

Library Access for Registered Sex Offenders Policy



Scope of Policy			
<i>Scope:</i>	Library service to registered sex offenders	<i>Effective Date:</i>	Revised 5/8/2023

General Policy/Purpose	
It is the purpose of this policy to ensure that the library is in compliance with Iowa State Law (692A.113) that excludes from the public library property those registered sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors.	

Provisions	
<p>In compliance with Iowa Code Chapter 692A.113 that excludes registered sex offenders convicted of offenses against minors from public libraries, sex offenders convicted of a sex offense against a minor shall not be present upon the real property of a public library and they shall not loiter within three hundred feet of the real property boundary of a public library. The statute provides an exception to this prohibition if the Library Director provides written permission. The issuance of a library card alone does not constitute permission to enter the library or be present on library property.</p> <p>The library reserves its legal right to deny access to any person coming within the restrictions of Iowa Code 692A.113, and no such person shall be admitted without the written permission of the Library Director. Said prohibition shall not apply to persons denied under the statute who are dropping off their own children outside the building, or to persons going onto the premises for voting purposes in a public election.</p> <p>Registered sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors may be eligible for some library services. Service may be arranged by contacting the Library Director via 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 they shall provide identification when using the restricted patron's card. They may also receive information via telephone reference services or by use of the library's web site and online databases.</p> <p>Background checks will be performed using the National Sex Offender Registry on all employees, applicant, potential employees, and volunteers, including library board members or potential library board members, who are or will be working on library property. Violations of this policy will be immediately reported to law enforcement and violators will lose all library privileges. Individuals may appeal the policy, as it relates to them, in writing to the Library Board of Trustees.</p>	