

Montana State Library Commission Policy

Code of Conduct

The Montana State Library wishes to create a safe and pleasant environment for all library patrons and staff. In order to ensure that everyone can use the Library's resources effectively, the Library requires all patrons to comply with the Code of Conduct.

The following activities are prohibited:

1. Engaging in any activity that violates federal, state, and/or local law.
2. Intimidating, harassing, and threatening behavior toward any person in the library, including but not limited to yelling, threats of violence, obscene or abusive language, staring, following, unwanted attention.
3. Intentionally making loud and unreasonable noises, using offensive words, or fighting.
4. Using electronic devices such as cell phones and computers in a manner that is disruptive.
5. Interfering with the work of other patrons and/or library staff.
6. Removing of library materials without proper authorization.
7. Obstructing library equipment, resources, or facilities.
8. Destroying, damaging, or misusing library property.
9. Consuming food in the library.
10. Leaving unattended personal items in the library. The library assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, or unattended personal items, and items left longer than 30 minutes may be removed.
11. Smoking.
12. Sleeping.
13. Possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances.
14. Bringing animals other than service animals inside the library.
15. Remaining in the library after closing or after being asked to leave.
16. Bringing weapons into the library.
17. Acting in a way that is harmful to self or others.
18. Using the Public Access Computers in a manner contrary to the computer use policy.
19. Failing to comply with the reasonable request of a library staff member.

Patrons who violate any of these rules may be asked to leave the library. If a patron refuses to leave the library when asked, library staff will summon capitol security. Serious or repeated violation of any of these rules may result in the patron being banned from the library. Bans may be appealed to the State Librarian.

If the library staff believe the actions of a person constitutes an immediate threat to patrons or staff, the library staff will call 911 as outlined in the Justice Building Emergency Action Plan; no warning to the patron is necessary.