

A Word About the Children's Internet Protection Act...

Due to delays in publication, this manual does not address the current high-interest issue in intellectual freedom, the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), which went into effect on April 20, 2001. This new law, along with the Neighborhood Internet Protection Act (NCIPA), requires libraries to implement Internet safety policies and filtering technology. Failure to do so can threaten a library's access to funds under the Library Services and Technology Act, Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Universal Service discount program known as the E-rate. The American Library Association, along with the American Association of Law Libraries and other interested groups, has chosen to challenge the constitutionality of CIPA. This litigation is still pending. For more information about how to comply with CIPA requirements and about the lawsuit, see the American Library Association's webpage at <http://www.ala.org/cipa/>, last visited August 4, 2001.