

## Section 3.6

### Internet

Fair and equitable access to the information available online is important. In order to provide a safe environment for our patrons, users must adhere to the policies and procedures established by Greenville Area Public Library. Violations may result in loss of Internet access privileges.

1. The Greenville Area Public Library has no control over the Internet or its resources and assumes no responsibility for the quality, accuracy or currency of any Internet resource. The Internet may contain material of a controversial or objectionable nature.
2. The Greenville Area Public Library has filtering software to filter obscene or harmful websites in accordance with the [Federal Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/children's-internet-protection-act) [<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/children's-internet-protection-act>]. Users should be aware that filtering software is inherently imprecise and flawed and may not block information that some individuals may consider offensive, inaccurate, or inappropriate. Please speak to a staff member if you feel a page is incorrectly filtered.
3. The Greenville Area Public Library does not act in place of a parent or guardian. Parents *must* be responsible for their children for all Internet usage.
  - a. Children under 18 years of age must obtain written approval from their parents to access the Internet.
  - b. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by someone 18 years of age or older.
  - c. Educate your children about internet safety, including the following issues:
    - i. Never give out identifying information such as home address, school name, or telephone number.
    - ii. Let parents or guardians decide whether personal information such as age, marital status, or financial information should be revealed.
    - iii. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone via the computer without parents' or guardians' approval.
    - iv. Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, threatening, or make one uncomfortable.
    - v. Have parents or guardians report an incident to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678 if one becomes aware of the transmission of child pornography.
    - vi. Remember that people online may not be who they say they are.
    - vii. Remember that everything one reads may not be true.
  - d. For more information on children and the Internet, visit [Connect Safely](https://www.connectsafely.org) [<https://www.connectsafely.org>].
4. Users may not:
  - a. Use the network to make unauthorized entry into other computational, informational, or communication services or resources ("hacking").
  - b. Distribute unsolicited advertising.
  - c. Invade the privacy of others.
  - d. Make any attempt to damage computer equipment or software.
  - e. Engage in any activity that is harassing or defamatory.
  - f. Access material that is obscene or child pornography.
  - g. Use the Internet for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other rights of third parties.

## Greenville Area Public Library Policy

5. Equipment or services provided to patrons through the Emergency Connectivity Fund are intended for library patrons who do not otherwise have access to equipment or services sufficient to meet the patron's educational needs. Patrons using such equipment or services must sign and return a statement that they would otherwise lack access to equipment or services sufficient to meet the patron's educational needs if not for the use of the equipment or service being provided by the library before they can check out or use such equipment or services.

Approved 7/16/2019; Reviewed & Amended 11/16/2021  
Greenville Area Public Library Board of Directors