The hotspot lending program is a free service that allows cardholders to check out a hotspot device and connect to the internet from almost anywhere. A hotspot is a small device that is used to connect the NWTC laptop to the internet. Hotspots are portable, so you can connect the NWTC laptop to the internet almost anywhere you are, like at home, on the bus or in the park. Your MiFi hot spot is paired with a specific laptop and no other devices are allowed to connect to it.

The hotspot device works in any area covered by the Cellcom 4G LTE network. A hotspot connects to nearby cellular towers, just like a smartphone does, and then wirelessly shares its data connection with nearby Wi-Fienabled devices, the NWTC laptop. Your hotspot device needs to connect to a Cellcom tower in order to function. Signal strength will vary based on your physical location to the nearest cell tower.

Troubleshooting connection issues:

- Move the device to a different location. For example, try setting it by a window or taking it to a different side of the house, so it can more easily connect with a Cellcom cell tower.
- Make sure the hotspot is not more than 30 feet away from your personal device. The connection strength will be weaker if your device is farther away from the hotspot.
- Visit <u>https://www.cellcom.com/coverage\_map.html</u> to determine the strength of the Cellcom signal at your address.

The number of people working from home due to COVID-19 is sometimes causing congestion on wireless networks and the internet. Cellcom is doing the best they can to increase their available bandwidth. Additional information can be found at <u>https://www.cellcom.com/covid-19.html</u>

There are two main areas to pay attention to – the power button and the charging port.



To turn your MiFi on, press and hold the Power button for 2 seconds – the power on sequence is shown below:



The Home screen lets you see what your MiFi is doing at a glance.



At the top of the screen, you'll see status indicators for network signal strength, 4 bars or better at 4G LTE is preferred.

Once you see a successful cellular connection status, power on your laptop. Once your laptop connects to the hot spot, the 0 Devices should now say 1 Primary



## **OTHER INFORMATION**

This hot spot has been locked down – you will not be able to see the Wi-Fi Name and password or make any configuration changes. This device is monitored and filtered to prevent access to inappropriate content and to manage the data plan which is currently capped at 2Gbps per month. Please do not use the hot spot for any streaming services unless directed by your instructor or for homework use. If any attempt is made to tamper with these monitoring systems, it may result in disciplinary action or loss of device use.

To turn the hot spot off, press and hold the Power button for 3 seconds. To wake the MiFi display, press and release the Power button. NWTC always recommends keeping the hot spot charged.