



# Internet and Computer Use Policy

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## Policy Statement

The East Moline Public Library provides free public internet access and free access to public computers and laptops. The Library adheres to the American Library Association's policy statement: Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: an interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights which supports the right of individuals to choose library materials for themselves, including those in electronic formats.

## Minor Patrons

The East Moline Public Library adheres to the American Library Association's interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights as it applies to minors and online activity, stated as follows:

The online environment offers opportunities for accessing, creating, and sharing information. The rights of minors to retrieve, create, and interact with information posted on the Internet in schools and libraries are extensions of their First Amendment rights;

As defenders of intellectual freedom and the First Amendment, libraries have a responsibility to offer unrestricted access to online activity in accordance with local, state, and federal laws and to advocate for greater access where it is abridged;

## Information Accessed Disclaimer

The Library does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof. Users must evaluate the validity of information accessed through the internet as some information may be incomplete, inaccurate, dated, or controversial.

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## Guidelines for Use

- Computer sessions are two hours. At the end of the session, the computer will automatically log out of the session. Patrons can request the session be extended one additional hour. Requests should be made at the reference desk at least five minutes before the session ends to ensure work is not lost.
- Computers are automatically reset after every session, erasing all information, documents, forms, etc. created or stored during the session. This information cannot be recovered. Patrons are encouraged to use an external device, such as a flash drive, to store information and/or write down critical information such as passwords.
- Laptops and their accessories can only be used inside the library up to eight hours a day.
- Computers in the children's area are for use by patrons 13 and younger. Computers in the adult area are for use by patrons 14 and older. Patrons using a computer outside of their age range may be asked to end their session if someone is waiting to use a computer.
- Patrons 5 and younger must have a caregiver sitting next to them to use the computer.
- Viewing pornography or pornographic materials on personal or library devices is not permitted.
- All computers shut down ten minutes before closing.

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees in 2017; Amended in 2023; Revised on August 26, 2024