

Connecticut Education Network Policy for Content Filtering Adopted May 28, 2008

This policy describes how content filtering is applied to the Connecticut Education Network (CEN).

The CEN connects all public school districts, public libraries, and higher education institutions in Connecticut. Additionally, connections are provided to “sponsored participants”, which include some of Connecticut’s private and parochial schools, museums, and other educational institutions.

Content filtering on the CEN is applied as follows:

Institutions of Higher Education

- Institutions of higher education receive no filtering on the CEN.

Public Libraries

- Public libraries receive no filtering on the CEN automatically, but may opt-in to the state-provided content filtering system by requesting the service via an email to cen@po.state.ct.us.
- Public libraries have the option to procure and use another system to filter content in lieu of or in addition to the system provided by the state, at their own expense.

Public Schools

- Content filtering will be provided automatically to each school district as part of their CEN connectivity. However, each public school district has the option to use or not use the state-provided content filtering system. Those districts that desire to opt-out of using the state-provided system must contact CEN staff in writing by sending an email to cen@po.state.ct.us.
- School districts have the option to procure and use another system to filter content in lieu of or in addition to the system provided by the state, at their own expense.
- Those Connecticut public school districts that opt to use the state provided filtering system are provided this at no cost to the school district. This system will provide a baseline of filtering that is determined by the Commission for Educational Technology. School districts have the ability to add additional filters and/or remove specific Websites from the baseline filtering that is provided through the state.

Sponsored Participants

- The CEN is not able to provide sponsored participants with the state-provided content filtering system. If desired, they may provide their own content filtering.

CEN users are reminded that no filtering system is “fool-proof”. Therefore, even with content filtering in place, it remains possible for some undesired content to appear on CEN connected computers. It is recommended that Network administrators advise their users accordingly.