



Policy 5-10	Rules of Conduct	Created: 04/02/2015 Revised: 06/23/2026 Approved: 07/15/2026
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I. PURPOSE

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

II. INTRODUCTION

Jackson County libraries are places of information, knowledge, learning, and gathering for all. They are places where anyone may come, be welcomed, and access library services. The Library is committed to serving everyone equitably. Services will not be denied or abridged because of religious, racial, social, economic, or political status; mental, emotional, or physical condition; age or gender; or sexual orientation. The Library is a welcoming space for everyone. A mutual relationship of respect and care between the Library and our patrons helps maintain an environment where all feel safe and included.

III. LIBRARY STANDARDS

Jackson County Library Services strives to create a community of kindness, belonging, and safety. Those disrupting the intended use of the Library will be asked to leave, and their Library privileges may be suspended. This behavior policy serves to define the rules regarding appropriate use of the Library and extends to all library programs and services. Patrons are expected to comply with staff directions at all times. We respectfully ask that everyone:

Be Considerate

- Consuming small snacks and drinks from lidded containers is allowed as long as they are not around computers. Messy food and meals are to be consumed outside the library. Caregivers may feed children under three anywhere in the library.
- To ensure a clean environment for all, we expect all patrons to dispose of accumulated litter from small snacks and lidded containers as well as notify library staff of any spills that occur.
- Please use public restrooms as intended. Bathing, shaving, washing hair, or any other activities that prevent restroom use for other patrons is prohibited.
- Loud and unreasonable noise must be regulated or taken outside of the library.
- Patrons must dress appropriately for a public building, including attire that does sufficiently cover those parts of the body considered private. Patrons must wear shoes and cover the upper and lower portions of their body while on library property.
- Public computers and Wi-Fi may not be used to access content that is inappropriate in a public setting, offensive or harmful to minors, or that creates a hostile or intimidating environment.

- Please stay home if you are sick to protect others. We have online resources you can access at home.

Be Respectful

- Speak with kindness and respect toward other patrons, staff, volunteers, and contracted staff. Obscene, harassing, abusive language, gestures, or behaviors are not allowed.
- Intimidation, stalking, or making threats of violence or harm to another individual will not be tolerated.
- There is zero tolerance for hate speech directed at others.
- Sources of pervasive odors that unreasonably interfere with other patrons' ability to use the library and its facilities will be asked to leave the library building.

Be Responsible

- Follow all laws, ordinances, and regulations including [all JCLS policies](#). There is zero tolerance for violation of laws, ordinances, and regulations.
- Weapons are not allowed in the library, including any item used in a threatening manner.
- Personal Items must be kept with you at all times. The library is a public space, and staff are not responsible for the loss or damage of unattended items left on library property.
- Pets are not allowed; service animals are welcome. (See [Animals in the Library Policy](#)).

Be Safe

- Possessing, selling, distributing, or consuming drugs or alcohol is not allowed on library property.
- Patrons under the influence of any intoxicating beverage or controlled substance to the extent that they are unable to exercise care for their own safety, or the safety of others, will be asked to leave; if a patron cannot safely leave on their own, emergency services will be contacted.
- If you appear to be sleeping, staff will check on your welfare and ask you to wake up. This does not apply to young children in the care of an accompanying adult or caregiver.
- Bicycles, skates, skateboards, scooters, and similar devices may not be operated on library premises, including inside library buildings, vestibules, and covered entryways. Devices that can be folded or carried are welcome inside as long as they are not in use and do not block access for others. Strollers and small carts are always welcome under the same conditions.
- Be responsible for people under your care, for children (see the [Child Safety Policy](#)).
- Patrons are asked to be mindful of their belongings, so they do not create a hazard for others. Library staff may limit or prohibit items that pose a safety risk or interfere with others' access.
- In order to maintain the cleanliness of JCLS materials and spaces, sources that attract pests will need to leave JCLS buildings.