# Free and Low-Cost Computer and WIFI Resources with Qualifications

**Compiled by the Normandale Student Resource Center** 

## **Normandale Resources**

- Normandale Computer Labs:
  - College Services, C 2190 (second floor, same entrance as the Tutoring Center)
  - o Partnership Center, P 1806 (second floor)
  - o Kopp Student Center, second floor near the fireplace

# **WIFI and Computers**

### **PCs for People**

- Description: Low-cost internet and technology equipment for eligible low-income households.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.pcsforpeople.org">https://www.pcsforpeople.org</a>
- Eligibility:
  - Proof of current enrollment in an income-based government assistance program
    OR documentation of current household income (under 200% of the federal poverty level or 60% of area median income).
  - o Must provide acceptable photo identification.
  - Eligibility details: https://www.pcsforpeople.org/eligibility/

# **Hennepin County Computer and Internet Assistance**

- Description: If you live in Hennepin County you may qualify for technology assistance
- Web page: <a href="https://www.hennepin.us/tech">https://www.hennepin.us/tech</a>
- Eligibility:
  - Live in Hennepin County
  - Household income less than \$65,000/year

#### **Computers**

## **Computers with Causes**

- Description: Awards a limited number of computers to those in need.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.computerswithcauses.org/application.htm">https://www.computerswithcauses.org/application.htm</a>
- Eligibility:
  - Anyone can apply. Priority given to students, teachers, and parents, the elderly, foster homes, shelters, and disabled US veterans and struggling military families.

#### Free Geek

- Description: Thrift store providing reduced cost or free technology equipment or software.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.freegeektwincities.org/thrift-store/">https://www.freegeektwincities.org/thrift-store/</a>
- Eligibility: Open to anyone.

### **Minnesota Afterschool Advance**

- Description: Program offering discounted Chromebooks to families with K-12 aged children who meet income limit.
- Web page: https://mnafterschool.org/chromebooks?fbclid=IwAR0jEGwDK0qV8pOefCXdwHeN1m4

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- Eligibility: You have a student in your household in grades K-12 and your household income in 2021 and 2022 is under \$33,500. Eligibility and Expectations details: <a href="https://mnafterschool.org/program-eligibility-expectations">https://mnafterschool.org/program-eligibility-expectations</a>.

## Repowered (formerly Tech Discounts)

- Description: Sells refurbished computers, laptops, and tablets at low prices.
- Web page: https://techdiscounts.org/
- Eligibility: Open to anyone.

# WIFI

#### **AT&T Access**

- Description: Low-cost internet for eligible households.
- Web page: https://www.att.com/internet/access/
- Eligibility: See if you qualify

## **Everyone On**

- Description: Gives you options of low-cost internet service providers for which you may qualify.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.everyoneon.org/find-offers">https://www.everyoneon.org/find-offers</a>

### **Lifeline Support**

- Description: Lifeline provides subscribers a discount on monthly telephone service, broadband Internet access, from participating providers.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.lifelinesupport.org/get-started/#">https://www.lifelinesupport.org/get-started/#</a>
- Eligibility: Based on income and use of other benefit programs, like SNAP or Medicaid. Details here: https://www.lifelinesupport.org/do-i-qualify/.

#### Spectrum

- Description: Discounted internet service (\$30 off) for eligible households.
- Web page: https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist.html
- Eligibility: To qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist, a member of your household must be a recipient of one of the following programs and must upload proof of eligibility:
  - o The National School Lunch Program (NSLP); free or reduced cost lunch
  - o The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the National School Lunch Program
  - Supplemental Security Income (For Applicants 65+ Years of Age)

# State of MN's list of low-cost internet providers

Web page: <a href="https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/adoption/">https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/adoption/</a>

# Xfinity/Comcast

- Description: Free internet program offering WIFI for \$9.95/month for low-income households.
- Web page: <a href="https://www.internetessentials.com/">https://www.internetessentials.com/</a>
- Eligibility:
  - Qualify for programs like the National School Lunch Program, housing assistance,
    Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, Federal Pell Grant, and others
  - o Live in an area where Comcast Internet service is available
  - Have not had Comcast Internet in the last 90 days
  - Households who owe money to Comcast may still qualify if approved by 12/31/22