

# Internet Safety Policy

(Est. 01/18/2012; Revised 2/17/2016, 1/15/2020, 8/16/2023)

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## A. Purpose

This policy is to meet and satisfy the provisions of the Children's Internet Protection Act and Idaho Code 33-2741, as well as to provide guidelines for patrons and staff regarding Internet use.

## B. Introduction

1. It is the policy of the Library to:
  - a. prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
  - b. prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
  - c. prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
  - d. comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h) (1) (B)].
2. Developed under the direction of the Library Board of Trustees, this Internet Safety Policy was discussed and adopted, following public notice required by Idaho code, during an open meeting of the Library Board on July 18, 2012.
3. As per Idaho code 33-2741, this Policy will be reviewed by the Library Board at least every three years.

## C. Legal Requirements

1. This Internet Safety policy complies with Idaho Code 33-2741 and with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h) (1) (B)].
2. The Library has in place a policy of Internet safety *for minors*, including the operation of a technology protection measure, "filtering software," on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, as defined in Idaho Code 33-2741 and the Children's Internet Protection Act.
3. The filtering software will be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer by a minor. However, while the filtering software is in place and active, know that no filter is fool-proof. The Library assumes no liability for web sites or their content that may pass through the filter and still be deemed inappropriate.
4. The Library has in place a policy of Internet safety, including the operation of a technology protection measure on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography as defined in Idaho Code 33-2741 and the Children's Internet Protection Act. The filtering software will be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer. However, while the filtering software is in place and active, know that no filter is fool-proof. The Library assumes no liability for web sites or their content that may pass through the filter and still be deemed inappropriate.

5. The Library's Public Internet Computer Use Policy may also limit Internet access or otherwise protect against materials other than the materials specified in Idaho statute.

#### **D. Inappropriate Network Usage**

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Library online computer network when using any electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

#### **E. Supervision and Monitoring**

1. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes. Such requests must be made in advance in writing by a legal adult to a member of the Library staff. Said requests must indicate why the request is being made and be signed and dated by the legal adult making the request. If there is doubt of legal adult status, proof of age may be required. If the request is in behalf of a minor, the request must be made by the minor's parent or legal guardian. During the time that the filtering software is disabled, a parent or guardian must be present with the minor while accessing the unfiltered Internet.
2. Any employee of the Library staff can supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the computer use agreement, and the Children's Internet Protection Act.
3. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Library Director or designated representatives.

#### **F. Implementation Requirements**

1. A notice of the availability of this Policy will be posted in a conspicuous place within the library for all patrons to observe.
2. The Library Board has established procedures and guidelines to handle complaints about this policy, enforcement of this policy by Library staff, and what a patron should do if they observe inappropriate behavior by another Library patron. These procedures and guidelines will be adhered to by Library staff to enforce the requirements of Idaho Code 33-2741 and the Children's Internet Protection Act.