

Oskaloosa Public Library Policy:	Borrowing & Circulation (including Statement of Confidentiality)
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted: May 24, 1998	Last Revision: July 2010

Access

In-Library Use of Materials

Anyone, regardless of his/her residency, age, race, religion, national origins, or social or political views, may use library materials within the library building in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Borrowing Privileges

Eligible Borrowers

Those eligible for a library card are:

1. Oskaloosa residents.
2. Residents of unincorporated Mahaska County areas.
3. Residents of incorporated towns with whom we have reciprocal borrowing agreements (New Sharon, Eddyville).
4. Individuals whose city has contracted for services with our library (currently Beacon, Fremont, Keomah Village, Leighton, Rose Hill, and University Park).
5. Cardholders from libraries participating in the state’s Open Access.
6. Individuals who own property in the city of Oskaloosa but reside elsewhere.
7. Owners of businesses that rent property in the city of Oskaloosa.

Library cards are issued to individuals and are not transferable among family members or friends.

Patrons may not check out materials unless the library card is presented or reported lost within the last 30 days. Exceptions may be made for children who have just completed 5th grade or below.

Cardholders are responsible for all items checked out on their cards.

Library card application.

1. All individuals are required to:
 - Complete a registration card.
 - Show photo identification with current name and address on it.
 - Show proof of current address.
 - Pay any fines or fees incurred previously at this library.
2. Applications by children under the 6th grade level must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. The signer must show proper identification before the child may receive a card.
3. The applicant’s signature on the registration card indicates that the statement of responsibility has been read and agreed to. In the case of a child below 6th grade, this responsibility is held by the parent or legal guardian who signed for the card.

Teacher’s Cards

See “Teacher’s Cards” policy.

Temporary Cards

Upon presentation of identification showing permanent name and address, temporary cards will be issued to persons residing in the area for a limited time. A fee of \$10.00 per temporary card will

be charged. This fee will be kept on site and will be refunded upon surrender of the library card. Fees that are not claimed within 6 months of cessation of use will be considered a donation and used to purchase new library materials.

Expiration of Library cards

1. Library cards expire periodically for the purpose of verifying current contact information by staff.
2. Cards not used for some time (length of time will be determined by the library) are subject to being purged from the database. In the event of such purging, the borrower will be required to complete a new registration form, pay any outstanding fines or fees, and will be issued a new card at no charge.
3. Library cards may be revoked by the Library Director for misuse or abuse of borrowing privileges.

Lost Cards

Lost cards should be reported as soon as possible to the Library so borrowing privileges may be suspended on that card. Replacement cards will be issued for \$2.00 for adults but no fee will be charged for children below the 6th grade level. There is a limit of three lost cards per 12-month period.

Circulation

Loan Periods for Materials

The purpose of establishing various loan periods for library materials is to balance a patron's need to use materials for a reasonable time against the desire to have materials available in the library to meet public demand.

Material Type	Loan Period	Renewal	Limit	Reserve
Books	14 days	yes*	none	yes
Bestsellers	14 days	No	2	no
Books on tape	14 days	Yes*	None	yes
Books on CD	14 days	Yes	None	yes
Playaway audiobooks	14 days	Yes	None	yes
VHS (feature)	3 days	No	3	yes
VHS (non-fiction)	14 days	Yes*	None	yes
DVD (feature)	3 days	No	3	Yes
DVD (non-fiction)	14 days	Yes	None	yes
DVD games	7 days	No	1	yes
Blu-Ray discs (feature)	3 days	No	3	Yes
Blu-Ray discs (non-fiction)	14 days	Yes	None	yes
Music CDs	14 days	Yes*	3	yes
CD-ROMS	7 days	No	3	yes
Book/Tape Kits	14 days	Yes*	None	yes
Magazines (back issues)	14 days	Yes*	None	yes
Realia	14 days	No	1	Yes
Toys/Games	14 days	Yes*	None	yes
A/V Equipment***	3 days	No	1	yes

- * If there are no holds on the item
- ** A grace period of three days may be allowed on certain items.

Circulation Periods for Supporting Groups Members

The Library offers extended checkout periods for current members of the Friends of the Oskaloosa Public Library. This privilege is also extended to board members of the Oskaloosa Public Library Foundation and Teen Advisory Board. Items which typically check out for 3 days are circulated for 7 days, and items which typically check out for 14 days are circulated for 21 days.

Renewals

Materials designated as renewable above can be renewed:

- *By phone, in person, or by electronic access.
- *If the item is not on hold for another person.
- *Limit: two renewals per item.

Holds and Interlibrary Loans

Most books and library materials that are currently in circulation may be placed on hold in person, by telephone, or electronically. Patrons will be notified when the item is available for pickup. The item will be held for three days at the circulation desk. There is no fee for this service.

If the library does not own the material you need, we will borrow it from another library through Interlibrary Loan (ILL). The requested material may be available within several days or within three to four weeks, depending on the source location. A flat \$2.00 fee to offset postage costs will be assessed for all fulfilled requests. The fee must be paid when the item is picked up. Because of the cost involved in procuring interlibrary loan items, materials ordered but not picked up will result in a \$5.00 fee charged to the patron’s card. Interlibrary loan service is only available to Oskaloosa residents and residents of contracting areas.

