The Rapid City Public Library offers in-library access to electronic/digital information, services and networks as part of its mission to meet the personal, professional and educational information needs of city residents of all ages.

The library’s online access provides the opportunity to integrate electronic resources from information networks around the world with the library’s other resources. The availability of public access computers and the internet, as an information resource, enables the library to provide information beyond the confines of its own collection.

While Internet filters are utilized at the downtown library, Users are responsible for determining appropriate access for themselves and their dependent minors.

Access Requirements and Time Limitations

The internet may be accessed at all library locations by using the library’s public computers or the wireless network.

Public computers:
- Login access is through the patron’s library card number or assigned username computer access account
- One hour of internet access per day per patron, with the opportunity for time extensions up to a total of 3 hours if no other patrons are waiting

Makerspace computers:
- Use is limited to work on projects, design, and training. Activities such as general web browsing, social networking, or gaming are not permitted and is not intended for open internet access
- Available on a first-come, first-served basis

Local History/rapid City Historical Collections Room computers:
- Use is limited to research and digitization. Activities such as general web browsing, social networking, or gaming are not permitted
- Can be reserved online, otherwise available on a first-come basis

Catalog computers:
- Use is limited to research. Activities such as general web browsing, social networking, or gaming are not permitted
- Available on a first-come, first-served basis

Quick-Print Stations:
- Use is limited to printing taking less than 15 minutes. Activities such as general web browsing, social networking, or gaming are not permitted

Wireless network:
- No time limits
- All terms of use for internet access apply

Laptops and other electronic devices for checkout:
- As indicated within the Loan Periods, Fines and Fees Policy

Terms of Use

All users are expected to use the library’s electronic resources in a responsible manner that includes but is not limited to:
• Using resources for educational, informational, and recreational purposes only, not illegal or improper purposes
• Respecting the privacy of others by not misrepresenting oneself as another user; by not attempting to modify or gain access to files, passwords or data belonging to others; by not seeking unauthorized access to any computer system, or damaging or altering software components or any networks or databases
• Making or printing only authorized copies of copyrighted or licensed software or data
• Not sending, receiving, printing, or displaying text or graphics that may reasonably be construed as obscene
• Stop viewing any site that may create a disruptive environment for other library users or staff
• Not making any changes to the set-up or configuration of the software or hardware on the library’s computers
• Using headphones as needed to keep from disturbing other users
• To protect privacy, users should delete personal files, not save any personal information, and log off the library’s computers when done
• The library is not responsible for lost data due to network, software or power failure, transmission of viruses, or interception of data transmitted through the wireless network

Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the loss of library privileges services.

Revised March 8, 2021; January 22, 2020; April 8, 2019; November 14, 2016; September 14, 2015; May 11, 2015; March 9, 2015; April 8, 2013; January 21, 2013; January 19, 2012; July 15, 2010; August 13, 2003; Adopted June 12, 1996, RCPL Board of Trustees