

Shark UTM® | CIPA Compliance

The Shark UTM security appliance is a fully featured Web Content Filtering system, supporting over 100 categories of content classification. Categories of websites that have been identified as harmful under the guidelines of the Children’s Internet Protection Act are labeled (CIPA). At a minimum, we recommend your content filtering policies for minor students include these categories.

The Children’s Internet Protection Act requires Schools and libraries to “protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are [obscene](#), [child pornography](#), or harmful to minors”.

Obscenity as defined by Miller v. California (1973):

1. *whether the average person, applying contemporary “community standards”, would find that that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;*
2. *whether the work depicts or describes, in an offensive way, sexual conduct or excretory functions, as specifically defined by applicable state law (the syllabus of the case mentions only sexual conduct, but excretory functions are explicitly mentioned on page 25 of the majority opinion); and*
3. *whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.*

Child Pornography as defined by 18 U.S.C. 2256

Harmful to minors as defined by the Children’s Internet Protection Act:

“Any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that – (i) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (ii) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and (iii) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.”

It should be noted that “artistic nudity”, regardless of the age of the subject, is not prohibited under CIPA guidelines.

We are providing the following documentation for your reference:

- The Federal Communication Commission’s explanation of the CIPA guidelines.
<http://www.fcc.gov/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act>

Thank you for your understanding and please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any questions or concerns you may have with this notification.

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