

PAC Policy

Public Access Computing (PAC) is a service provided in and by the Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library system.

MISSION OF PAC:

- 1) To enhance innovative education for library patrons through unique access to resources and collaborates.
- 2) To improve learning and teaching through research dissemination of educational materials.
- 3) To provide basic electronic format services at no or little cost to the public as a whole.
- 4) To provide electronic mail capabilities.
- 5) To provide equality in accessibility of materials for all library patrons.

All use of the Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library's PAC shall be consistent with the purposes, goals, and missions of the network policies. Successful operation of the network requires that users regard PAC as a SHARED resource, and cooperate with a community of diverse interests with the common purpose of advancing public education in Hopkins County. It is imperative that patrons conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical and polite manner while using PAC.

The PAC policy does not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behavior by its patrons. The Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library's PAC system is an open network in both implementation and spirit. Each individual's judgment of appropriate conduct must be relied upon. To assist in such judgment, the following general guidelines are offered:

- I. Any use of PAC for illegal, inappropriate, or obscene purposes, or in support of such activities, is prohibited. Illegal activities shall be defined as a violation of local, state, and/or federal laws (Copyright Violations). Inappropriate use shall be defined as a violation of intended use of PAC and/or mission/purpose. Obscene activities shall be defined as a violation of generally accepted social standards for use of publicly owned and operated communication vehicles. Any such use will result in the revocation of computer privileges in the library.
- II. Due to copyright and network bandwidth issues, Limewire/Frostwire and equivalent P2P networking sites are prohibited on all PAC systems
- III. All users of PAC will be required to reserve a station with a library card in good standing and a PIN. A PIN can be set up by speaking with a member of library staff. Any fines or overdue materials on the account must be cleared before a computer will be issued or accessed. Out of county visitors will be required to show proof of ID, and will be issued a guest card valid for 1 day.
- IV. Please ensure that your cell phone is switched off while in the library. Cell phone signals disrupt computer speaker signals that are in use in the building.
- V. The library does allow the use of patron CDs, floppy disks and flash drives in PAC computers. However the library is NOT responsible for any damage to these media types being used in the computers and cannot guarantee compatibility with library software.

- VI. When your session is completed, you must log out of the computer by closing all programs and exiting to the initial Welcome screen.
- VII. As the PAC system is a shared, open resource, patrons are cautioned to exercise prudence in the use of this resource.
- VIII. During off-peak times your computer session may be extended automatically in 15 minute increments up to a total of 2 hours.
- IX. Any use of PAC for commercial purposes is prohibited, as well as use for product advertisement or political lobbying.
- X. No use of the PAC shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by other patrons.
- XI. The library does not provide email accounts for patrons. Users can set up and/or access their own web based email accounts. Recent court cases have supported the concept that E-mail residing on a system is the property of the company that owns the system. All electronic files are deemed to be the property of the Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library system.
- XII. From time to time, the Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library shall make decisions of whether uses of PAC are consistent with the stated policies. The Hopkins County - Madisonville Public Library shall remain the FINAL authority on use of PAC and the allowance of use by patrons.
- XIII. Some information found on PAC is of a mature nature and may not be suitable for young children. Children under the age of 12 may NOT use PAC without supervision of a parent or guardian. PARENTS AND GUARDIANS, NOT THE LIBRARY STAFF, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INFORMATION SELECTED AND/OR ACCESSED BY CHILDREN.
- XIV. Every effort is made by the library staff to provide PAC during the full operating hours of the library, however there may be times when the systems are not operational due to internet provider outage, computer repairs or updates, power outage, etc. Also operational hours may be restricted due to use of the computers for library programming.
- XV. Staff is able to provide LIMITED assistance with the use of PAC due to time constraints.
- XVI. Educational use of the internet takes precedent over recreational web browsing.
- XVII. Some library records fall under the National Homeland Security Act, therefore, they may be subpoenaed as a court document.