

Franklin-Springboro Public Library

Computer and Internet Access Policy

Approved April 18, 2024 by the Library Board of Trustees

The mission of the Franklin-Springboro Public Library is to meet the educational, informational, intellectual, and recreational needs of the people in the service community: Franklin, Franklin Township, Carlisle, Springboro, and Clearcreek Township. In keeping with this mission, the Library provides public access to the Internet. The Internet comprises a vast amount of information that the Library cannot control and is not responsible for the content or accuracy of information accessed. Patrons are responsible for determining that the information they access is acceptable, reliable, and suitable to their needs. The Library is not liable for any monetary loss or damages that may occur while using a public computer.

Please remember that the Library is a public place and use discretion when viewing text or graphics that may be offensive to others. Conducting business using the Library's Internet or public computers with illegal intent or accessing sexually explicit, obscene, or violent websites is strictly prohibited. If it is deemed that a patron may be utilizing Library resources inappropriately or misusing the computers, the Library reserves the right to monitor their computer session and take necessary action to terminate computer privileges. Patrons use the Internet and/or public computers at their own risk.

The Franklin-Springboro Public Library reserves the right to limit or restrict the use of the Internet as it deems appropriate to optimize the public's use of this valuable resource.

Computer and Internet Access

Patrons are expected to use the Internet responsibly and follow all policies and rules.

1. A reservation management system controls the public computers. A current Franklin-Springboro Public Library card and a Personal Identification Number are required to use the computer workstations. The Library does not give out visitor passes. The system allows each user an allotted amount of computer time and sessions per day, which is subject to change.
2. Individuals under 18 years of age must have a signed Library Card Application granting Unlimited Computer Access that is signed by a parent or legal guardian.
3. Patrons may not attempt in any way to modify, damage, or abuse computer equipment or software, alter configurations, or install any software. Patrons are liable for costs arising from malicious damage to Library equipment or software. The Library's public computers use a special program that clears changes made to the hard drive after each session. Data saved to the hard drive will be permanently deleted at log-off. Patrons should save their work often to a removable flash drive or cloud storage to prevent data loss.
4. The Library uses a web content filter to screen and monitor all public Internet computers. This filter assists in prohibiting access to sexually explicit, obscene, and violent websites. The filter is not always accurate and some explicit sites may evade it. Acceptable sites may be inadvertently blocked. The Franklin-Springboro Library expressly denies responsibility for the effectiveness of its web content filter.
5. Patrons may not use any Library computers for illegal or unethical purposes.
6. Patrons may not violate licensing agreements or copyright laws.

7. Patrons may not use Library computers for any activity that is degrading, deliberately offensive, invading the privacy of other individuals, or creates an intimidating environment.
8. Patrons are prohibited from bypassing or accessing unauthorized resources or entities.
9. Library staff will assist patrons in using the public computers as staffing permits. However, because of the many applications available, Library staff may not always be familiar. In these instances, patrons are responsible for learning how to use these resources; the Library cannot provide technical instruction. If patrons experience any problems with the computers, they should notify Library staff immediately.
10. Printing is available to patrons for a nominal fee. It is recommended that patrons do a Print Preview each time they print. Refunds cannot be given for unwanted printouts. The price of printing is subject to change as needed.
11. Parents or legal guardians, not the Library or its staff, are responsible for their children's actions while using a public computer.
12. Misuse of Library computers or of Internet access will result in the loss of computer privileges and legal action when applicable. The decision to revoke these privileges is at the sole discretion of the Library staff.

Public Wireless Internet Access

1. The Franklin-Springboro Public Library provides access to the Internet via a wireless network (Wi-Fi) for guests using their personal devices.
2. Wi-Fi access provided by the Library is unsecured. Anti-virus, security, and privacy protection are the responsibility of the individual.
3. Users assume all associated risks and agree to hold harmless the Library and its employees for any personal information that is compromised, or for any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues, or consequences caused by malware or hacking.
4. Users are responsible for having the proper hardware, software, and network settings on their wireless devices to connect to the Library's Wi-Fi. Library staff can only provide basic assistance to wireless users and cannot troubleshoot or modify settings on individual laptops or mobile devices.
5. Users must follow the same Internet rules as those using Library computers. Users may not use public Wi-Fi for any activity that is degrading, deliberately offensive, invading the privacy of other individuals, or creates an intimidating environment.
6. Using the wireless connection to transmit or receive obscene material including pornography or for any illegal purposes including but not limited to fraud, hacking, or the downloading of copyrighted material is strictly prohibited.
7. Any restriction or monitoring of a minor's access to the Library's wireless network is the sole responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.
8. Wireless printing is available through a third-party vendor that is not affiliated with the Franklin-Springboro Public Library. The Library is not responsible for any damages or security breaches caused by wireless printing.
9. The Library is not responsible for any theft, damage, or misuse of users' laptops and other mobile devices while inside the Library.
10. The wireless connection is subject to periodic maintenance or repair.
11. Public Wi-Fi is not safe. The Wi-Fi is to be used at your own risk.