Library Computer and Internet Use Policy

1. ## Purpose Statement
   Access to the internet has become a necessary information and communication portal. Serving as a free, reliable place for connecting to the internet is integral to the Library's mission. As a largely unregulated medium, the Library does not select internet resources available on the internet in the same way that it selects other materials for the Library's collection. Patrons are encouraged to be smart information consumers when evaluating information on a website.

2. ## Allowable Use
   A. Patrons must present their valid library card or request a guest pass to use the public computers.
   B. Patrons may use a computer for a maximum of two (2) hours.
   C. A patron may request additional time for work or school related activities.
   D. There is no fee to use the public computers. Centralized printing is available. The cost for black & white prints is 25 cents per page and 75 cents per page for color prints.
   E. As with other resources in the Library, Library staff can assist patrons in using the computer when needed as time allows.

3. ## Prohibited Use
   A. Using the Library's public computers to violate Federal Laws, State Statutes, or City Ordinances is prohibited, including those regarding obscenity, child pornography, and delivery of harmful content to minors.
   B. Due to the public setting of the computers and the presence of children in the Library, viewing certain materials is prohibited. Under Nebraska State Statute (NRS 28-808), it is illegal to distribute or exhibit material that is harmful to minors, or to be reckless about whether a minor is present who will be offended or alarmed by the display of harmful material. Harmful material includes any communication consisting of nudity, sex, or excretion that (i) appeals to the prurient interest of minors, (ii) is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable material for minors, and (iii) lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.
   C. Patrons may not damage or alter any of the computer equipment, software, or systems, and will be held responsible for any damage, including the cost of repair or replacement of any damaged computer

hardware or software.

D. Use of the Library's computers is also governed by the Library's Code of Conduct policy which prohibits:

    1) Playing audio equipment loud enough to disturb other patrons,

    2) Abusive language or behavior, and

    3) Engaging in disruptive conduct which interferes with other patrons using the Library.

E. These non-acceptable uses apply to any internet or computer use within the Library or on Library property, whether using public computers, the public wireless internet, or a personal device. These non-acceptable uses also apply to any access to the internet obtained through a Library-provided device regardless of location.

F. The Library reserves the right to end an internet session at any time if it is violating any of the above rules or if the patron is violating any terms of the code of Conduct Policy. The consequences for violating any of these policies will follow the outline provided in the code of Conduct Policy.

4. Internet

A. The Library utilizes a content filter on all public computers in order to limit patrons' exposure to obscene and illegal material. However, no internet filter is perfect at blocking all inappropriate sites, and sometimes sites that are appropriate are inadvertently blocked. Technology protection measures may be disabled by a library staff member, as necessary, for bona fide research or other lawful purposes by people aged 17 and older.

B. Children must be at least 8 years old to use the public internet computers.

C. A parent or guardian must accompany any child under the age of 8 when using a public computer. The Library staff does not serve in loco parentis (in place of a parent). It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to monitor and select what minors read or view on the Internet.

D. Children under 8 years of age may use the children's AWE computers located in the children's area. These computers have NO internet access.