

312: Computer & Internet Use

Created:	March 2020	Updated:	
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The Board of Trustees has established the following policy to guide the access to public computers and the internet to library patrons. The Board of Trustee's intent is to provide access that fairly and effectively serves the diverse needs of patrons. Offering free public access to the internet is consistent with the library's mission to support lifelong learning. The library's policy in this regard reflects the principles articulated in the following statements by the American Library Association:

- Library Bill of Rights
- Access to Digital Information, Services and Networks
- Freedom To Read Statement

INTERNET ACCESS

The Northbrook Public Library provides its patrons with free, unfiltered access to the internet via public computers and its wireless network.

The library requires patrons using the internet do so within the guidelines of acceptable use. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to:

- a) Hacking,
- b) Fraud,
- c) Use of peer to peer or other file sharing software,
- d) Violation of copyright laws or software licensing agreements,
- e) Accessing illegal sites,
- f) Harassment of other patrons,
- g) Destruction of or damage to equipment, software, or data belonging to the library or other patrons, and
- h) Behaving in a manner that is disruptive to other patrons.

CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

The library supports the right of all library patrons to access information and will not deny access to the internet based solely on age. The library recognizes the internet may contain material that is inappropriate for children. Parents or legal guardians are expected to monitor and supervise their children's use of the internet.

DESKTOP COMPUTERS

The library offers desktop computers for use by any patron. Computers may be reserved up to a week in advance by patrons holding a valid Illinois public library card registered in our system. Patrons may also sign on using a guest pass.

The library offers public use computers in these areas of the library:

- Youth Services Department computers are available for children, teens, and adults accompanying children.
- Teen Loft computers are available for teens.
- Reference Department computers are available for teens and adults.
- The Collaboratory offers public computers in the Peltz Digital Media Suite for all patrons.

IN-LIBRARY USE LAPTOPS AND TABLETS

The library also offers in-library use laptops. Laptops are available in the following areas and may be used by anyone with a valid library card in good standing registered in our system:

- Reference Department laptops are available through the reference desk.
- Youth Services Department laptops are available through the youth services desk while tablets are available in the department.

There are also laptops available in supervised spaces that patrons may use without a library card. These laptops are usually used for programs, but may be made available for projects and other uses when needed.