

809. Library Use Policy

See also related policies on Meeting Room and Lobby Use (806), Unattended Children (813), Theft/Mutilation of Library Materials (811), Copyright (814), Event Board (803) and Internet Use (815). See also Iowa Code and Code of Iowa City, at the end of the policy.

- 809.1 The purpose of the Library Use Policy is to affirm the rights of all people to free and equal access to information and use of the Library without discrimination, intimidation, threat of harm or invasion of privacy. The Iowa City Public Library is dedicated to providing friendly, courteous and respectful service. The goal of the Iowa City Public Library is to provide an enjoyable, clean and comfortable environment for all Library users.
- 809.2 The role of the Iowa City Public Library is to ensure a safe and secure environment. Committing or attempting to commit any activity that would constitute a violation of any federal, state or local criminal law or ordinance is prohibited on Iowa City Public Library property. Examples of prohibited activities include but are not limited to:
- 809.201 Sexual, physical or other harassment including bullying youth or others on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
 - 809.202 Possessing, consuming, selling or being under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs or other substances.
 - 809.203 Engaging in peeping, stalking or indecent exposure.
 - 809.204 Soliciting, panhandling or gambling.
 - 809.205 Trespassing or entering Library property when banned.
 - 809.206 Impeding passageways through physical presence or with personal property.
 - 809.207 Leaving personal property unattended. Items left unattended will be removed.
 - 809.208 Fraudulent use of another person's Library Card or account number.
- 809.3 The role of the Iowa City Public Library is to provide a comfortable and welcoming environment. Mutual respect makes it possible for everyone to enjoy library materials and services. We ask Library users to be respectful of each other and behave in a manner that does not disrupt other library users or interfere with normal operation of the Library. Examples of disruptive behaviors include but are not limited to:
- 809.301 Sleeping except for attended children.
 - 809.302 Using profane, obscene or abusive language.
 - 809.303 Creating unreasonable noise or engaging in boisterous activity unless caused by a disability. Fighting or challenging to fight, running, pushing, shoving or throwing things.
 - 809.304 Using audible devices without headphones or using headphones set at a volume that disturbs others. Using any communication devices in a manner that disturbs others.

- 809.305 Failing to comply with a reasonable staff request, unauthorized entry in a staff area or failure to leave the library during emergencies and at closing time.
 - 809.306 Campaigning, petitioning, interviewing, survey taking, posting notices, fundraising or selling, unless authorized by the Director or designee.
 - 809.307 Taking pictures or videotaping people, except at events, unless authorized by the Director or designee and by the patrons involved or parents if minors are present.
 - 809.308 Relocating tables, chairs, equipment or other furniture without staff permission.
- 809.4 The role of the Iowa City Public Library is to maintain a healthy and clean environment for all Library users. Considerate consumption of snack food or a covered beverage is allowed in public areas of the Library unless otherwise noted. Examples of behaviors that are not conducive to providing a clean and hygienic environment include but are not limited to:
- 809.401 Using cigarettes, e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco or other tobacco.
 - 809.402 Consuming food or beverages in a manner that creates an unclean environment, disrupts other patrons or is harmful to Library resources.
 - 809.403 Personal hygiene, odor or scent that constitutes a nuisance to others or poses a health risk.
 - 809.404 Bringing animals inside Library buildings, with the exception of service animals and those allowed during special Library programs.
 - 809.405 Using restrooms for bathing, washing of clothes or extended periods.
 - 809.406 Entering the Library with infestation of bed bugs or other pests.
- 809.5 The role of the Iowa City Public Library is to protect collections, equipment and property for present and future users. Intentionally damaging, destroying or stealing any materials, equipment or property belonging to the Library, another patron or staff member is prohibited.
- 809.6 Enforcement of the Library Use Policy will be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner.
- 809.601 Library staff and/or Iowa City Police Department will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors.
 - 809.602 Individuals who fail to observe the Library Use Policy may be asked to leave the Library building and property, be banned from the Library for a period of time, be subject to arrest or be subject to other lawful action.
 - 809.603 Security cameras are located in public and staff areas of the Library to protect the safety and security of people, the building, and its contents.

Iowa Code: Disorderly Conduct, §723.4
 Assault, §708.1
 Intoxication, §123.46

Trespass, §716.7
Criminal Mischief, §716.1
Indecent Exposure, §709.9
Theft, §714.1
Unlawful Assembly, §723.2,
Harassment of Public Officers, Employees, §718.4
Willful Disturbance, §718.3
Public Health: Smoke Free Air §641.153
Use of Computers, §622.51A, §702.1A, §702.14, §714.1, and §716.6B.

Code of Iowa City: Disorderly Conduct (8-5-1)
 Aggressive Solicitation (8-5-2)
 Damaging, Defacing Property (8-5-4)
 Indecent Exposure (8-5-6)
 False Alarms (8-5-7)
 Animal Control (8-4-6)

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