Silver City Public Library Computer and Internet Policy

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

July 2025

The Silver City Library is pleased to provide computer and internet access to all individuals in the community. Wireless access is also available. Please feel free to bring your own laptop or tablet to the library.

* Three desktop computers and one laptop are available for patron use.
* All computers have internet access.
* All computers have Windows 11 and Microsoft programs (Word, Excel, Publisher, etc.)
* Computer users must sign up with the library Director.
* Homework takes precedence over playing games.
* When patrons are waiting to use the computers, a 30-minute time limit for usage will be imposed unless the patron using the computer is doing homework.
* There is a 2-hour limit on the computer usage per patron per day.
* No food or beverages are allowed around the computer stations.
* Printing is available for .25 cents per page for black and white and .50 cents per page for color copies.
* A computer is not a toy. Children must have a basic understanding of computer fundamentals and usage before using computers independently. Library staff will be happy to assist patrons when necessary; however, they are unable to sit with a child and instruct a beginning computer user.

**Internet Policy**

The internet offers access to many valuable local, national, and international sources of information which can provide wonderful learning opportunities for everyone.

* Internet communications shall be considered private, and confidentiality will be encouraged within the limits of a public environment and the requirements of the law.
* Internet access is available during normal library hours. Internet time will be limited to 1 hour per day. If there is a long waiting list, access may be limited to ½ hour.
* It is the patron’s responsibility to comply with all local, state and federal laws, including but not limited to, those concerning copyright, fraud, privacy, or obscenity.
* Not all sources on the internet provide accurate, complete or current information. The library is not responsible for the accuracy of information found on the internet.

Parents, please be aware of the following for your minor children:

* Please talk with your children about their internet use and help them be aware of your standards. It is the responsibility of parents to provide oversight to ensure their child’s use of the internet in an appropriate and safe manner. This is not the responsibility of the library Director.
* Any restriction of a child’s access to the internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. This is like any person’s access to other materials in the library’s collection (books, magazines, etc.).
* This library does use internet filters. However, we cannot control access to material nor protect users from offensive information. Parents or guardians of children are responsible for their children’s computer and/or internet use in the library.
* The internet does offer access to material (i.e. pictures, text, video) which is inappropriate for children. Unmonitored chat rooms and instant messaging have proven to be vehicles for predators to lure children into dangerous situations.
* The use of chat rooms and instant messaging on the library’s computers will not be tolerated. If anyone is found to be using chat rooms or instant messaging, they will be required to stop immediately and discontinue use of the computer.
* Violation of these rules may lead to the suspension or revocation of internet access at the library.