

Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

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- Requires that schools and libraries enforce certain safety measures preventing minors from accessing obscene content on the internet.
- Entities must Keep Records
 - Schools and libraries must [maintain documentation](#) demonstrating their CIPA compliance.
 - Maintain documentation showing CIPA compliance for all funding years
 - In the first and second year, they may show work toward CIPA compliance, but by the third year, documentation must show full compliance
- **Three requirements** of CIPA compliance are:
 - Internet Safety Policy
 - Technology Protection Measure/Public Notice
 - Public Notice and Hearing or Meeting

Internet Safety Policy

- The Internet Safety Policy must address:
 - Access by minors to inappropriate subject matter on the internet and World Wide Web;
 - The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication;
 - Unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful activities by minors online;
 - Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
 - Measures designed to restrict minors' access to information and subject matter that is harmful to minors.

Internet Safety Policy (cont)

- **Additional requirements for schools:**
 - Must also include monitoring online activities of minors.
 - Must educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including:
 - Interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms
 - Cyberbullying awareness
 - Response

Technology Protection Measure (e.g., Internet Filter)

- You must specifically block or filter internet access.
 - Entities must enforce operation of the technology protection measure during use of its computers with internet access.
 - The person with Authority for the administration of the school or library may authorize disabling the internet filter during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research, or other lawful purpose.
 - The local community (school board, local educational agency, library, or other authority) decides what content is inappropriate for minors.

Public Notice

- You must provide **public notice** and hold at least **one public hearing or meeting** to address the internet safety policy.
- For private schools, public notice means notice to your constituent group.
- Additional meetings are not necessary – even if the policy is amended – unless those meetings are required by state or local rules, or by the policy itself.



Required CIPA Documentation

- Entities must [maintain documentation](#)
 - Indicating their CIPA compliance
 - Demonstrating their internet safety policy, along with any updates to the policy.
 - Showing the policy's adoption. For example, approval in the minutes of the required hearing or meeting, or documented adoption by a school or library board.

Documentation for Technology Protection Measure

- A description of the filter.
- A report or other relevant documentation on the school's or library's use of their internet filter
 - The documentation must show that the internet filter was installed and functioning properly during the funding year in which the entity was CIPA-compliant.

For example:

- Filter provided by service provider:
 - A school could provide archived internet access reports from the internet service provider of internet sites blocked, or bills from the service provider verifying the filter was fully functional.
- School purchased its own filter:
 - A school must provide logs from their IT staff, showing hours the filter was in use.

Documentation for Public Notice and Hearing

- Documentation that the school or library gave public notice and held a public hearing or meeting on the policy.

For example:

- A copy of a website announcement for a regular school or library board meeting open to the public where the policy was discussed.
- An advertisement in a local newspaper of a county government hearing or meeting where the policy appeared as an agenda item.
- Copy of the minutes of the hearing or meeting, and the date on which the hearing or meeting occurred.