

North Shore Library COVID-19 Policy

These guidelines were created with guidance from the North Shore Health Department, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Libraries Division. This policy remains in effect until one or all of these entities declare there is no longer a need to maintain modified services to the public.

If you have COVID-19 or have a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, do not enter the library. If someone in your household has COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19, do not enter the library during your quarantine. If you display COVID-19 symptoms in the library, you may be asked to leave.

If you or someone in your household has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and you spent time in the library prior to the diagnosis, please report this fact to the Library Director or Librarian in Charge. They will contact the North Shore Health Department for guidance on closure, disinfection and quarantine response.

If two or more laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 are associated with the library, the North Shore Health Department will review library procedures and practices and determine if retraining and/or temporary closure is warranted.

The safety of our patrons and our staff is our number one priority. For this reason, Library staff will wear a face mask in all public areas of the Library and wash their hands frequently. Patrons over the age of two are required to wear a face mask while in the library.

Physical distancing of a minimum of six feet must be maintained by all people in the library, except in cases when physical distancing is not feasible or appropriate.

Due to physical distancing recommendations, the Library will be operating at reduced capacity. A maximum number of people are allowed in the building at any given time. You may be informed that you have to wait to enter the building or that you may need to finish your visit, so we can maintain this threshold. You may be asked to leave the library if you have been here for an extended period of time, to allow for others to enter.

Visitors are discouraged from sitting and staying in the library except for use of public computers.

Due to physical distancing recommendations, socializing and collaborating in the library is not allowed at this time. You may be asked to leave the library if you congregate with another person or group for more than a brief greeting.

Due to reduced capacity, public computer time will be limited per person per day. Only one person may be at a library computer at a time, unless the person is seeking computer assistance from staff.

Patrons requesting one-on-one help from staff (at a public computer, printer, personal device, in the book stacks) must wear a face mask. One-on-one assistance will be limited to no more than three minutes if social distancing cannot be maintained.

Children under 14 years of age may be asked to be accompanied by a supervising adult, particularly if the child is unable to conform to physical distancing while visiting the library.

Library staff and hired cleaners strive to keep the library sanitized and cleaned on a regular schedule. We cannot guarantee the library is a germ-free environment, and ask that you determine if the public library is a safe place for you and your family during this global pandemic.

Violation of these guidelines may result in a person being asked to present a library card or other identification, and or leave the property. Failure to do so may result in the police being called.

This policy supersedes any sections of previously approved Library Board policies which conflict with anything described above.