

Difficult Choices: Filtering in Libraries

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Your Presenters

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Overview

- CIPA definition
- Requirements of CIPA
- Filter(s)
- Regional Library System perspective
- Public Library perspective

CIPA Definition

Children's Internet Protection Act:

“To receive [federal] support for Internet Access, Internal Connections, and Basic Maintenance services, school and library authorities must certify that they are enforcing a policy of Internet safety that includes measures to block or filter Internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions.”

Requirements

1. Internet safety policy
2. Public notice and hearing or meeting
3. Technology protection measure

Requirements - Internet Safety Policy

- Otherwise known as / part of Internet Use policy
- Must be on public display
- Addresses the following:
 - access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet
 - safety and security of minors in a digital setting
 - unauthorized access aka hacking
 - unauthorized disclosure and use of personal information
 - measures designed to restrict access to materials harmful to minors

Requirements - Public Notice and Hearing or Meeting

- Must provide reasonable public notice and hold at least one public hearing
- Meeting must address proposed technology measure and internet safety policy
- A regular scheduled library board meeting would suffice
- Make sure documentation of meeting is kept for 10 years (E-rate Modernization order extended document retention)

Requirements - Technology Protection Measure

- Otherwise known as internet filtering
- A specific technology that blocks or filters internet access *to the best of the library's abilities*
- Can be at any level between the internet service provider (ISP) to the computer in the library
- Must be all computers in library (including staff)
- Library staff member is authorized to turn off the filter or block for an adult or legitimate research

Requirements: Technology Protection Measure

CIPA applies to filtering images under the following three categories:

- Obscene
- Child pornography
- Harmful to minors as defined by law
 - “taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors”

Overfiltering

The ALA report “Fencing Out the Knowledge: Impacts of the Children’s Internet Protection Act 10 Years Later” found that schools and public libraries were overfiltering beyond what they were legally (CIPA) obligated to do.

- Failure of the technology
- Fear of being found non-compliant and the penalties involved

E-rate

Program that provides discounts to schools and libraries for eligible products and services that assists with connectivity / telecommunications.

E-rate Modernization Order

- Modernization accepted in 2014
- Increase in funding cap (\$3.9 billion)
- Shift focus to internal equipment (C2)
 - \$1 billion target for Category 2 services
- Phase out Voice Services
- E-rate Productivity Center (EPC)

E-rate - Category 2 (C2)

Provides internet service within buildings

- Network components within the building
 - Firewalls, routers, switches, cabling, and wireless controllers and access points.
- Maintenance of network components
- 3rd party network management

Resources

ALA (including legal history/briefs)

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/cipa>

Fencing Out Knowledge: Impacts of CIPA 10 Years Later

http://connect.ala.org/files/cipa_report.pdf

The Man in the Middle: Filtering, E-rate, Filtering and CyberSecurity

<http://knowledgequest.aasl.org/man-middle-e-rate-filtering-cybersecurity/>

PLDT CIPA FAQ <http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/technology/erate/cipa>

Filtering and the First Amendment

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2013/04/02/filtering-and-the-first-amendment/>

Federal definition of Obscene

<https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ceos/citizens-guide-us-federal-law-obscenity>

Choosing a filtering technology

Assume you get past “should we filter and do e-rate?”, and the answer is “Yes”...

It’s time for many more questions!



Where is your technical expertise?

- Are you on your own?
- Is help available from your neighbors?
The county? Your library system? ISP?
- Is anyone doing something already, that you might easily copy or even piggyback?

