

Wireless Internet Access

Free Internet access via a WiFi connection is now available to attorneys and other legal staff in designated areas within the US District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania Pittsburgh courthouse. Those who wish to use this service must bring their own laptop computer, or PDA, with a built-in wireless network card or with an external wireless adapter that is 802.11b or 802.11g compatible. **Please be advised that technical support will not be provided under any circumstances.** Users of the wireless network should read the [disclaimer](#) and the [FAQ](#) on this page before accessing the network.

The following information details the requirements necessary to access the Internet in the Attorney's Lounge (room 3297) on the 3rd floor of the U. S. Courthouse:

Bring a laptop or PDA with a built-in wireless network card or with an external wireless card that is 802.11b or 802.11g compatible.

Set your network card to use a dynamic IP Address (DHCP).

Set the SSID (wireless network identifier): **USDC** (*no encryption security*)

Users should be aware that there are security, privacy, and confidentiality risks inherent in wireless communications; and the United States District Court does not make any assurances or warranties relating to such risks.

You must read the Disclaimer of Warranties and Limitation of Liability before access the wireless network.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where will wireless Internet access be available?

Wireless Internet access is now available in the Attorney's Lounge (room 3297) on the 3rd floor of the U.S. Courthouse. Internet access is only being made available in a wireless medium that is functional with the follow two standards 802.11b & 802.11g. Wireless Access is provided on an "as is" and "as available" basis. The United States District Court does not warrant that this service will be uninterrupted
*** Internet access is NOT available in the Court Rooms. However spill over from the wireless signal may allow for access in area on the 3rd floor.**

What if I have problems connecting to this service? For liability and cost reasons government personnel are strictly prohibited from handling or troubleshooting users' personal computers. If government personnel are contacted they will only verify the current operational state of the Wireless Internet connection.

Why is wireless Internet access being made available?

We have provided Internet access as a courtesy so that legal counsel can benefit from on-site access to the Internet. In an effort to stay abreast with technology we have provided this service as an additional benefit to our current technology.

What can I do with wireless Internet access?

There are restrictions and limits on the wireless network. Feel free to browse the Web and communicate with your colleagues. Internet activity such as downloading music, watching TV or any other activity that consumes a large amount of bandwidth is prohibited. Please remember to consider the security implications of using the wireless network and protect your computer appropriately. The USDC provides **NO** security protection while using the Internet at our location.

Who runs the wireless network?

The wireless network is owned and operated by the United States District Court.

What computer hardware is required?

You will need a computer or PDA with a wireless network card that supports the 802.11b standard or 802.11g compatible.

What settings are needed to use this system?

The SSID (wireless network identifier) of the wireless network is "**USDC**". You will not need to enable WEP (wireless encryption) nor will a password be required. You may need to set your network card to use a dynamic IP Address (DHCP).

What operating systems can use it?

Any computer with a wireless network card that supports 802.11b or 802.11g can be configured to use the wireless network. This includes all versions of Microsoft Windows & Macintosh. However it is up to the user to make any necessary configuration changes to their personal computer. **No** technical support will be provided.

Is the wireless network secure?

No. Due to the unrestricted nature of this service, the wireless network should not be considered secure. Anyone using the wireless network should take the necessary precautions to ensure that their laptops are protected from network snoops and hackers.

Users should be aware that there are security, privacy, and confidentiality risks inherent in wireless communications.

Some precautionary measures include:

- Using the latest software patches and anti-virus software.

- Using a personal firewall.

- Using VPN software to securely communicate with office intranets.

- Please also read the disclaimer.

Disclaimer of Warranties and Limitation of Liability

For wireless Internet access provided at the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania. 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The Wireless Internet Access provided by United States District Court is for use free of charge by legal counsel. Wireless Access is provided on an "as is" and "as available" basis. The United States District Court does not warrant that this service will be uninterrupted, error-free, or free of viruses or other harmful components. Users should be aware that there are security, privacy, and confidentiality risks inherent in wireless communications and technology and the United States District Court does not make any assurances or warranties relating to such risks.

By using Wireless Internet access users agree that the United States District Court is not liable for any costs or damages arising from use of this service and United States District Court does not control any materials, information, products or services on the Internet.

No technical support of any kind under any circumstances will be provided to any user trying to access the wireless network. Internet access at the designated areas is provided only as a courtesy and may or may not be available at any requested time. We also reserve the right to deny or restrict access to any user who abuses

the network, such as excessive bandwidth consumption or using the network for any type of criminal activity.