

WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Library and Material Accessibility Policy

rev. 8/11

Wiggin Memorial Library welcomes and encourages people with disabilities to use library services. The Library will provide access to library services for people with disabilities in a way that respects their rights to dignity, independence and integration.

Providing equitable access for persons with disabilities to library facilities and services is required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, applicable state and local statutes and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The Library will establish policies, practices and procedures which support the accessibility standards established under the ADA.

A. Library Services

To ensure equitable access for persons with disabilities the library may provide such individuals with services such as:

1. extended loan periods
2. library cards or privileges for proxies
3. home delivery service
4. remote access to the OPAC and electronic library resources
5. assistive technologies in the library
6. American Sign Language interpreter at library programs

Requests must meet the ADA “readily achievable” standard (i.e., easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.) Some requests may require advance notice of a week or more.

B. Library Facilities

The ADA requires that both architectural barriers in existing facilities and communication barriers that are structural in nature be removed as long as such removal is “readily achievable.” (i.e., easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.)

The library will maintain:

1. accessible parking
2. clear paths of travel to and throughout the facility
3. an entrance with automatic doors
4. accessible public service desks
5. accessible restrooms
6. the option of an ASL interpreter at library programs

C. Library Collections

The library will make materials available to individuals with disabilities in a variety of formats and with accommodations as long as the modified formats and accommodations are “reasonable,” do not “fundamentally alter” the library’s services, and do not place an “undue burden” on the library.

Examples of accommodations will include:

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1. assistive technologies in the library such as a text enlarger
2. ability to adjust computer settings in ways that may assist persons with disabilities
3. access to interlibrary loan for items in a variety of formats (i.e., Braille, sound recording, etc.)

D. Library Employment

The library will provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities unless the accommodations would impose an “undue hardship” on its operations.

E. Library Training and Professional Development

The library will provide training opportunities for all library employees and volunteers in order to sensitize them to issues affecting people with disabilities and to teach effective techniques for providing services for users with disabilities and for working with colleagues with disabilities.

F. Service Animals

The library welcomes service animals that are needed to assist people with disabilities

Related Documents:

Americans with Disabilities Act

Rehabilitation Act

ASCLA “Library Accessibility – What You Need to Know” Toolkit

ADA Home Page: <http://www.ada.gov>

Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973:

<http://www.dol.gov/oasam/regs/statutes/sec504.htm>

Signatures of the Board of Trustees indicates adoption of this policy.

_____, Trustee Date: _____

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