

DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Davenport Public Library is governed by Chapter 392.5 of the Code of Iowa, and Chapter 2.72 of the Davenport City Code. The Davenport Public Library is an independent agency of the City of Davenport and is governed by a Board of Trustees which is appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

These codes authorize the Library Board of Trustees the right to establish rules and regulations of conduct for public use of the library and to prohibit certain kinds of conduct within the library and on library property.

The Davenport Public Library is open to all members of the public. Patrons are expected to observe the rights of the patrons and staff members and to use the library for its intended purposes. Through the authority of the Board of Trustees, the Library Director and designated staff members will determine inappropriate behavior and actions and will take immediate action for the following:

1. Any behavior that endangers the safety or health of self and/or others.
2. Violation of any local, State or Federal law.
3. Vandalism or destruction of Library materials.
4. Theft of Library materials or the personal property of other patrons or staff members.
5. Disruption of library procedures or misuse of staff time.
6. Use of abusive or obscene language or gestures at other patrons or the staff.
7. Sleeping.
8. Unattended belongings.
9. Loitering inside or outside of any library building.
10. Skateboarding, roller-blading, or bicycling.
11. Fighting, climbing, playing, or running in the library.
12. Riding the elevators continuously.
13. Playing radios or other devices loudly enough to disturb or distract patrons.
14. Placing feet/shoes on chairs, couches, tables, other furniture, or moving furniture to use as a footrest.
15. Writing or carving on furniture, walls or other library property.
16. Excessive display of affection which includes sexual conduct or physical contact disruptive to other patrons or staff.
17. Using restrooms inappropriately such as bathing, shaving, laundering, eating or loitering.
18. Weapons are not allowed in the library. (A weapon is defined as a gun, rifle, shotgun, knife, switchblade, or any object which can potentially be used in a dangerous or threatening manner)
19. Using library or personal devices to view inappropriate materials.
20. Bringing any animals into the building except for service animals.
21. Soliciting, petitioning, panhandling or gambling.
22. Loud talking, arguing, laughing, or other noise which disturbs or could disturb other patrons or staff.
23. Eating or drinking in areas not designed for these activities. PLEASE NOTE: Any food or drink confiscated will be immediately disposed of in consideration of health factors. These items will not be kept for patrons to retrieve on the way out of the building.
24. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
25. Use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, pipes or any emerging tobacco product or simulated smoking device is prohibited.
26. Sex Offenders convicted of sexual offenses against minors are prohibited in/on all library property, per Iowa Law 7/1/09.
27. Patrons must be fully clothed, including shoes and shirt.
28. Poor hygiene- A patron may be required to leave the library if his/her personal hygiene interferes with the orderly operation of the library or with the ability of other patrons to use and enjoy the facility.
29. Staff areas are off-limits to patrons; anyone found in designated staff or employee areas will be required to leave the area immediately.
30. Other kinds of behavior deemed inappropriate by the Library Director or her/his delegated staff.
31. Children under the age of 10 must not be left unsupervised in the Library. If children are attending programs within the building, parents or guardians must assume responsibility of picking them up immediately at the end of the program.

These are examples only and are not all inclusive as to the types of misuse of the Library.

Original policy adopted by the Library Board of Trustees: May 1988
Revised: 2/09; 3/15/11; 2/28/12, 3/18/14; 5/17/16