

## **Internet and Online Access Policy**

### **General Introductory Statements:**

Public access to the Internet and online services have become an integral part of the Blackfoot Public Library's programs and services. The intent of this policy is to meet the provisions of Idaho Code 33-2741, as well as provide guidelines for patrons and staff regarding Internet accessible and online computer use.

Developed under the direction of the Combined Library Boards of the Blackfoot Public Library and the Blackfoot Rural Library District, this Internet and Online Access Policy was discussed and adopted during an open meeting of the Library Board on September 10, 2012. This policy supersedes all previous Internet and Online Access Policy statements of the Blackfoot Public Library and is effective on October 1, 2012.

As a matter of policy, the Blackfoot Public Library will abide by all laws governing or regulating Internet use as such legislation relates to library policy or service.

This Policy document will be reviewed by the Combined Library Boards of the Blackfoot Public Library and the Blackfoot Rural Library District at least every three years.

### **Legal requirements:**

The Blackfoot Public Library's Internet Access Policy complies with Idaho Code 33-2741 PUBLIC LIBRARY – INTERNET USE POLICY REQUIRED.

The Blackfoot Public Library has in place a policy of Internet safety for minors, including the operation of a technology protection measure, hereafter called "filtering software," on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, as defined in I.C. 33-2741. The filtering software will be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer by a minor.

The Blackfoot Public Library has in place a policy of Internet safety, which may include the operation of a technology protection measure on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography as defined in I.C. 33-2741. The filtering software may be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer.

Library policy restricts access to Internet sites that contain visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors or obscene, and may also limit Internet access or otherwise protect against materials other than the materials specified in Idaho statute. Filtering software will provide Internet safety for all library computers connected to the Internet during the use of a computer by a minor. However, a library staff member may disable a technology protection measure at the request of a patron to enable Internet access for lawful purposes. The viewing or downloading of pornographic material is strictly forbidden. "Pornographic material" is defined as any image that depicts partial or complete nudity, or any act of an explicit sexual nature. Violation of this policy will result in the loss or suspension of computer privileges.

### **Implementation requirements**

A notice of the availability of this Policy is included on each individual computer in the Computer Room, on the login page, for all patrons to view.

The Library Board has established procedures and guidelines to handle complaints about this policy, enforcement of this policy by library staff, and what a patron should do if they observe inappropriate behavior by another library patron. A notice of the availability of these procedures for public review will be posted, as well as the policies made readily available to all staff members. These procedures and guidelines will be adhered to by library staff to enforce the requirements of Idaho Code 33-2741.

Margaret Peterson  
Blackfoot Public Library Board  
Chair

Kathleen Pressler-Hall  
Rural Library District Board  
Chair

Lisa Harral  
Library Director

Adoption date: 9-10-12  
First review date: 10-7-13  
Second review date: 9-8-14  
Third review date: 10-5-15

**Revised: 12-3-18**  
**Board Approved: 9-9-19**