



COVID-19 Policy

Purpose

The Fitchburg Public Library has reopened with the goal of providing services in the safest and most effective way possible.

We are offering express services, which include browsing, use of computers, and checking out materials. Time restrictions on visits will be in place.

This is a temporary policy that may supersede portions of previously approved Library Board policies.

COVID-19 Policy

- **Masks are required at all times.** Everyone is required to cover their nose and mouth with a cloth covering or a mask at all times on Library property. Failure to properly wear a mask is a violation of this policy, and will result in exclusion from Library property. Children aged 4 and under are not required to wear masks.
- For those unable to wear a face mask, the Library will make reasonable accommodations for services. **These accommodations do not include admittance to the Library.**
- The Library is taking precautions to protect our patrons and staff. This includes, but is not limited to, shielding at service points, regular cleaning of high-use surfaces, and hand sanitizing stations. We cannot guarantee that the Library is free of germs and viruses. We ask that you determine if the Library is a safe place for you and your family.
- If you or someone in your household have COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19, do not enter the Library. If you display COVID-19 symptoms in the Library, you may be asked to leave.
- Social distancing of a minimum of six feet must be maintained between people of different households in the Library. Failure to maintain physical distance is a violation of Library policy, and will result in exclusion from Library property.
- We encourage patrons to use our self-check machines for contactless check-out.
- We encourage patrons to use cash-free payment methods.
- Patrons are expected to adhere to time restrictions posted in the Library.

- If confirmed cases of COVID-19 are associated with the Library, the Library may temporarily close to the public.
- Computer access may be available in a physically distanced setting. Assistance will be limited.
- Limited building capacity may be enforced. If capacity is met, you may need to wait to enter the Library.
- Seating will be limited in the Library. Sitting on the floor is not allowed.
- Food and drinks are not allowed in the Library.
- No public meetings or programs will be scheduled.
- The Meeting Room, Conference Room, study rooms, and other spaces will be unavailable.
- The Library reserves the right to close areas of the building to the public. Patrons are not allowed to enter non-public areas of the Library without permission.
- Failure to comply with a reasonable staff request will result in exclusion from Library property.

Approved by the Fitchburg Public Library Board April 21, 2021.