



**TULARE
COUNTY
LIBRARY**

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COUNTY
LIBRARY**

**JUVENILE
INTERNET USE
AUTHORIZATION**

DEAR PARENT:

The **Tulare County Library** offers public access to the Internet. You must authorize the library to allow your child access to the Internet. Please read the **PUBLIC INTERNET POLICY** and **GUIDELINES** in this flyer. If you elect to allow your child to use the Internet at the library, please complete the attached form and return it to your branch library. Your child will be expected to abide by this Policy and Guidelines. Your child will also be expected to obey the rules governing Internet use as posted in the library.

**PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION
JUVENILE INTERNET USE - TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY**

TODAY'S DATE:

I authorize the Tulare County Library to allow my child access to the Internet. I have read the attached policy, and I understand that the library does not filter or assume responsibility for my child's use of the Internet.

NAME OF CHILD: (PLEASE PRINT)	NAME OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN: (PLEASE PRINT)
CHILD'S BIRTHDATE:	SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:
CHILD'S LIBRARY CARD NUMBER:	
PARENT'S IDENTIFICATION:	

TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY PUBLIC INTERNET POLICY

The Tulare County Free Library System develops collections, resources, and services to meet the cultural, informational, and educational needs of the community. Within this context, the Tulare County Public Library offers public access to the Internet.

Not all information available via the Internet is accurate, current, or complete. Customers are encouraged to exercise critical judgment in evaluating the validity or accuracy of information accessed through the Internet. Library staff is available to help customers find and use appropriate sites. The Library assumes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from public use of the Internet.

The Library does not provide Internet terminals equipped with filters. Filters could restrict access to sites containing information customers may find valuable or pertinent. While filtered sites could be overridden at the request of a customer, the embarrassment of asking for an override may be deterrent enough to keep certain customers from obtaining information that is allowable. Filters are not foolproof and do not guarantee that sexually explicit sites will not be viewed either on purpose or inadvertently.

Though the Library provides terminals with menus appropriate for children, the Library does not guarantee that the user cannot get to sexually explicit sites or that they will not be exposed inadvertently to them. As with other library materials, a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Parents are encouraged to come in with their children and supervise their Internet sessions at the Library. Parents of children under the age of 14 must assume responsibility for their children's use of the Internet through the Library's connection.

The Tulare County Public Library cannot be held responsible for any information accessed through the Internet. A policy passed by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors (Resolution No. 82-2033) restricts certain materials to those 14 years of age and older. Therefore customers under the age of 14 are permitted to use the Internet only if accompanied by their parent or legal guardian or if they are on record with the Library as having prior written approval of a parent or legal guardian.

**ILLEGAL ACTS INVOLVING LIBRARY RESOURCES MAY BE SUBJECT TO
PROSECUTION BY LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL OFFICIALS.**

**THE LIBRARY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE AN INTERNET
SESSION AT ANY TIME.**

This policy governs the use of all public Internet access terminals owned or used by the Tulare County Public Library.

TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY PUBLIC INTERNET GUIDELINES

1. Before customers may use the Internet service, they must read the Tulare County Library Public Internet Policy and Guidelines. Customers must sign a statement stating they have read and understand the Policy. A parent or legal guardian must sign the form for a child under the age of 14 stating that the parent/guardian understands the policy.

2. A child under 14-years-old may have access to the Internet with the approval of their legal parent(s) or guardians(s). Parents or guardians wishing to give their children this access must fill out a permission slip at any branch. Appropriate identification from the parent or guardian is required.

3. All public Internet users must present a valid library card issued by any San Joaquin Valley Library System member library (other proof of identification may be accepted under extenuating circumstances) in order to use the Internet. In addition, a customer must owe no more than \$5.00 to any of the libraries in the San Joaquin Valley Library System.

4. Computer terminals are in a public area. Therefore, customers are not to visit sites whose graphical images are "sexually explicit" as defined by Tulare County Resolution No. 82-2033.* Any and all customers viewing a site that meets the aforementioned Policy's definition of inappropriate material will be asked to log out of the site. Offenders could have their library borrowing and/or Internet use privileges suspended for six months at the discretion of the County Librarian or his/her designated representative.

* A copy of the definition of "sexually explicit" as defined in Tulare County Resolution No. 82-2033 is available at all branches.

5. Customers may reserve one scheduled block of time per day, either in person or over the phone. This period may be extended for an additional block of time if no other customers are signed up or waiting. Customers may reserve a time block of time no more than one day in advance. Time periods may vary by library, depending on factors such as in-house use and the particular number of computers available for public use. Unreserved time is available to walk-ins on a "first come, first served" basis. Customers who are 5 minutes late may forfeit the reserved time to walk-in customers.

6. Express Stations for accessing Internet Mail are available at some locations. These stations are to be used strictly for e-mail. The Express Stations may be used for only 15 minutes per session. Customers may also access e-mail at other terminals that are designated for Public Internet use.

Both the Tulare County Library Public Internet Policy and the Tulare County Library Public Internet Guidelines were approved by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors as Resolution No. 2000-760 on 3 October 2000.