

Georgia Academy for the Blind

Use of Electronic Communication

The Academy for the Blind is committed to the development and establishment of a quality, equitable, and cost effective electronic communication system. The sole purpose of the system shall be for the advancement and promotion of learning and teaching.

Staff and students using electronic communications shall comply with the administrative procedures provided here. A detailed copy can be found in the student and faculty handbooks. The Academy reserves the right to monitor all computer and internet activity by students and staff. Staff and students must be advised that privacy in the use of electronic communications is not guaranteed.

Use of electronic communications is a privilege. Inappropriate use may result in the cancellation of those privileges. The use of electronic communications must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Georgia Academy for the Blind. Transmission or receipt of any materials in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening material, obscene or sexually explicit material. Use for commercial activity is not acceptable. Use for product advertisements or political activity is prohibited. Use of electronic communications that incur cost to the Academy is prohibited. Use of electronic communication by anyone other than students and staff must be approved by the superintendent in written form.

All procedures and actions of electronic communications must align and adhere to the Georgia Board of Regents PeachNet Acceptable Use Policy and/or any other electronic communications service provider policy. The Georgia Academy for the Blind makes no assurances of any kind, whether expressed or implied, regarding any electronic services provided. The Academy for the Blind will not be responsible for any damage the user suffers or any debts incurred. Use of any information obtained via electronic communications is at the students' or staff members' own risk. The Georgia Academy for the Blind takes no responsibility for the accuracy or reliability of information obtained through electronic communications.

Parents assume full financial responsibility should their child:

1. Incur individual cost through electronic communications transmissions, and/or
2. Willfully harm or destroy any component of the electronic equipment.

The Superintendent, Education Supervisors, or Director of Residential Services will make all decisions regarding violations of policy and procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend communications access at any time. Additionally, the Superintendent will make decisions that may result in discipline up to and including suspension, dismissal, or expulsion of student or staff.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN OF: _____

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Electronic Communications Usage Sheet. I understand that access to electronic communications equipment is designed for educational purposes. I understand that the Georgia Academy for the Blind has taken measures to eliminate controversial material; however, I recognize that it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold the Academy responsible for materials acquired on the computer/ electronic system. I accept full responsibility for any debt incurred by my child through electronic transmission or by destruction of electronic equipment. I understand that some electronic usage can constitute a criminal offense and I take full responsibility for my child should that occur. **I give permission for my child to utilize the computer/ electronic system. This permission remains in effect while the student continues to be enrolled at GAB, or until the parent gives notice that the permission has been rescinded.**

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

STUDENT/ USERS CONTRACT

I have read the Electronic Communications Usage Sheet on the previous page. I understand and agree to abide by these terms and conditions for use. I further understand that any violation of the regulations is subject to disciplinary action, and in some cases, may constitute a criminal offense. **This permission remains in effect while the student continues to be enrolled at GAB, or until the parent gives notice that the permission has been rescinded.**

STUDENT/ USER SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____