Limitations

In an effort to more evenly distribute limited resources during high-demand times, the number of materials in any given format or subject area that may be checked out by a borrower may be limited at the discretion of library staff.

Standard limitations:

- 3 music CDs per card.
- 3 feature videocassettes per card.
- 3 feature DVDs per card.
- 3 Blu-Ray discs per card.
- 1 game DVD per card.

Fines

Material type	Daily Rate	Maximum Fine
Adult hardcover or trade paperback	0.10	\$5.00
Adult mass paperback or magazine	0.10	\$2.00
Children’s materials	0.05	\$2.50
All video materials	1.00	\$10.00
CDs and CD-ROMS	0.25	\$5.00
Realia	0.25	\$5.00
A/V Equipment	\$5.00	\$50.00

Fine discounts

All fines will be discounted 50% when paid at the time of the return of the materials. This discount does not apply to fees paid for lost or damaged items.

Borrowing Restrictions

A patron’s borrowing privileges will be temporarily suspended if:

- * Fines and/or fees owed the library exceed \$2.50.
- * The patron has not returned items that are four or more weeks overdue.

Borrowing may resume when fines are paid or reduced below the limit. The library reserves the right to prevent borrowing of materials on the card of a minor by a parent or guardian whose card falls into the delinquent category due to overdue materials, non-payment of fines, and/or non-return of materials. Conversely, the library may block the card of parent or guardian whose child has a delinquent card, provided the parent or guardian has custody of the child and the child is below the 6th grade level.

Non-Returned Library Materials

The Code of Iowa 1997 Section 714.5 deals with library materials and evidence of intention. “The fact that a person fails to return library materials for two months or more after the date the person agreed to return the library materials, or fails to return library equipment for one month or more after the date the person agreed to return the library equipment, is evidence of intent to deprive the owner.” The Library shall comply with the provision and procedures outlined in the Iowa Code and its supplements in assuring that materials borrowed from the Oskaloosa Public Library are returned to it.

Patrons will be notified of overdue items by email, phone or letter after 14 days. After 30 days there will be a follow-up email, phone, or letter and a shelf-check of the items will have been completed. If the items have not been returned after 90 days there will be a certified letter sent requesting the items be returned in 15 days. After 6 months the items will be written off of library records and billed. If the total of the overdue items exceed \$100.00 law officials will be notified.

Replacement Costs of Lost or Damaged Materials

The cost of lost or damaged material from the library will be the retail price if the item is still readily available in the same format, plus a \$5.00 reprocessing fee. No refunds are given if the item is returned after it is paid for. If the item is no longer available, a flat fee will be charged according to the following schedule, plus a \$5.00 reprocessing fee. (This schedule will be updated regularly by the Library Board on the advice of the Director or Youth Librarian).

Adult Materials*		Juvenile Materials*	
Fiction books	\$26	J books	\$20
Nonfiction books	\$34	JP books	\$18
Reference books	\$60	J CDs	\$16 (1)/\$25 (2)
Books on tape	\$11/\$18/\$22/\$26	J music tapes	\$10
Videocassettes	\$15	J videocassettes	\$15
DVDs and DVD games	\$25	J DVDs	\$25
Blu-Ray discs	\$30	Toys/games	\$20
CDs	\$16 (1)/\$25 (2)	Trade paperbacks	\$7
Books on CD	\$12 x number of discs	Mass paperbacks	\$5
Playaway audiobooks	\$60	Board books	\$6
Genealogy books	\$60		
Iowa Collection books	\$30		

Large print books	\$28		
Young adult books	\$20		
Magazines	\$5		
Trade paperbacks	\$17		
Mass market paperbacks	\$8		
AV equipment	Replacement cost		

*In cases where the documented purchase price was more than the set fee, the purchase price may be charged (i.e. reference books, local history, art books, genealogy, etc.)

Slightly Damaged Materials

If damaged materials can be repaired in the library, there is no charge. For substantially damaged items that cannot be repaired in the library, the replacement cost will be charged.

Access Restrictions

The library reserves the right to deny access to any library service requiring that a card be presented, meeting room reservations, and the use of equipment to those patrons whose cards are delinquent due to non-payment of fines, or non-return of library materials.

Statement of Confidentiality of Library Records

It is the policy of the Oskaloosa Public Library not to release information that would reveal the identity of a library patron who checked out or used certain materials or requested an item or information from the library. Information concerning the account of a patron will be released to that person only.

However, the library will release information to the parent or guardian of a minor child for the purposes of recovering overdue materials and settling accounts for late, lost, or damaged material, and for other matters related to the recovery of material or charges incurred by minor children if the parent or guardian is liable. Information will not be provided to parents or guardians who are merely attempting to determine what library materials their minor children are using.

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees of the Oskaloosa Public Library to empower the Library Director or their designee, as the lawful custodian of library records, to release circulation records that are otherwise confidential, if the purpose of that release is in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

Other requests for the release of confidential patron records will be honored if submitted in writing and accompanied by an order from the court as outlined in Chapter 22.7 of the Iowa Code.

Adopted: May 24, 1998