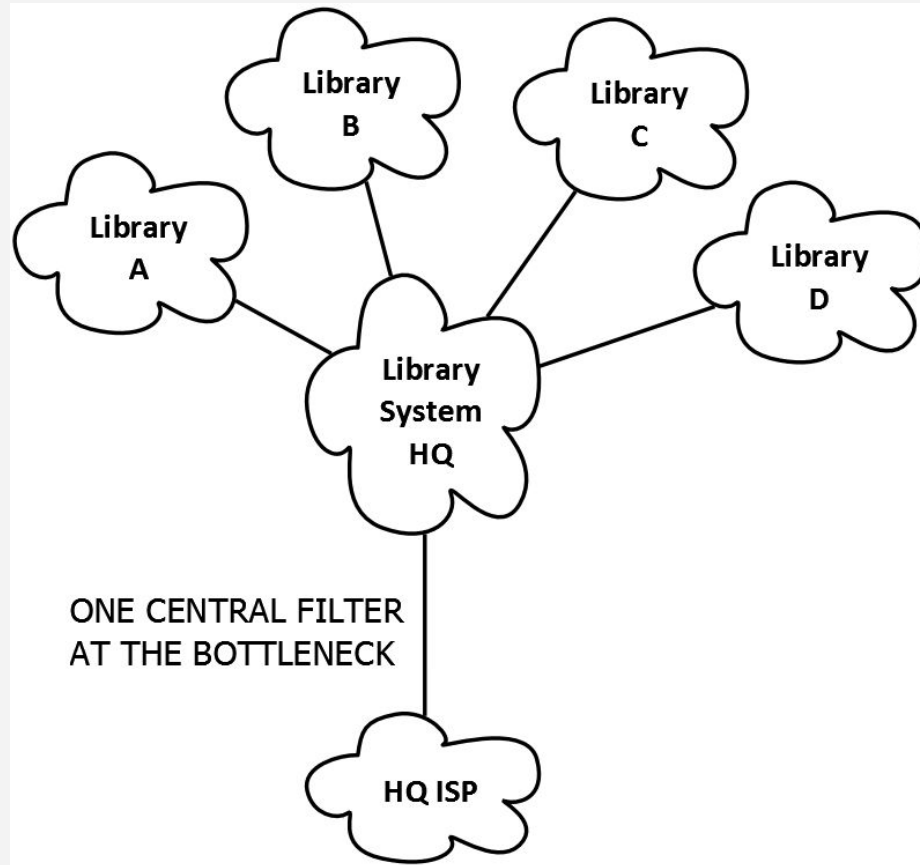


What is your context?

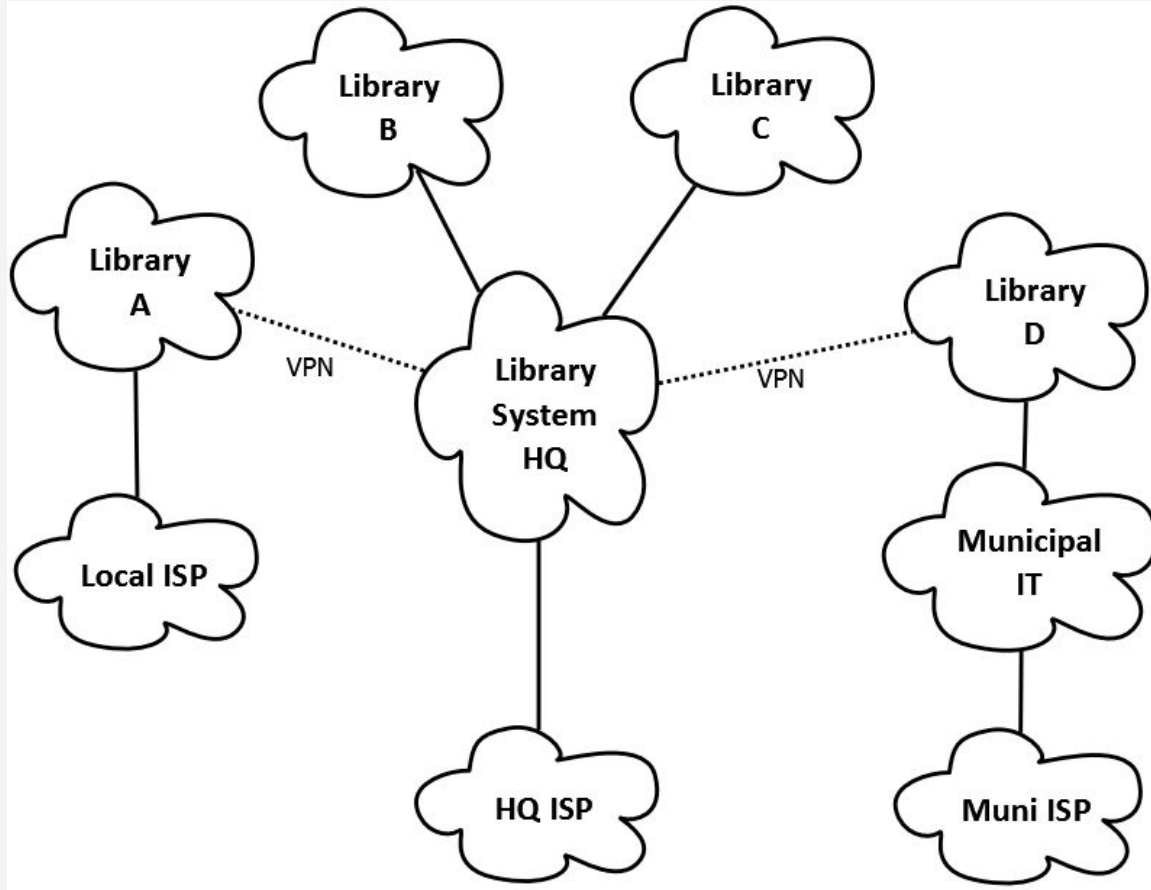
- Is a centralized solution best? Workable?
- Are you filtering a large number of computers, or just a few?
- One building and network, or many?
- One governing body, or many?
 - What's their level of cooperation?



