



**Allegany-Limestone Central School District
Network and Internet Use Policy**

The Allegany-Limestone Central School District encourages the use of its academic computer services by members of the school community. Our Board of Education is committed to providing a computer network that will promote learning, teaching, and management. It is the policy of ALCS to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

A high speed internet connection is available to students and teachers in the district who qualify. In making decisions regarding student access to the Internet, the ALCS District considers its own stated educational vision, mission, core beliefs and goals. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the Internet enables teachers and students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value. ALCS requires the implementation of a technology protection measure, generally referred to as an Internet filter, to block access to visual depictions deemed "obscene," "child pornography," or "harmful to minors." On a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and a diligent user may discover controversial information. We (ALCS) firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction on the Internet far outweighs the possibility that users may obtain material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the district.

Teachers are responsible for teaching proper techniques and standards for participation, for guiding student access to appropriate sections of the Internet, and for assuring that students understand that if they misuse the network they will lose their privilege to access the Internet from the classroom environment. Internet access is a privilege, not a right. Internet access entails responsibility. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the ALCS staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Director of Technology or designated representatives. The teaching staff will provide age appropriate training for students who use the ALCS Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in this Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

Anyone who receives an account to access the network and the Internet will take full responsibility for his or her own actions. To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the ALCS online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

The Allegany-Limestone Central School District will not be liable for the actions of anyone connecting to the Internet. All users shall assume full liability, legal, financial, or otherwise, for their actions. In addition, ALCS takes no responsibility for any information or materials that are transferred through the Internet. Violations of the Internet filtering policy and/or Acceptable User Policy (AUP) will result in administrative and possible legal penalties starting with withdrawal of Internet privileges and progressing through possible criminal prosecution for egregious violations. When using another organization's networks or computing resources, students must comply with the

rules appropriate for that network. The following regulations and responsibilities, then, apply to all users at Allegany-Limestone Central School District.

- All users must respect the privacy of others and will not seek, use or modify the passwords, accounts or files of other users.
- All users must respect the integrity of the equipment and will refrain from using the equipment or programs to harass others, infiltrate any computer system, damage or alter the hardware/software components of any computer system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses and the attempt to destroy, harm or modify data of another user.
- All users will refrain from creating or accessing defamatory, abusive, offensive, illegal, or adult- oriented material on Allegany-Limestone/BOCES equipment.
- All users will use Allegany-Limestone/BOCES equipment for school-related activities only, and will not use this equipment for commercial, personal, monetary or business gain.
- All users must realize that the Electronic Communications Privacy Act places electronic mail in the same category as messages delivered by the United States Postal Service, and tampering may be a felony offense. *All electronic mail messages are subject to District review at any time* and should be consistent with the Allegany-Limestone Central School District vision/mission.
- All users will abide by the United States Copyright, Patent, and License Laws and will not copy, alter or distribute copyrighted or proprietary material. This includes all programs, server or network system files, and data files on the network and the Internet.
- All users not complying with the regulations for use described above will have their access privileges suspended or revoked for a period of time to be determined by the director of technology and administrators involved. Additional penalties may be administered according to district policy, or state or federal law.

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of Allegany-Limestone CSD at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on December 20, 2011.

Allegany-Limestone Central School District
Network and Internet Use Agreement
Signatures

This signature form remains current for a maximum time period of three (3) years (exception: seniors - 4 years). Record of signatures will be recorded electronically in the ALCS Student Management System, updated annually. New students, and students in grade 3, 6, and 9 will be asked to (re-)sign the form. All staff/students will be reminded annually of their obligation to abide by the terms of the Acceptable User Policy/Agreement they signed. Students with no form on file will be denied access to school computer hardware.

I understand and will abide by the above Network and Internet Use Agreement. I further understand violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit violation, my access privileges may be revoked; school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action.

User Name (please print): _____

User Signature: _____

Date _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

(If you are under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement)

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Network and Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for the Allegany-Limestone Central School District to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent/Guardian's Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date _____