

CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT (CIPA) POLICY

General Provisions

Much like the other print and non-print resources of the Library, the Library's computers are an "informational, intellectual and cultural resource for all people provided in a professional and welcoming manner." Users who do not abide by this policy may permanently lose Internet access privileges, and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Technology Protection Measures

In conformity with the CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT (CIPA) the Library provides filtered access to the Internet. However, Parents or guardians, not the Library, its staff, or its technology are ultimately responsible for the materials selected and/or accessed by their children over the Internet. Filtering software may both fail to block offensive content and block inoffensive content inadvertently.

Monitoring

Internet usage in the Library, whether by minors or adults, will be monitored. Any person found to be in violation of the Library's CIPA Policy or Computer Use Policy will have their computer use session terminated. Repeat offenders may be subject to escalating sanctions.

Internet Safety Training

The Allen Park Public Library will periodically provide Internet safety training for minors and parents/guardians of minors. Such training will address appropriate online behavior, cyber-bullying awareness and response, social networking sites, and chat rooms.

Subject to other demands on staff time for library services, the Library staff will make a good faith effort to monitor periodically the use of Library computers by minors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Library holds the parents or legal guardians responsible for their minor children's use of the Internet in light of the fallibilities of filters and other demands on Library staff time.

To address the issue of the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications, as well as unauthorized disclosure of, use, and dissemination of personal identification regarding minors, the Library urges minors to follow the safety guidelines below:

1. Never give out identifying information such as home address, school name, or telephone number.
2. Let parents or guardians decide whether personal information such as age or financial information should be provided online.
3. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone through a computer without parent or guardian approval.
4. Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, or threatening.
5. Remember that people online may not be who they say they are.

To address the issue of unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online, minors and all other Library Internet users are required to agree to an online Internet User Agreement that states that "Library computers are not to be used for any illegal activity."

Adopted: 04/04/2012