Does your network converge?



Does your network diverge?



What about the adult bypass?

- How is a patron notified of a block?
- Are they clearly told why it happened?
- Is it clear that adults may bypass it?
- How is the bypass achieved?
 - How does it function, physically?
 - How is adulthood proved?

What about logs and saved data?

- How much info is collected by the TPM?
- Is patron privacy going to be at risk?
- Do you need the data collected?
- Can you control what is retained?
- Can you control for how long?
- Do your policies need to spell this out?

Can you customize the look, feel or behaviors of the TPM?

- Would you, if you could?
 - It takes more time and effort.
 - It can lead to a more palatable result.

Filtering experience in libraries

- Some libraries have received no comments and have had no issues
- Madison gets around 5 to 10 reports of overblocked sites per week; most should be blocked



Filtering experience in libraries

- Others have reported a few instances of overblocking
 - Dating web sites
 - Busch beer
 - The village of Gays Mills
- Surprised that the library hadn't been filtering



Responsibility of SCLS vs. library

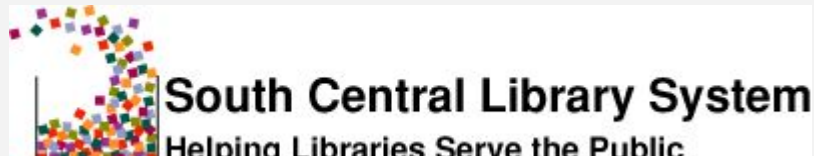
SCLS Guided 10 member libraries through compliance process by July 1, 2016

- SCLS provided timelines, checklists and filtering software & acted as E-rate t agent on behalf of libraries
- CIPA Compliance is up to libraries



Is CIPA compliance “worth it”?

- Does your library filter anyway?
 - If yes, then you may be able to at least cover the cost of filtering
 - If no, then you will have to define “worth” in terms of time and money resources
- The following is the SCLS & member library experience



Time Commitment--library

- Much of the time commitment is in the first year prior to July 1:
 - CIPA compliance process
 - Create an account in EPC (the E-rate online software)
 - Fill out E-rate form 479 (and for SCLS--an Memorandum of Understanding)



Time Commitment--library

- First year continued:
 - Time required to learn filtering software
- Ongoing:
 - Keep SCLS informed of new building projects, etc.
 - Fill out form 479 each year



