

Internet Policy

Accessing the internet

The Hiawatha Public Library provides workstations for free public access. Use of the internet via the library's wireless network is also bound by this policy. The library does not control specific information on the internet. Parents or guardians are responsible for the internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. We advise parents or guardians to supervise their children's internet sessions.

Using the internet

Computer users can login directly at any available internet computer. Internet users will need to read and agree to the library's usage policy. Guest passes are available upon request for patrons not eligible for a library card due to residency requirements. The library also offers free wireless internet access to patrons with wireless-enabled laptop computers or handheld devices. Trained library staff will assist with library equipment and resources, but may not be able to help with personal devices. *The library does not accept liability for patron equipment.*

Restrictions

The use of the internet in the library must be for legal and ethical purposes. Examples of unacceptable purposes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17 of the United States Code) governs the downloading and reproduction of copyrighted material. The person using the library's computers is liable for any infringement. The library reserves the right to refuse a download or print job if, in its judgement, fulfillment of the order would involve violation of copyright law.
- Users must comply with all local, state, and federal laws while using the internet. Users found to have violated any laws, including but not limited to those concerning privacy, obscenity, fraud, or copyright, while using library facilities or equipment will have their internet privileges revoked.
- Receiving or displaying text or graphics that may reasonably be construed as indecent or obscene and that might be harmful to minors. Iowa Code, Chapter 728.2, "**Dissemination and exhibition of obscene materials to minors**" states: "*Any person, other than the parent or guardian of the minor who knowingly disseminates or exhibits obscene materials to a minor, including the exhibition of obscene material so that it can be observed by a minor [emphasis added] on or off the premises where it is displayed, is guilty of a public offense and shall upon conviction be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.*"
- Destruction of or damage to equipment, software, or data belonging to the library;
- Violation of computer system security and/or system configuration;
- Violation of another user's right to privacy;
- Use of sounds that are disturbing to others. Earbuds or headphones must be used if the computer's speakers are turned on; the library has earbuds available for purchase; ask at the Information Desk.

While respecting individual users' rights to privacy, the library staff reserves the right to monitor use of computer workstations to ensure compliance with this policy.

Consequences

Violations of the internet use policy may result in loss of computer privileges and may lead to financial responsibility. Illegal acts involving library computers may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities. It is against the law in Iowa to download or provide child pornography, or display pornography where children may see it. (Iowa Code, chapter 728.2)

Disclaimer

The library makes no guarantee, either expressed or implied, with respect to the availability, quality, or content of the information on the internet. Users are encouraged to evaluate the validity of information accessed, either on their own or with the assistance of library staff.

Points

- There is a limit of 120 minutes per person, per day. Sessions may be extended by the library's automated reservation system or by library staff.
- Patrons who wish to use web-based e-mail or other online profiles must register and maintain their own accounts.
- Anything downloaded to the library's computers will be automatically deleted after patron logs off including search history.
- No more than two persons may use an internet computer at the same time.

Collection of Information on Use of Library Computers

Information is collected on usage of public computers in the Hiawatha Public Library. The library's PC Reservation System retains only information on the patron barcode, computer reserved, and the date and time of every public computer session. *These records are accessible to law enforcement agencies with a valid court order.*

Printing

Black and white and color printing are available; Black and white printing costs \$.15 per page. Color printing costs \$.50 per page. The print release station and printer are located near the circulation desk. Payment may be made through the coin-op machine or to library staff.

Staff Assistance

If time permits, library staff may assist computer users.

Availability

Internet computers may be unavailable or may be available for limited use due to library use or unforeseen problems.

Wireless Internet

Access (Wi-Fi) is provided free of charge by Hiawatha Public Library for patrons who have the required hardware and software needed for this service. Hiawatha Public Library's Computer Use and Internet policy govern use of this service.

1. By choosing to use this free wireless internet access (Wi-Fi) you agree to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy. In particular, you agree to use the library's network resources only for lawful purposes.
2. Wi-Fi access is provided as a free public service on an "as is" basis with no guarantee of service.
3. Users are responsible for setting up their equipment to access the Library's Wi-Fi network. The Library is not able to provide technical assistance. If you need assistance, contact the manufacturer of your laptop or software. The Library is not responsible for any changes you make to your computer's settings.
4. All Wi-Fi users should have up-to-date antivirus software installed on their computers.
5. As with most public Wi-Fi networks, the Library's wireless network is not secure. Any information transmitted (including credit card numbers, passwords, and other sensitive information) could potentially be intercepted by another computer user.
6. By using this connection, patrons acknowledge that security errors and hacking are an inherent risk associated with any wireless service. For that reason, patrons expressly agree that they knowingly assume such risk, and further agree to hold the Library harmless from any claim or loss arising out of, or related to, any such instance of hacking or other unauthorized use or access into the patron's computer.
7. The Library accepts no responsibility for any software downloaded and/or installed, email opened, or sites accessed while patrons are on the wireless internet connection. Any damage done to the patron's equipment or self from viruses, identity theft, spyware, plug-ins, or other Internet-borne programs is the sole responsibility of the patron; and the patron indemnifies and holds harmless the Library from any such damage.
8. Unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material(s) is strictly forbidden and will result in suspension or revocation of Library privileges and may result in a formal notification to the appropriate local law enforcement office.
9. The library assumes no responsibility for damage to or loss of equipment; users must keep their equipment with them at all times.

Adopted 2/13/18