

Borrower Eligibility and Responsibility

Borrowers must be registered patrons of the library and will assume responsibility for the safe and timely return of all items, which are checked out using their library account, except for in specific instances described in this policy.

It is preferred that borrowers present either their Hamner library card or a government-issued photo ID before borrowing materials. If the option is available, after showing their library card or ID, patrons may also request that their photo be put on their library account. Patrons with photos on their accounts need not present their library cards or IDs.

The library assumes the patron has given permission if someone other than the patron is in physical possession of the patron's library card (unless the patron has previously notified the library that the card has been lost or stolen or that no one else is to use their library card). Other people may only use the patron's library card; they may not use the patron's ID or account photo to check out items. The other person may not use their own ID to access a patron's account.

Account holders may authorize by phone, following library procedures, that library users without a library account may borrow an item using the account holder's account.

Because of the library's policy to avoid identifying specific materials in connection with a library user, the library will not tell the caller identifying information about the items that the user wants to borrow.

Users are limited to borrowing one item on an account verified by phone. Account owners must verify their account and give permission for each instance in which a user wants to borrow an item on their account.

Any borrower's privileges may be temporarily suspended for abuse of library services. Such abuse may include repeated failure to return items on time, refusal to pay for lost or damaged materials, or intentional damage to materials or other library property.

Borrowing materials from the library is a privilege made possible by the financial support of the county and the General Assembly. The library's collections are specifically protected in the Code of Virginia (**§ 42.1-74. Failure to return book or other library property**), and the library retains its right to exercise its options to regain materials kept overdue.

Patrons who do not use their accounts in three years will have their account information deleted and they will have to register for a new account.