Time Commitment--library system

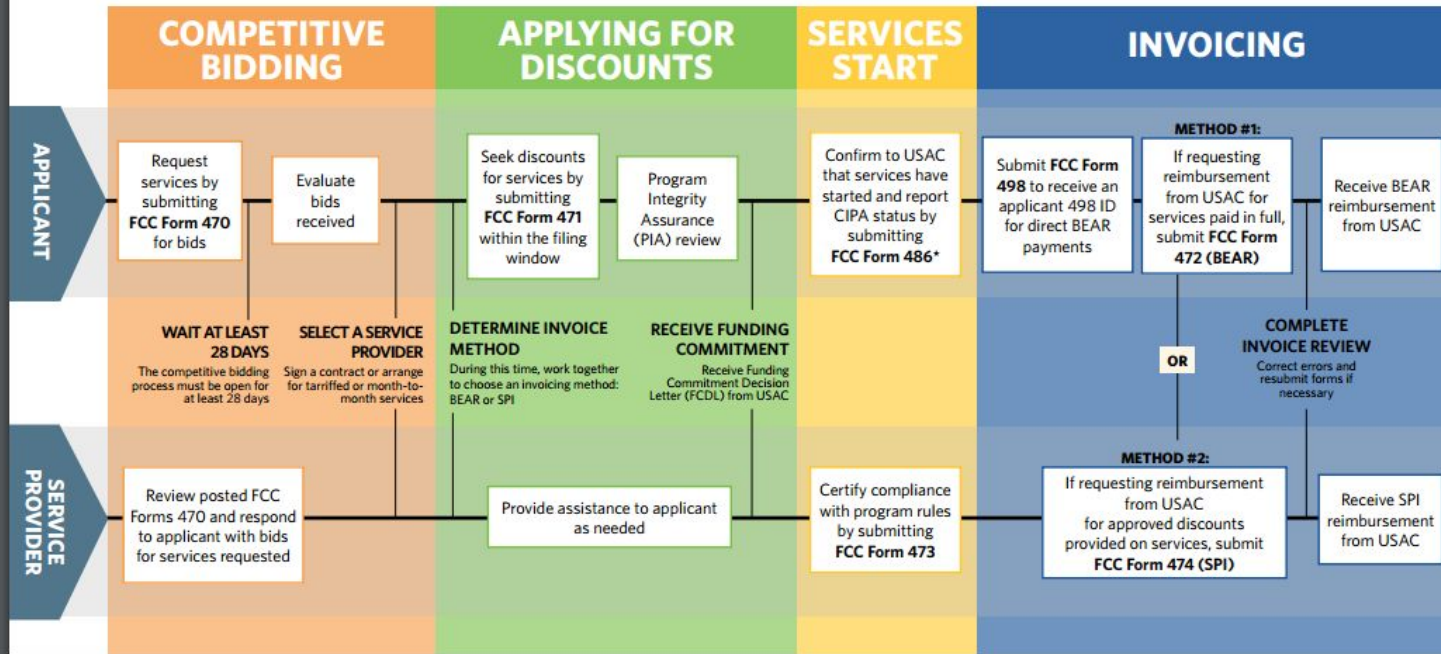
- 2017/2018 is year 3 of 5 year cycle
- E-rate Cycle: July 1 - June 30
 - Planning began Fall, 2016
 - Paperwork March, 2017 through June, 2018 (or later)



BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

APPLICANTS: Applicants must first have an entity number and an E-rate Productivity Center (EPC) account.

SERVICE PROVIDERS: Service providers must first obtain a Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN /service provider 498 ID) by submitting FCC Form 498.



Financial benefit

E-rate benefit over 5 years (2015-2020)

- Amount eligible for discount based on formula using square feet
- USAC Percent Discount--based on percentage of students eligible for NSLP (minimum amount is \$9,200)



Financial benefit

Sample E-rate benefit over 5 years

- Amount eligible for discount = \$9,200
- If USAC Percent Discount is 60% then = 5 year savings of \$5,520
- Must spend the \$9,200 to get the full discount



Financial benefit

Cost of filtering at SCLS (iBoss through WiscNet)

- Total cost divided by # of PCs being filtered
- @ \$6/PC if all PCs filtered
- @ \$10/PC for current E-rate libraries



Financial benefit

Ongoing annual savings will cover cost of iboss filtering (give or take a little):

- WiscNet (Category 1)
- Any e-rate libraries on Charter or other ISP (Category 1)
- Cisco Base support for routers (Category 2)



Financial benefit

Projected savings 2016/2017

- SCLS HQ cabling (Category 2); shared
- SCLS HQ network equipment for 10 Gb upgrade (Category 2); shared
- Network equipment purchases for individual libraries (Category 2); library



Financial benefit

Projected savings after filter software for
2016/2017

- Total: \$41,080
- Range: \$628 to \$23,459





Financial benefit

Projected savings 2017/2018

- Will most likely break even

Financial benefit

Future years:

- Firewall (Category 2); shared
- Wireless replacement (Category 2); library
- Library network equipment replacement (Category 2); library
- Building projects requiring cabling or racks (Category 2); library





SCLS E-rate Resources

<http://www.scls.info/technology/erate/index.html>

