



Library Access for Registered Sex Offenders Convicted of Sex Offenses Against Minors

See also related policy, Patron Conduct.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Library is in compliance with Iowa State law that excludes sex offenders (defined as a person who is required to be registered in the Iowa Sex Offender Registry) convicted of sex offenses against minors from public libraries. This policy adopts the definitions of Iowa Code Chapter 692A, as amended.

The Library Director acts as “library administrator” for purposes of Iowa Chapter 692A. The Library Director will not give the written permission required by Iowa Code Section 692A.113(f) for registered sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors to be present on library property. Such permission may be granted only for a single, specific visit. Issuance of a library card to a registered sex offender convicted of sex offenses against minors does not constitute written permission from the library administrator for that offender to be present on library property. Individuals may appeal this decision, as it relates to them, to the Library Board of Trustees.

Registered sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors may be eligible for library service, depending on their residence address. They may register for a card directly with the Library Director or designee by telephone or email. At the time of registration, the applicant must make arrangements for a person of their choosing to select, check out, and return materials using that card. That individual’s name must be registered with the library and s/he shall provide identification when using the restricted patron’s card. The patron may also receive information via telephone or email reference services or by use of the library’s website and online databases from home.

Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to law enforcement and violators will lose all library privileges.

Adopted 8/18/09

Reviewed 6/10/14

Revised 4/12/2022