



Library Operations Policies

Section 5

Policy 5-10	Rules of Conduct	Created: 4/2/2015 Revised: 7/11/2019 Approved: 8/8/2019
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I. Purpose

This policy explains the rules and expectations to protect the rights and safety of library patrons, staff members and volunteers, while also protecting the library facilities, materials and property.

II. Introduction

JCLS libraries are here for the enjoyment and learning of all county residents and visitors. Behavior, within the library and on property, becomes unacceptable when it interferes with the appropriate use of the library by others or when it could result in a safety hazard, injury, or damage to property. The following behaviors and activities are not permitted:

III. Unacceptable Behavior by Library Standards

Any activity that unreasonably interferes with others' use and enjoyment or the operation of the library, including but not limited to:

- Use of hostile or aggressive language or gestures.
- Use of the library while under the influence of any controlled substance or intoxicant.
- Loud talking or boisterous physical behavior.
- Using electronic or communication devices in a manner that is disruptive to others.
- Wearing insufficient clothing (e.g. no top, no bottom, no shoes) while in the library.
- Bodily hygiene or scent so offensive as to constitute a nuisance to others.
- Interfering with the free passage of staff or patrons in or on library premises.
- Interfering with the use of library resources in or on library premises.
- Bringing animals and pets other than service animals into the library (See Animals in the Library Policy).
- Consuming food or beverages (in an unclosed container) in a manner that creates an unclean environment, attracts insects or vermin, disrupts other customer, or is harmful to library resources. Food is permitted in meeting rooms as specified in the Meeting Room Policy.
- Violating the Internet Use and Safety policy on any library public computers.
- Sleeping in or on library premises.
- Bringing into the library, bags, backpacks, boxes, carts, wheeled conveyances or other large items, which singly or collectively exceed 32" by 18" by 15" (excluding handles), with the exception of wheelchairs and baby strollers/carriages being used for the actual transport of a person.

- Leaving personal belongings unattended.
- Any other behavior deemed inappropriate by library staff.

Using library materials, equipment, fixtures, furniture, buildings or grounds in any manner that:

- Is inconsistent with normal library uses (e.g. bathing, shaving, washing clothes).
- Can be expected to damage library property or the property of others.
- Is likely to cause personal injury to one's self or others.

Disobeying the direction of a library staff member when asked to stop a prohibited behavior or when requested to leave for violations of this or other JCLS policies.

Any observable behavior that is prohibited by law, including but not limited to:

- Smoking, including use of inhalant delivery systems, is not permitted in any library building and is not permitted within 20 feet of an entrance or exit.
- Drugs, any activity that uses open flames including candles and the use of tobacco products are prohibited anywhere in the library.
- Sexual conduct, misconduct or harassment (e.g. exposure, offensive touching, sexual acts).
- Viewing or printing illegal materials (e.g. child pornography).
- Selling or using alcohol or drugs.
- Threatening or harassing behavior (e.g. fighting or threatening to fight, brandishing a weapon, stalking, verbally threatening to harm others or their property).
- Unapproved entry in non-public areas.
- Theft of library materials or items belonging to staff and/or other library users.
- Unlawful possession of weapons.

No firearms or weapons are permitted in the library except as permitted in ORS 166.370.

IV. Consequences

Behavior that is prohibited by law or the JCLS Rules of Conduct may result in the following consequences: Any person who engages in prohibited conduct while on library premises or while attending a library program or event will be directed to leave the Library premises immediately and excluded from all library programs and events without warning. The incident will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency, as needed.

Any person in violation of the JCLS Rules of Conduct may lose all library privileges for a period of up to three years, as determined by the Library Director or designee, based on the following criteria:

- The severity of the offense
- Whether or not it is a repeated offense
- Whether the conduct poses a continuing disruption and/or threat to the comfort or safety of other library patrons and/or library staff
- The level of disruption created by the conduct

- Whether or not security personnel and/or law enforcement involvement is required to address the situation.