

Reopening Plans—Now open by appointment!

The GPL staff is ready to reunite with our library users face to face! We thank you for your patience as we took time to acquire protective equipment and cleaning supplies, rewrite safety policies for staff and patron protection, and create new ways to serve the community as we learn more about COVID-19 and how it spreads. The library is now open by appointment for limited services.

FAQ

What precautions are you taking to keep me safe?

Everyone entering our building is required to wear a mask. If you do not have one, we will help you locate one. If you choose not to wear a mask, staff will be happy to assist you by phone or email, and you may also use our curbside checkout service to take home materials. All items are being quarantined for three days after their return as researchers have found the virus does not live on book covers and DVD cases after this amount of time. To make it easier to observe social distancing guidelines, we are limiting the number of people in the building at any given time and spreading out the chairs and computers available to ensure library users may stay distant from one another. We ask that anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 stay home.

How do I make an appointment?

You may call or email the library to schedule an appointment for one of our services. Appointments are fifty minutes and all library visitors should arrive promptly at the Simmons Street door at their designated time. (309)343-6118 or reference@galesburglibrary.org

What services will be available?

Appointments may be made to use public computers, microfilm readers, and the public printer/copy machine. Scanning, faxing, and notary services will be available, and staff will be happy to assist with information inquiries. Library visitors will also be able to browse newspapers and magazines.

Will I be able to check out books?

Yes! We currently offer curbside checkout service and will continue to do so into the near future. Book browsing is currently off limits, but you may request books, audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, and magazines from staff or by placing holds on your desired items and we will retrieve them for you.

How do I return my books?

Our book drop and media drop are now open, so you may return any items in the parking lot. All items are quarantined for three days before being removed from your account, but no late fees will be assessed at this time.

May I bring my children to the library?

Yes! We look forward to seeing our littlest patrons again. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a supervising adult at all times, and anyone over the age of 2 must have a face covering while in the building. The children's library is open, but book browsing is off limits and toys are not currently available. One children's computer is open, and our children's staff are available to assist you.

What programs will you be hosting?

We are keeping all in-house programming small, limited to book clubs and small group activities for our teens. No children's programming will take place onsite at this time. We are gearing up for The Big Read with plenty of fun and safe events coming in August! We also have great digital content for all ages. Like us on facebook to participate in our book discussions, attend storytime, or play trivia with us! You may also visit our website to stay up to date on new virtual programming.

I really need to use a computer. Can you guarantee me a slot?

You may reserve a time to use a computer by calling or emailing the library. This is the only way to guarantee a spot. If you do not have a reservation, computers and other services will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Can I sign up for/renew my library card?

Yes! You may now sign up for a card on our website or call the library to renew your card. During your appointment, you may stop by the circulation desk for library card assistance as well.

Can my group reserve the meeting room?

We are not taking meeting room reservations at the moment, but you may check back in a few weeks.