



Understanding CIPA

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What is E-Rate?

- Established in 1996 by the FCC as the Universal Service Fund
- Provides funding for Internet Access and connectivity to Schools and Libraries
- We receive approximately \$80 Million annually statewide



CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT (CIPA) COMPLIANCE

- CIPA is a law with specific requirements for entities that receive E-Rate funding.
- CIPA compliance includes:
 - Internet safety policy
 - Technology protection measure/filter
 - Holding one hearing or meeting (with reasonable public notice) on the Internet safety policy
 - Providing education for students on Internet safety.



CIPA Requirements

CIPA Requirements Include:

Acceptable Use Policy (Internet safety policy) -
“Say What You Do, Do What You Say”



CIPA Requirements

Policy issues that must be addressed:

- Access by minors to inappropriate material
- Safety/security of minors when using e-mail, chat rooms, other direct electronic communications
- Unauthorized access, including “hacking” and other unlawful activities by minors online
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- Measures designed to restrict minors’ access to materials harmful to minors

CIPA Requirements

Technology protection measure (filter)

- Specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access
- Must protect against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors
- Can be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes
- Local decision as to what to filter and whether to allow a filter by-pass

Training Requirements

Additions to CIPA

- A provision of the **Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act** requires that the AUP or Internet safety policy include measures for educating minors about appropriate online behavior.



Training Resources

The curriculum or method used to provide CIPA training is a local decision.



Topics to cover:

- Cyberbullying awareness and response, and
- Appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites

A couple of free resources:

- **Netsmartz:** www.netsmartz.org/TeachingResources
- **Commonsense Media:** <https://www.commonsense.org/education/>

Training Requirements

Gather evidence to show training has been provided

- E-Rate applicants must file a Form 486 each year, certifying they are CIPA compliant
- As a review of that application, or during a federal audit, applicants may be asked for evidence including:
 - Dates training took place
 - Roster of students trained
 - Plans for training students not present during “whole group” presentations



Training Requirements

Frequently Asked Questions addressed by the FCC

Q1: What should schools include in their Internet safety policies, and what documents should schools retain to demonstrate compliance with the requirement to educate minors about appropriate online behavior?

Q2: Are schools receiving E-Rate discounts for Internet access and/or internal connections required to provide education about appropriate online behavior to their students every year?

Q3: Do schools need to ensure the education of every student in order to be able to certify they are educating minors about appropriate online behavior?

Questions?



Contact Information

E-Rate Support and Information

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