

WIRELESS ACCESS POLICY

Public Library Network



Transforming Lives, Empowering Communities!

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PURPOSE

The Jamaica Library Service (JLS) offers free wireless access to enable users to search for information beyond the limits of the public library's collection. Therefore the purpose of this policy is to establish regulations to govern the use of digital devices for internet access in all Public Library Networks through the provision of wireless access to library patrons in all areas of the libraries as is allowed by the range of the wireless signal.

BACKGROUND

The Jamaica Library Service's (JLS) wireless network is intended to be a convenient supplement to the wired network (LAN) for general functions, including web browsing and e-mail. Wireless "access points" located in specific areas of the library allow suitably equipped and configured digital devices to make wireless connections to the Internet.

Due to the fact that wireless radio signals are shared by everyone using the same wireless access point, the bandwidth available to each connection decreases and performance deteriorates as the number of users and traffic increases. Distance from the access point, buildings or objects shielding the access point, signal interference, quality of users' equipment, battery power and other factors may also impact capacity and functionality. Therefore, the wireless network should not be expected to provide the same quality-of-service as the wired network. The library's wireless internet access is unencrypted and therefore, use of the wireless connection is done at the user's own risk. By using this connection, users acknowledge that security errors and hacking are inherent risks associated with any wireless service.

The Jamaica Library Service accepts no responsibility for any software downloaded and/or installed, e-mail opened, or sites accessed while users utilize the wireless internet connection. Any damage done to the user's equipment from viruses, identity theft, spyware, plug-ins, or other internet-borne programmes is the sole responsibility of the user. Thus the user has the responsibility of protecting and configuring his/her own digital devices. The organization

accepts no responsibility regarding the ability of user-owned equipment to connect to the wireless network.

The following mandatory guidelines have been formulated, and should be adhered to when implementing wireless network for public access within the organization.

GUIDELINES FOR USE

The Jamaica Library Service provides wireless internet access with the following provisions:

- Users must have their own digital devices including laptops, tablets, iPads, smartphone or other digital device to utilize the wireless connection.
- Members using the library's wireless connection agree to comply with all provisions of the current *Jamaica Library Service Computer and Internet Guidelines (See policy document)*.
- The library provides unlimited Wi-Fi access with up to two electronic devices for all members. Non-members are allowed thirty (30) minutes of Wi-Fi access daily.
- Members of the library are allotted forty-five minutes per session on public access computers.
- Technical support for members using the connection is not provided—i.e., support for users laptops/tablets/cellular phones.
- Electrical outlets for users charging own digital device are provided at a cost of \$100.00 for laptops at a maximum of two hours, and tablets and cell phones at a maximum of two hours- \$50.00.
- Users may not plug network cable or any other connection cable into the library's computer network.
- The use of personal internet communication devices including laptops must be in conformity with the established rules and regulations for library users (*see Jamaica Library Service: Rules and Regulations- Section 11*).
- Wireless internet users must refrain from displaying material on their computers that may be interpreted as part of an intimidating, hostile, offensive or inappropriate environment (*see Jamaica Library Service: Rules and Regulations- Section 11*).
- Printing is not provided directly from the user's digital devices, however printing services are available at a cost from a Universal Serial Bus (USB) or any other storage device.

- The JLS reserves the right to deny access.
- Any digital device that will be used to access the network must have a relatively up-to-date antivirus software.
- Wireless services will be provided during normal opening hours to the public.
- Users who attempt to misuse the service will be barred from accessing the services in the future.
- Viewing of pornographic material is prohibited. Users who attempt to do so will have their library privilege suspended.
- The library will not be responsible for any theft of phones or any other digital devices.

DISCLAIMER

The Internet offers a wealth of information, some of which may be considered to be offensive. It is important to note that the Jamaica Library Service (JLS) does not publish or control, and is not responsible or liable for, any third-party information, content, services, products, software or other material that can be accessed through the organization's internet service. Users are solely responsible for evaluating the accuracy, completeness, usefulness of all services, and the quality, timeliness or delivery of such services and other information.