



Personal Protective Equipment Policy

1. Purpose

The Geneva Public Library (Library) Board of Trustees is empowered to take the steps necessary to serve the community under its mission with the health and safety of the library staff and patrons as the top priority. Therefore, the Board of Trustees has adopted this Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Policy.

The primary goals of the Personal Protective Equipment Policy are to:

- Introduce guidelines for PPE use for patrons wishing to use the library's services.
- Provide reasonable access to library services to all community members while still protecting the library's staff and other patrons.
- Reduce the risk of infection in, around, and on library facilities, materials, and equipment for library staff and patrons.

Library staff has the authority to enforce these measures like any other of the library's policies.

For the purpose of this policy, "PPE" refers specifically to masks and cloth face coverings consistent with CDC guidelines and all New York State Executive Orders.

2. Acceptable Behavior

The following list of acceptable behaviors is superseded by all applicable federal, state, and local laws as well as any more stringent guidelines issued by the Ontario County Department of Public Health.

- All patrons are required to wear a mask or face covering on library property, inside the library's facilities, and when interacting with library staff and other patrons.
- Library staff, volunteers, and contractors are required to wear a mask when closely interacting with patrons, staff, and volunteers or in any instance when they are unsure if they are able to maintain six feet of distance from other individuals.
- Individuals who cannot medically tolerate the wearing of a mask or face covering are asked to contact the library before visiting so reasonable accommodation(s) for services can be made.
- Masks or face coverings may be cloth or homemade so long as they comply with the guidance outlined in Executive Order 202.17 or future executive guidance.
- Masks or face coverings should completely cover the mouth and nose in accordance with guidelines issued by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
- Patrons are not permitted to approach other patrons to comment on or question their PPE practices. Concerns regarding the practices of other patrons should be directed to the library staff only.
- Along with wearing PPE, the Library will enforce strict social distancing guidelines of at least 6 feet between all individuals on library property.
- Patrons refusing to abide by this policy will be subject to the corrective action steps, including the disabling of borrowing accounts and possible banning, as outlined in the Library's Suspension of Patron Access Policy.

3. Authority & Evaluation

This policy and related procedures will be enforced under all current and future New York State Executive Orders, including those pertaining to PPE, workforce and occupancy reductions, and social distancing guidelines. The practices in this policy may be modified as needed to conform with such Executive Orders, as well as mandates from the CDC, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and local government agencies.

Questions or concerns regarding this policy should be brought to the Library Director.

This policy will remain in effect until the Board of Trustees votes to remove or revise it.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees: May 29, 2020

Amended by the Board of Trustees: 6/24/2020, 11/18/2020