

DES PLAINES PUBLIC LIBRARY

RULES OF CONDUCT

The Board of Trustees of the Des Plaines Public Library believes that all people have the right to use the materials, services, and facilities of the Library without disruption from others. Patrons and staff also have the right to a secure and comfortable environment. Any action that materially and substantially interferes with the operation of the Library, such as those producing excessive noise, a significant safety hazard, or a significant security risk will not be permitted. The following Rules of Conduct have been established to maintain these rights:

1. All behavior constituted or determined disruptive or hinders the use of the Library for another person is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to indecent behavior, offensive or unbecoming conduct or language, blocking the stairways or entrance or exits, and verbal or physical harassment.
2. Viewing internet images displaying nudity in a sexual context or sexual activity is prohibited.
3. Smoking, the use of chewing tobacco and electronic smoking devices is prohibited in all areas of the Library building.
4. The use, possession, or distribution of controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, and the use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, and its derivatives as defined by Illinois and Federal statute, is prohibited in all areas of the Library. Use of alcohol is only permitted at designated events with the approval of the Library Board and with appropriate city licensing.
5. Non-alcoholic beverages in covered containers are welcome in the Library. Eating is prohibited in public areas, except for the meeting rooms, first floor Plaza view hallway and the Terrace.
6. Animals, except for service animals, are not permitted in the Library.
7. Selling products or services and soliciting donations are prohibited on Library property unless authorized by the Library Director.
8. Distribution of leaflets, survey-taking, collecting signatures on petitions, solicitation, fundraising, proselytizing and similar activities in the Library building are prohibited. If engaging in these activities outside on Library grounds, patrons may not be disturbed by such activities as they enter or exit the Library building.

9. Parents are responsible for the behavior and welfare of their children while they are on Library property. Children under eight years of age must be accompanied and in direct line of sight of a responsible caregiver 16 years or older at all times in all areas of the Library.
10. The violation of federal or state laws and local ordinances and/or Library policies will not be permitted on Library property. Theft, vandalism, and mutilation of Library property are criminal offenses that will be prosecuted. The Library reserves the right to inspect all bags, purses, briefcases, backpacks and other such items when staff members have cause to believe that this rule has been violated.
11. The possession or use of weapons is prohibited on Library property and in the course of Library-related activities. Exceptions to this prohibition are law enforcement and/or security personnel engaged in official duties.
12. Failure to comply with the Library's Rules of Conduct, or any activity which potentially jeopardizes the safety of an individual or failure to comply with a reasonable staff request to cease and desist a behavior, may result in revoked privileges, removal from the premises and exclusion from the Library or arrest and prosecution depending upon the nature of the misconduct.

Reviewed and Approved 05/16/95
 Revised and Approved 06/15/99
 Reviewed and Approved 03/20/01
 Revised and Approved 07/17/01
 Revised and Approved 06/17/03
 Revised and Approved 09/21/04
 Revised and Approved 06/20/06
 Reviewed and Approved 04/15/08
 Reviewed and Approved 07/20/10
 Revised and Approved 05/17/11
 Revised and Approved 04/15/14
 Revised and Approved 12/17/15
 Revised and Approved 05/18/2017