

Internet Safety Policy Orange County Library System

Introduction

The Internet offers access to many valuable sources of information. However, not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Some of the information may be viewed as offensive, inaccurate, or controversial. Library users are responsible for their own use of the Internet and parents are responsible for their children's use of the Internet.

The Orange County Library System (“OCLS”) receives E-rate and/or LSTA funding. As a result, OCLS is required by federal law, specifically the Children’s Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”), 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)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children’s Internet Protection Act.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by CIPA, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

CIPA allows OCLS to disable the Internet filter for only two reasons: (1) to enable access for bona-fide research; or (2) to enable access for another lawful purpose. If a member of the public wants OCLS to disable the filter, the individual will complete the CIPA form.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of OCLS’ online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by CIPA, 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.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of OCLS staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Administrative Team or designated representatives.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of the Orange County Library System at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on September 9, 2015.

Adopted October 2002

Revised May 13, 2004

Revised July 1, 2004

Approved 9/9/2015

By Orange County Library System Board of Trustees