Q&A

Q1. Will I need a username and password to access the WHSN?

A. No. The WHSN is designed to provide Internet access without a username and password.

Q2. Can I access the FCC network using the WHSN?

A. No. The WHSN is completely separated from the FCC network. As a result, you will not be provided access to the FCC network

Q3. On which floors are the WHSN services available?

A. The Courtyard (CY), and the Twelfth Street (TW), and Eighth (8) floors.

Q4. When is the WHSN service available?

A. WHSN services are available Monday thru Friday between 8AM through 5PM.

Q5. Is the WHSN compatible with 802.11a complaint network cards?

A. Yes. The WHSN is compatible with 802.11a and 802.11b complaint network cards.

Q6. Will I be able to access the WHSN if I move to another room or floor?

A. As long as you are within the WHSN service areas or “Hotspots,” there will be no break in service.

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POLICY

The FCC Wireless HotSpot Network (WHSN) is an FCC provided service. In order to use this service, the user must accept the following:

- 1) Limited HotSpot coverage when visiting the Portals II FCC headquarters.
- 2) No connection to the FCC “wired” network.
- 3) The WHSN firewall will block all inbound Internet traffic to minimize any negative impact on the WHSN user.
- 4) The FCC will provide audit log information to agencies that are investigating improper Internet usage.

RECOMMENDED USE

It is highly recommended that all WHSN users use personal firewall software on their wireless devices.

DISCLAIMER

Any use of this service is acknowledgement that the user accepts all risks associated with this service. While using this service, it is user’s sole responsibility to manage and monitor the use of this service at all times.