

Emporia Public Library

Internet and Computer Use Policy

Approved by the Library Board November 10, 2021

Purpose and Disclaimer

Emporia Public Library provides access to a broad range of information resources, including those available through the Internet. The library makes this service available as part of its mission to serve people of all ages at all levels of need.

The Internet offers access to ideas, information and commentary from around the world that can be personally, professionally, and culturally enriching. However, not all sources on the Internet are accurate, complete, or up to date. The library does not monitor, have control over, or accept responsibility for material found on the Internet. The library uses filtering software on its networks to protect computers from malicious damage; attempts to block pornography and/or material covered under the CIPA policy; and blocks the usage of BitTorrent.

Patrons use the Internet at their own risk, and must realize they may encounter material they find offensive, that is inaccurate, or incomplete.

Times and Guidelines

Each computer user must sign in with the scheduling software before using the computer and receives an initial 60 minutes of computer time. If there are no reservations scheduled and the daily time limit has not been reached the scheduling software will prompt the user to accept additional time in two 30-minute increments for a total of two hours per day. Computer users are encouraged but not required to have an Emporia Public Library card. A visitor may obtain a guest pass from the public service desk to use the library's computers; one pass will be given per day per person.

The computers in the Public Services area are for all patrons. The computers in the Children's Services area are reserved for Grades 5 and below. Patrons will be allowed to access all sites (such as e-mail, chat rooms, games, etc.), unless those sites contain illegal content or are restricted under the CIPA policy.

In order to log onto the library's wireless Internet access, users must agree to abide by the library's Internet and Computer Use Policy, located on the computer's splash page.

The library reserves the right to terminate a computer session at any time for any reason and/or move a user to a different computer to accommodate software needs or equipment maintenance. Although reasonable precautions will be taken, the library does not guarantee the hard drive to be virus free and assumes no liability for virus infections if users save files to their own storage media.

Responsibilities of Users

Users should be aware that they are working in a public environment shared by people of all ages and sensibilities. They should refrain from the use of sounds and visuals that might disrupt the ability of other library patrons to use the library and its resources.

Supervising Children's Use

Parents/legal guardians are responsible for deciding what library materials are appropriate for their child and are responsible for supervising their children's Internet sessions. Restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the parent/guardian's responsibility.

Legal and Acceptable Uses

People may not use the library's computers for illegal purposes. Violation may result in loss of Internet or library privileges. Illegal use of computers may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities.

The library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.

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