



Priority Service for Residents

Background

The Naperville Public Library is a tax-supported institution operating under the provisions of the Local Library Act (75 ILCS 5/), which provides that the Library “shall be forever for the use of the residents and taxpayers of the city...subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the library board may adopt in order to render the use of the library of the greatest benefit to the greatest number of such residents and taxpayers.” While the Local Library Act places restrictions on the borrowing of materials by nonresidents, it is largely silent on the provision of other services to those who do not live within a library’s service area. The state of Illinois has a rich tradition of cooperation between libraries in the areas of resource sharing and the provision of services to all residents when possible, and the Naperville Public Library shares this philosophy.

Reciprocal Agreements

The library also holds membership in the Reaching Across Illinois Library System. System membership requires the library to participate in “reciprocal access” programs, such as interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing. The duties and obligations of system membership are governed by the policies and rules enacted by the Reaching Across Illinois Library System and the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of the Secretary of State. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the Board and staff to follow when adopting policies to best meet the library and information needs of the residents of Naperville while fulfilling the library’s obligations as a member of the Reaching Across Illinois Library System and the library’s desire to cooperate with other libraries in the provision of service to the residents of Illinois.

Priority Service

The concept of priority service for residents shall be a guiding principle in the establishment of policies regulating the use of the library and its programs, services, and facilities.

The library shall periodically assess each of its services and adopt policies that extend services to all except in those cases where financial, staffing, space, availability of resources, contractual, or legal requirements justify their limitation to Naperville residents.