

Shelby Area District Library

Internet Safety Policy

Introduction

It is the policy of the Shelby Area District Library to prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

MINOR. The term "*minor*" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. The term "*technology protection measure*" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. OBSCENE, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

HARMFUL TO MINORS. The term "*harmful to minors*" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, or actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT. The terms "*sexual act*" and "*sexual contact*" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

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 the Children’s Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, or in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

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

Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities, such as downloading copyrighted materials, and unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision, and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Shelby Area District Library staff to educate, supervise, and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children’s Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

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

Emergency Connectivity Fund Equipment

The library has received funding from the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) to obtain hotspots. Any ECF supported equipment and services can only be provided to patrons who declare they do not have access to the equipment or services sufficient to access the internet.

Adoption

This Internet Safety policy was adopted by the Board of the Shelby Area District Library at a public meeting, following normal public notice on May 28, 2013. *Emergency Connectivity Fund Equipment* statement was reviewed and adopted by the board at their January 25, 2022 regular board meeting.