

Policy--Beehive Library Consortium econtent Collection Development

This policy provides the framework for development and maintenance of the Beehive Library Consortium (hereinafter “Consortium”) collection containing ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and videos. The Consortium chooses content to reflect a broad spectrum of learning needs, viewpoints, and reader interests, with the understanding that individual patrons make their own choices as to what electronic resources they access based on individual interests and needs.

The Consortium recognizes that parents and guardians have the right and the responsibility to determine the suitability of materials for a person under their care— and to determine only those persons’— access to Library resources. The Consortium adheres to the American Library Association [Library Bill of Rights](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill)¹, the [Freedom to Read Statement](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomreadstatement)², and the [Freedom to View Statement](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomviewstatement)³ and considers all materials in the collection protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The Consortium neither approves nor disapproves of the views expressed in materials included in the collection.

Selection and Criteria

The Consortium seeks to meet the learning and reading needs of a diverse population, representing a variety of backgrounds and points of view. The Consortium’s collection is intended to work in tandem with member libraries’ physical collections, increasing access to recreational and educational reading materials, via electronic devices, for all library patrons. Ultimate responsibility for materials in the collection rests with the Beehive Library Consortium Administrative Committee; the day-to-day work of selection, evaluation, and maintenance is the responsibility of a number of librarians, each employed by the various member libraries. Content that is purchased by individual member libraries is shared with the entire consortium. An individual library cannot suppress specific titles in order to keep their patrons from accessing it.

The general criteria for selection listed below applies to the selection of all materials. Not all titles or collections will meet all the criteria listed below, but will fall into at least one of these categories:

- Accuracy and timeliness of content
- Availability of individual and series titles
- Cost and available funding
- Favorable professional reviews
- Local or regional interest
- Public demand, interest, or need
- Relation to existing collections
- Reputation/qualification of author or publisher
- Publisher and/or vendor terms of use and retention

¹ <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>

² <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomreadstatement>

³ <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomviewstatement>

Suggestions for purchases are encouraged through the vendor and/or platform using the patron's login information to ensure the collection is meeting the needs of all patrons. Such recommendations will be given serious consideration in accordance with the criteria used in making selection decisions.

Collection Maintenance

Numerous factors determine the nature of electronic resource collection maintenance. Items that are obsolete, unused, outdated, or unnecessary duplicates may be removed. Some publishers place time and/or circulation limits on e-book and e-audio titles, resulting in a lapse in access. The decision to replace them will depend on several factors, including:

- Current number of holds
- Format or content obsolescence
- Placement in a series
- Replacement cost
- Total number of circulations
- Total number of holds

Gifts

The Consortium is unable to accommodate electronic resource gifts of personally purchased titles, due to technical and licensing limitations.

Statement of Concern Form

The Consortium will review concerns regarding specific titles upon written request from a library patron from any of the Consortium member libraries. The Chair of the Consortium Administrative Committee will provide a Statement of Concern form for this purpose.

When a fully completed Statement of Concern form is received, the Consortium Administrative Committee will begin its reconsideration process. This process consists of the following steps:

1. The Chair of the Consortium Administrative Committee will convene a group consisting of at least three committee members to review the concerning material(s). If three committee members are unable to participate for any reason, they may choose another individual from their library to participate in the process on their behalf.
2. The Committee members will review the concerning material(s) and communicate their decision to remove, reclassify, or retain the materials in question to the patron within 20 business days of receipt of a completed Statement of Concern form.
3. Should the patron not be satisfied with the Committee's decision, the patron may appeal the decision to the State Library Board within 30 days of receipt of the Committee's decision.
4. The State Library Board will review the material(s), along with the Committee's decisions, and provide a written decision to the patron within 20 business days after their next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting, provided there is enough lead time prior to the meeting to meet open meeting requirements, distribute copies of the concerning material,

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and allow enough time for all members to read the material(s) in their entirety.

The State Library Board's decision is final. Material(s) being questioned will remain available to other patrons during the review process. In reviewing all Statements of Concern, the Consortium Administrative Committee and the State Library Board will consider each work as a whole, in terms of this collection development policy, and individual passages will not be considered out of context. They will also consider the literary merit of work recognized as classics, even though classic works may contain words or sentiments which, today, are deemed controversial.

A patron may have only one active Statement of Concern under review at any given time; please wait for the resolution of your first request before submitting a second.

Policy Review

The Electronic Resources Collection Development Policy of the Beehive Library Consortium will be reviewed by the Administrative Committee on an annual basis. The Committee will not request changes to the policy while an active Statement of Concern is in the process of being reviewed.