



# OPERATING POLICY

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## INTERNET PUBLIC ACCESS

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### **The Internet as a Library Service**

Access to the Internet promotes the La Grange Public Library's mission to provide residents of all ages the means to continue learning throughout their lives; to nurture a love of reading; to find, evaluate and utilize information in a variety of formats; and to connect as a community. The Internet provides an opportunity to enhance and supplement resources that are available within the library.

### **Relationship to Other Library Policies**

This Policy for Public Access to the Internet falls within and complements all other library policies.

### **Library Patron's Rights**

Patrons have the right to equitable access to the Internet in accordance with the:

1. United States Constitution - Bill of Rights: Amendments 1 and 14
2. ALA Library Bill of Rights
3. Freedom to Read Statement
4. ALA Access to Electronic Information Statement.

The La Grange Public Library will work to preserve and protect these rights.

1. Any patron, regardless of age, has freedom of choice when searching the Internet.
2. We do not charge a fee for access to the Internet or WiFi network. In order to allow as many people to utilize the computers as possible, staff members will limit the time of users.
3. In order to use a La Grange Public Library computer, patrons are asked to present a valid library card.
4. Patrons not eligible for a library card in a Metropolitan Library System (MLS) library may be given a Guest Pass for one session.
5. The library does not monitor, and has no control over the information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content.
6. The library recognizes that the Internet may contain material that is inappropriate for children. Parents or guardians are encouraged to monitor and supervise their children's use of the Internet. Parents should discuss with their children issues of appropriate use and Internet use safety.
7. Patrons under the age of 18 must have parental signature on file to access Internet computers. If a parent or guardian does not wish to sign the form, they may choose instead to be present and give their verbal permission each time the child uses the Internet station.

### **Staff Assistance and Instruction**

Library staff may provide assistance to patrons regarding the use of the Internet as time and staff knowledge permits.



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## **Public Access Computer User Agreement**

The La Grange Public Library makes no guarantees either expressed or implied in respect to any equipment, programs, or other materials, their performance, or fitness for any particular purpose. Materials and equipment are given for use "as is." The entire risk as to the quality and performance of computer equipment, programs and documentation is with the user. In no event shall the library be liable for actual, incidental, or consequential damages in connection with or arising from the use of any equipment, programs, or other library materials.

The following will result in suspension of user privileges:

- Improper use of computer equipment, peripherals, or software.
- Talking loudly or disturbing other patrons.
- Use of the Internet in any way which violates a federal, state, or municipal law, including copyright laws.
- Programming or changing setup of hard drives or the operating system defaults.
- Use of another patron's library card to access computers.

Violations of this policy will be treated the same as violations of the Behavior Policy.

## **Review of This Policy**

The Library Board of Trustees and Library Director will review this policy on an annual basis.