



Use & Behavior Policy

Policy Purpose

The Duchesne County Library System exists to serve all residents of Duchesne County. To ensure that everyone has a pleasant and safe experience, patrons—minors and adults—are expected to respect the rights of others ~~and their privacy~~, to not disrupt library activities, and to adhere to the following behaviors:

Regulations

1. Patrons should show courtesy and respect to other patrons and staff by maintaining **considerate behavior and communication in volume and content** ~~appropriate voice, behavior~~ and personal hygiene that will not disturb others ~~and their privacy~~ or library activities. Patrons should comply with requests from ~~the any~~ library staff **member**. Some prohibited behaviors include: public intoxication, fighting, obscene language and **disorderly**, lewd or indecent behavior, **disturbing the peace or a lawful assembly** (Utah Code Annotated 10-8-50 [2025] ~~& 76-9-701(1) [2021]~~), interfering in staff efforts to carry out their duties, and entering into non-public areas including staff work areas and desks or areas where patrons have an expectation of privacy, including study or reserved areas.
2. Patrons should treat other patrons' personal items, library materials, equipment, furniture, grounds and facilities in a safe and appropriate manner. The library system is not responsible for any individual's or group's equipment, materials, or personal belongings that are damaged, stolen, or missing.
3. Patrons must obey all federal, state, city and county laws and ordinances, including The Utah Indoor Clean Air Act (**UCA 26B-7-501(22) & 26B-7-503 [2023]**), which prohibits smoking **of any form** in public buildings and within 25 feet of entrances or air intakes (Utah Administrative Code R392-510-5 & 8 [2023]).
4. Parents or legal guardians are fully responsible for the ~~safety and~~ behavior of their children while on library premises, whether the parent or legal guardian is present or not. Children younger than 5 years old must be accompanied by a responsible person 12 years old or older **during open hours. Minors under 16 years of age must be accompanied by adults for any after hours program or event.** The library staff will attempt to contact parents or legal guardians of unsupervised children ~~acting inappropriately~~ **who are not complying with this policy's regulations** and, if necessary, appropriate authorities.

5. The library system complies with state and federal regulations relating to the right to be accompanied by service animals (UCA 26B-6-801 & 803 [2023] and Code of Federal Regulations Title 28-Chapter 1-Parts 35.104 & 35.136 [2024]). Controlled and housebroken dogs trained to perform specific work or tasks for patrons with disabilities are welcome. Dogs that solely provide emotional support, comfort, companionship, or a crime deterrent, as well as other animals, are not included.
6. Where a patron courtesy phone is not provided, patrons may borrow a library phone for a maximum of 15 minutes. ~~The phone must be used in the main library lobby/computer area.~~
7. Patrons who ~~interfere with the rights of other library patrons or staff~~ **do not comply with these regulations** may be subject to one or more of the following consequences:
 - a. Loss of access to library services and resources.
 - b. Expulsion from the library and its property.
 - c. Notification of the appropriate law enforcement agency.
 - d. Liability for damages to public property or injuries to the public or library staff.

Appeals

Library staff members ~~present during an incident of inappropriate behavior~~ may exercise an appropriate consequence at ~~that time~~ **the time of an incident**. Long-term suspensions of library privileges or expulsions will be given a specified time duration determined by the Library Director. A suspension or expulsion longer than one month may be appealed to the Duchesne County Library Board of Trustees. A ruling will be determined at the Board's regularly scheduled meeting and is final. The Director's original decision stands until the Board's ruling. Patrons may appear to present their position at the meeting, but must ask to be included on the meeting agenda no later than 10 days before the meeting.

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed at least once every three years by the Duchesne County Library Board of Trustees.

Reviewed: Feb. 21, 2023

Adopted: Mar. 21, 2023

Effective: Mar. 22, 2023

Original Adoption: Oct. 26, 2018