

CIPA Compliance Checklist for K-12 Apple Deployments

What to have in place before certifying CIPA compliance on FCC Form 486.

Policy & Governance

Adopted Internet Safety Policy approved by your school board (date and resolution number recorded).

Acceptable Use Policy for staff and for students, distributed annually with signed acknowledgment.

Public hearing or reasonable notice held before policy adoption — minutes retained on file.

Technology Protection Measures

Content filter actively blocking obscenity, child pornography, and material harmful to minors.

Filter applied to all internet-enabled devices owned by the district — on-premises AND on take-home iPads / Macs.

Documented override procedure for adult, education-justified research use.

Configuration screenshots and policy text saved in your CIPA evidence file.

Apple Device Configuration

MDM profile pushes a filtering certificate or per-app VPN to all student iPads and Macs.

Safari content filtering and Web Content Restrictions enforced via MDM.

App Store restrictions applied per grade band; explicit content blocked in Music, Books, and TV.

Off-network DNS filtering (e.g. Cisco Umbrella, Lightspeed Filter, GoGuardian) verified on a sample take-home device.

Monitoring & Education

Documented method for monitoring student online activity during school operations.

Annual digital citizenship instruction covering appropriate online behavior, interactions on social media, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Curriculum mapped to a recognized framework (e.g. Common Sense Education, ISTE).

Annual Certifications

FCC Form 486 filed within 120 days of E-Rate service start, certifying CIPA compliance.

Annual review of Internet Safety Policy by superintendent or designee.

Audit log retained for at least the funding-year retention period (currently 10 years).

Common Audit Findings to Avoid

Filter only enforced on school Wi-Fi, not on take-home devices.

Internet Safety Policy not formally adopted (draft circulated but never approved).

No record of public notice or hearing prior to policy adoption.

Digital citizenship instruction documented at the school level but not the district level.

Prepared by NLE Systems — Authorized Apple Reseller for K-12 Education. Contact ac@nlesystems.com for tailored guidance for your district.