

Written Cover Letter for Participation in Research
Hotspot Access in Texas Rural Libraries: “Take the Internet Home”

Introduction

The purpose of this form is to provide you information that may affect your decision as to whether or not to participate in this research study.

Purpose of the Study

You are invited to participate in a research study to examine your experience with checking out the mobile hotspot from your library.

What will you be asked to do?

If you agree to participate in this study, you may be asked to:

- Complete surveys
- Be part of a focus group or interview
- This study will take 15 minutes (for surveys) or one hour (for focus groups and interviews)
- You can stop your participation in the survey or focus group or interview at any time

What are the risks involved in this study?

There are no foreseeable risks to participating in this study.

What are the possible benefits of this study?

The information you provide will help TIPI and the Tocker Foundation understand the effects of access to mobile Internet has for participants and may help others like you.

Do you have to participate?

No, your participation is voluntary. Withdrawal or refusing to participate will not affect your relationship with The University of Texas at Austin in anyway.

Will there be any compensation?

There will be no compensation and participation is voluntary.

How will your privacy and confidentiality be protected if you participate in this research study?

Your privacy and the confidentiality of your data will be protected. If you choose to volunteer to be contacted for focus groups or interviews, you may be audio recorded. Any audio recordings will be stored securely and only the research team will have access to the recordings. Recordings will be kept until they have been transcribed and then erased.

Whom to contact with questions about the study?

Prior, during or after your participation you can contact the researcher Dr. Sharon Strover at 512-471-6652 or send an email to sharon.strover@uts.utexas.edu for any questions or if you feel that you have been harmed.

Whom to contract with questions concerning your rights as a research participant?

For questions about your rights or any dissatisfaction with any part of this study, you can contact, anonymously if you wish, the Institutional Review Board by phone at (512) 471-8871 or email at orsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu.

If you have filled out this survey previously, please check the box at the bottom-half of the second page and answer questions #20 and #21.