



Internet Access & Safety Policy

Approved by the Lawrence Public Library Board of Trustees on 9/20/1999. Revised 9/21/ 2000; 8/15/2001; 9/16/2002; 11/18/2002; 11/15/2004; 11/21/2005; 1/20/2009; 10/13/2015; 10/15/2018; 02/15/2021; 02/19/2024. Next review date: 11/2026.

General Statement on Internet Access

Lawrence Public Library (Library) provides public access to the Internet in support of its mission and affirms its commitment to the principles of intellectual freedom as expressed in the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights. Public access to the Internet is a fundamental service of the Library and is provided to all patrons.

Patron Responsibility

Patrons who use the Library's computers or wireless network to access the Internet will respect the privacy of other users; abide by federal, state, and local law, particularly those ensuring the safety of minors; and follow the policies of the Library.

Parents and guardians, not Library staff, are responsible for Internet use by their minor children, including those who visit the Library without a parent or guardian.

Use of the Library's computers, electronic devices, or network to access the Internet constitutes agreement with this policy.

Unacceptable use includes but is not limited to:

- Accessing or exhibiting visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors, or obscene as defined by the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act. (K.S.A. Supp. 2013 75-2589)
- Violating individual privacy rights, including unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- Sending harassing messages, prints, images, or software programs to others
- Accessing or attempting to access secure data in an unauthorized manner
- Tampering with, damaging, or attempting to damage computer equipment or software
- Interfering with systems, operations, integrity, or security
- Violating copyright laws and software licensing agreements
- Using library computers and/or internet to conduct illegal activity

Staff is authorized to take immediate action to protect the security of computers and electronic devices and the network or to enforce any part of this policy, including, but not limited to:

- Verbal or written warning
- Immediate termination of the Internet session
- Suspension of computer use or other Library use privileges
- Notification of appropriate law enforcement officials
- Prosecution

Internet Safety Policy

In compliance with CIPA and the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act, the Library implements and enforces technology protection measures in an effort to ensure that no minor has access to visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors, or obscene, and to ensure that no person has access to visual depictions that are child pornography or obscene while using a public access computer.

A Library employee may disable a technology protection measure if

- Requested to do so by a library patron who is not a minor, and
- The requested access is for legitimate research or other lawful purpose

Library staff monitor usage of the online computer network through Internet filtering software, observations of Library staff and other users, and other means.

Patrons who are prevented from accessing websites that they believe should not be blocked, or, who encounter websites that they believe should be blocked, but which are not, may submit a request in writing to the Library Director. Requests must include the URL of the site and whether the request is to block or unblock it. Staff shall examine the site in accordance with this policy and make changes to the site block as may be appropriate.

Concerns about the enforcement of this policy or observed patron behavior that violates this policy will also be submitted in writing to the Library Director, providing as much detail as possible.

The library will inform patrons of the provisions of this policy by making the policy available on the library's website.

Library Rights and Responsibilities

Library staff will not disclose patrons' use of the Library with respect to information sought or received via the Internet except pursuant to a valid court order or subpoena authorized under federal, state, or local law, or as a result of unacceptable use as described herein.

Library staff may establish limits on the length and number of sessions allowed and may reserve some Internet workstations for specific uses.

The Library is not responsible for any unauthorized or illegal activity conducted over the Internet using Library equipment.

The Library is not responsible for loss of data, damage, liability, or injury from using library computer or internet resources.

The Library cannot guarantee that Internet filters will block offensive and/or illegal materials.

Policy review

This policy will be reviewed at least once every three years by the Library Board of Trustees.