

Use Restrictions Policy



Sometimes a patron's behavior may necessitate restricting his/her use of Hood River County Library District services. Such behavior includes but is not limited to violations of District policies as well as violations of federal, state, or local statutes.

Responsibility and restrictions

District staff, and ultimately the Library Director, are responsible for determining whether behavior(s) of patrons are unacceptable as delineated by District policies. When such behavior occurs, staff are authorized to restrict a patron's access to District services, appropriate to address the unacceptable behavior and past actions by the patron. Such sanctions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Bans from using the relevant service (e.g. meeting room, computers, bulletin boards);
- Loss of library card privileges;
- Billing for damage;
- Requirement for accompaniment by a parent, guardian, or caretaker;
- Ejection from District property (temporary, conditional, or extended).

Staff members are encouraged to use sound but flexible judgment in determining appropriate sanctions and lengths. Severe or extended sanctions require approval of the Library Director or designee.

Warnings

At their discretion, and depending upon the specific actions by an offending patron, staff may warn a patron up to twice before imposing a sanction. Subsequent similar behavior by the same individual may not require warning before sanctions are issued, and such sanctions may be more severe. While the District views this policy as primarily corrective and progressive, it is not possible to define in advance the specific action to be taken in response to every behavior and the need to protect the safety of library patrons. Consequently, the District reserves the right to take appropriate action, including immediate ejection from District property, in response to circumstances and events on a case-by-case basis.

For instance, staff may restrict a patron's use of services, or immediately eject a patron without warning for more severe violations of policy, including without limitation abusing District staff or patrons, abusing District property, attempting to alter or compromise District technology or networks, or violations of local, state, or federal laws.

Record of sanctions

Staff will make a written record of any instances in which sanctions are issued and will maintain current lists of patrons who are restricted from using library services and are banned from District facilities.

Adopted by the Board of Directors, September 18, 2012

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