

# Procedure 106.8 Library Internet Use

April 21, 2021

Supersedes previous procedure 106.8 dated June 7, 2010



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## Summary

This procedure defines acceptable and prohibited internet use in the library.

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## Process

### Acceptable Library Internet Use:

The library upholds and affirms the right of individuals to access constitutionally protected materials on the internet, including materials some users may consider offensive. To fulfill our dual commitments to intellectual freedom and public responsibility we place some restrictions on internet use in the library.

Parents and guardians are solely responsible for monitoring their children's internet access while in the library.

### Prohibited Library Internet Use:

- Uses that violate the law.
- Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property.
- Uses that jeopardize the safety or security of minors.
- Uses that involved obscenity\* or child pornography. Library users may not use the library's internet access to view, display, print, download, save to removable media, distribute, send or receive images, text or graphics of obscene material or material that violates laws relating to child pornography. Federal and state statutes and the U.S. Supreme Court define and proscribe such materials.
- Federal and New York State law prohibits disseminating obscene materials to minors, and disseminating obscene materials to minors is not allowed in the library.

\*"Obscene." Any material or performance is "obscene" if (a) the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that considered as a whole, its predominant appeal is to the prurient interest in sex, and (b) it depicts or describes in a patently offensive manner, actual or simulated: sexual intercourse, sodomy criminal sexual act, sexual bestiality, masturbation, sadism, masochism, excretion or lewd exhibition of the genitals, and (c) considered as a whole, it lacks serious literary, artistic, political, and scientific value. Predominant appeal shall be judged with reference to ordinary adults unless it appears from the character of the material or the circumstances of its dissemination to be designed for children or other susceptible audience. (N.Y. Penal Law § 235(1))

In addition, acceptable computer and internet use and restrictions on use are defined according to the Genesee Community College policies and procedures noted below in Related Documents.

All library users, regardless of status or affiliation, are subject to all of the restrictions defined in all of these policies and procedures.

**Failure to Comply:**

Failure to comply with the acceptable use guidelines and restrictions that govern the library's and college's computing and internet resources as stated in these documents may result in immediate suspension of network, computer and/or internet access privileges and, where necessary, institutional disciplinary action, civil liability and/or criminal prosecution.

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**Forms**

None

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**Related Documents**

Policy #1021: Sexual Harassment

Procedure #105: Computer Services Operation

Procedure #105.2: Computer Operations Security

Procedure #243: Employee Misuse of College Computing Resources

Procedure #245: Employee Access to Computer System

Procedure #401: Student Code of Conduct

Procedure #418: Children (Not Registered for a GCC-Sponsored Program) on Campus

Procedure #420: Student Misuse of College Computing Resources