Policy

Individuals shall be allowed to connect their personal computer devices to the OWLSnet network in member libraries that have been properly configured to allow such connections.

Guidelines

The following conditions must be met for an OWLSnet member library to allow patrons to connect their personal computer devices to the OWLSnet network:

1. The library must notify OWLS of its desire to begin providing network access to patrons. The notification must indicate whether the library wants to provide wireless access, cabled “plug-in” access, or both.

2. OWLS must provide appropriate hardware (e.g., a managed switch) and must segment the library’s local area network to include a staff segment, a library public computer segment, and a guest segment. Patron personal computer devices may only be connected to the guest segment of the library’s local area network.

3. OWLS and the member library must agree upon a plan for providing network access for patron personal computer devices. The plan must specify:
   a. who will install any necessary cabling or wireless access points
   b. how patron network access will be maintained
   c. responsibility for any costs associated with the installation and maintenance of patron network access

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