

**Face Coverings During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Executive Order 2020-32 (COVID-19 Executive Order No. 30), issued by the Governor of the State of Illinois on April 30, 2020, “requires that any person over the age of two wear a face-covering when in a public place and unable to maintain a six-foot social distance. Face-coverings are also required in public indoor spaces...”

The Library is committed to maintaining a safe and comfortable work environment for all staff members, patrons, and all other visitors, including vendors, contractors, and other third parties. To reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and in compliance with Executive Order No. 30, the Library requires all visitors over the age of two to wear a face-covering that fully covers the nose and mouth while inside the library building. All staff members are required to wear a mask while in public areas within the library building.

The Library strives to treat all staff, patrons, and visitors in a fair, consistent, and equitable manner. Persons who are unable to tolerate or decline to wear a face-covering for any reason whatsoever shall not enter the Library. In such instances, the Library shall offer reasonable accommodations, which may include, but are not limited to locker pickup service and access to online resources. Exception: At the express request of a staff member, persons shall remove or lower their face-covering temporarily for purposes of proper identification (while separated from all other persons by at least a six-foot distance and/or an impermeable barrier) for purposes of proper identification.

In addition, all staff, patrons, and other visitors within the library building, with the exception of family groups who live together, are asked to maintain at least a six-foot distance from all other persons.

Enforcement of these standards of behavior will be conducted in a fair, consistent, equitable, and reasonable manner. Persons who refuse to observe the standards of behavior and/or are unwilling to accept reasonable accommodations as described in this Policy will be requested to leave the Library. Persons who refuse to leave when requested shall be subject to exclusion from the Library for a period of three months.

This policy shall be lifted automatically when the Governor and/or Illinois Department of Public Health declares that the state and/or region has reached Phase 5 of the “Restore Illinois” plan. This policy shall be reinstated automatically if the Governor and/or Illinois Department of Public Health determines that the State of Illinois must return to any prior Phase of the “Restore Illinois” plan.

Approved: August 26, 2020