

# CIPA

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## BACKGROUND

Since 2001, the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) has required that schools have certain internet safety policies and technology protection measures to receive “E-Rate” funding. This funding supports anywhere from 20-90% of various schools’ telecommunications and Internet access. Originally, a major requirement of CIPA was protecting minors from accessing visual depictions of obscenity, child pornography, or harmful material via the internet. Up until now, our technology department has taken care of this by using filters.

**This has now changed.**

On August 11th, 2011, the FCC released and later amended a Report and Order regarding E-Rate funds. Effective July 1, 2012, schools must now ensure that their Internet safety policies are updated to meet the requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

## THE NEW REPORT & ORDER

Specifically, with the new requirement, the Internet safety policy must:

- Address access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and Web
- Provide for the safety and security of minors when using email, chat rooms, and other e-communications
- Deal with unauthorized access and other unlawful online activities by minors
- Address unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- Identify measures designed to restrict minors’ access to harmful materials
- Enable monitoring of minors’ online activities

(These orders are taken care of by our **technology** department.)

The following are the responsibility of **academics**:

- Appropriate online behavior
- Safety and privacy
- Cyberbullying

## DOCUMENTATION

**Every teacher is** required to fill out a Teacher Verification Document and **Administrators must** verify that we have implemented the three CIPA required topics. These documents are sent to Lisa Anderson at DMEC. Also, she would like to have all activities and events that relate to how we address these three topics. Therefore, if you have done anything in your classes that has addressed any of the topics, please share your lesson/activities with me, and I’ll send it with the other documentation.

