

Computer Use and Internet Safety Policy

Library Board Approved: 7-13-2026

Objective of the Library's Information Service:

WaKeeney Public Library supports its community with access to an organized collection of books and other media formats for patrons' cultural enrichment, general interest, and informational needs. It is within the context of this mission that the WaKeeney Public Library offers access to computers and the Internet, providing the greatest possible information access within the means of the Library and within the limitations of state and federal laws.

Users may print copies to the network printer for a fee of \$.50 per black and white copy and \$1.00 for color copies.

A parent or guardian must sign the patron registration card for a child under the age of 18, indicating agreement to abide by all library policies including this Computer Use and Internet Safety Policy.

Internet Safety and Library Policy:

Although the WaKeeney Public Library is concerned for the safety and security of users who access online information, the Library has no control over the content of the Internet and cannot be held responsible for what the user sees when connected to the Internet. **The restriction of a minor's access to the Internet beyond that required by this policy is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.** The safety and security of users accessing the Internet require those persons to be cautious, thoughtful, protective of personal information, and respectful of library policy and state and federal laws.

No user shall misuse a library computer to:

- Access or display information that is obscene as defined by Kansas law in K.S.A. 21-6401.
- Participate in e-mail, a chatroom, or instant messages that use information that is obscene as defined by Kansas law.
- Disclose, use and/or disseminate personal information that could threaten or create a vulnerability for a minor, for any other person, or for the library.
- Attempt to gain unauthorized access to any data, computer, or network.
- Send threatening or harassing materials.
- Transmit computer viruses.
- Use personal software programs on Library computers.
- Violate software license agreements.
- Print and/or copy copyright-protected materials in any format [Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.)].
- Alter, damage, or destroy data or programs.

The library has the right and responsibility to stop the internet session when the user has violated this policy. Further consequences may include:

- 1) User's computer privileges revoked for 14 days after a first violation.**
- 2) User's computer privileges revoked for one month after a second violation.**
- 3) User's access to the library rescinded after more than 2 violations.**

The WaKeeney Public Library complies with state and federal laws. We have a particular awareness of Kansas laws relating to obscenity (K.S.A. 21-6401; federal laws on copyright (U.S. Code, Title 17), the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NCIPA). The library and library users must comply with these laws. A copy of the state laws referenced here may be obtained at the Circulation Desk. To provide definition required by CIPA and NCIPA, the phrase "matter . . . inappropriate for minors . . ." used in the federal law is regarded as synonymous with the definition of obscenity in K.S.A. 21-6401.

Approved: 12/17/2001; Rev. 2/10/2020; 2nd Revision 2/10/2025

Children's Internet Protection Act Policy (CIPA)

Introduction

Public access to the Internet and online services have become an integral part of the WaKeeney Public Library's programs and services. The intent of this policy is to meet the provisions of the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act, as well as provide guidelines for patrons and staff regarding online computer use of Internet accessible computers.

The purpose of the Internet Safety Policy is to implement and enforce technology protection measures to: ensure that no minor has access to visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors, or obscene; and ensure that no person has access to visual depictions that are child pornography or obscene while using a public access computer.

Developed under the direction of the Library Board, this Internet Safety Policy was discussed and adopted during an open meeting of the Library Board on August 11, 2025. This policy supersedes all previous Internet Safety Policy statements and is effective on August 12, 2025.

This policy document will be reviewed by the Board at least every three years.

Legal Requirements

The Library's Internet Safety Policy complies with the applicable requirements of subsection (b) and L. 2013, ch. 98, sec. 1, and amendments thereto, commonly known as the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act.

The Library has in place a policy of Internet safety for minors, including the operation of a technology protection measure or other process that blocks or filters online access to visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors or obscene as defined in L. 2013, ch. 98, sec.1.

Supervision and Monitoring

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled only for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

Library staff shall supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act.

Patrons who encounter web sites which they believe should be blocked but which are not, or who are prevented from accessing web sites which they believe should not be blocked may submit a complaint. This should be given in writing to the library director and include the URL of the site in question and whether the request is to block or unblock it. Staff shall examine the site and determine whether it should be blocked or unblocked. If the technology protection measure being used is a regional service, the information and recommendation shall be forwarded to the appropriate regional staff.

Complaints about enforcement of this policy or observed patron behavior which violate this policy shall also be submitted in writing to the library director, providing as much detail as possible.

The library shall inform patrons of the provisions of this policy, including the standards used and procedures for complaint, by making the policy available on the library's web site and in print at the circulation desk.

Approved 12/9/2019; Rev. 8/8/2022; Updated 8/12/2025