



Parental/Guardian Permission for a Minor's Library Card

Please sign below to indicate your consent and to select an Internet filtering level for your child's card, and then return this form to any WCLS library branch.

Child/Minor's Name: _____
(first, middle initial, last)

Child/Minor's Birthdate _____
(m/d/y)

(Please Choose ONE):

0: No Internet use at the library.

1: Full Internet access. No filters. This level allows the widest access to the Internet, including access to information that filters might accidentally block.

2: Filter out X rated sites. This level filters out sites that contain explicit sexual content with nudity.

3: Filter out X rated and R rated sites. In addition to X rated material, this level filters out sites that involve violence and other adult content such as dating services. It also blocks social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.

4: Filter out X rated and R rated sites, and do not allow chat. Chat is live, anonymous written communication with other people anywhere in the world.

5: Filter out X rated and R rated sites and do not allow chat or email.

I give my child permission to use the library. I will give immediate notice of change of address, email or loss of this card. I assume full responsibility for all materials borrowed on my child's card and I agree to promptly pay fines or other charges when materials are damaged or lost.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ABOUT INTERNET FILTERS

A filter is a software program that stops the computer from connecting to certain Internet sites. There are two things you should know before deciding whether to use filters for yourself or your family.

First, no Internet filter is 100% effective. So please, don't let filters give you a false sense of security. No filter can predict what you consider bad, and even sites of the kind a filter considers bad will sometimes not be blocked. Second, sometimes filters block good sites as well as bad. Filters simply are not perfect.

The Internet is a tremendous resource. Families can make excellent use of it if each family member learns to sort the treasure from the trash. We encourage families to discuss the Internet in relation to family values no matter what level of access you choose. On our website, www.wcls.org, our Parents and Kids pages offer information and tips for safety on the Internet. We also provide librarian-selected links to sites on a multitude of topics.

Filtering levels can be changed at any time by contacting your library. The decision you make today does not need to be final.

Children and teens under 18 cannot change their filtering levels without permission from a parent or guardian. Also, please note that your filtering choices will only apply in the Whatcom County Library System, not in Bellingham libraries.