

A library can reach out to its entire community through programming. Programs publicize the library, introduce special groups to library materials and services, and provide information and recreation. Library programs are a particularly effective way of introducing the community to a variety of cultures.

It is well accepted that traditional programming for younger children helps them develop reading habits and encourages them and their parents to use the library and its resources. Programs for young adults identify resources that help them understand some of the intellectual, emotional, and social changes they are experiencing. Programs can reintroduce the newly retired to a library that has grown during the years that they did not have time to use it.

If the library opens its meeting rooms, display cases, and other exhibit areas to nonlibrary-sponsored programs and nonlibrary-sponsored exhibits and displays, policies and procedures must cover the use of these facilities. This policy as well as other library policies should be reviewed by the library's attorney.

Applicable Core Standards

- Core 1.** The library provides uniformly gracious and friendly service to all users.
- Core 4.** The library is in compliance with all federal laws that affect library operations including but not limited to the *Americans with Disabilities Act* [42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.], the *Fair Labor Standards Act* [29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.] and the *Bloodborne Pathogens Standard* [29 C.F.R. § 1910.1030]. (See appendix 1.)
- Core 12.** The library has a board-approved mission statement, a long-range plan, a disaster prevention and recovery plan, and policies. Such policies include but are not limited to the following topics: personnel; reference; use of the library's materials, services, and facilities including use of the library for exhibits and meetings; and collection management. Illinois statutory law specifically requires the board to establish and review at least biennially a written policy for the selection of library materials (as part of the library's collection management policy) and the use of library materials and facilities [75 ILL. COMP. STAT. ANN. 5/4-7.2 or 75 ILL. COMP. STAT. ANN. 16/30-60]. All library policies are in compliance with state and federal laws. (See appendix 2.2.)
- Core 16.** The library adopts and adheres to the principles set forth in the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights* and other ALA intellectual freedom statements and interpretations. (See appendices 2.4-2.6 for ALA *Library Bill of Rights* and other ALA intellectual freedom statements.)

Supplemental Standards

1. Library programs are provided free of charge.
2. Library programs are located in a physically accessible location. Provisions are made, as needed, to enable persons with disabilities to participate in the program. The availability of these provisions is noted with other information about the program.
3. The library considers community demographics, special populations, and the availability of programming from other social, cultural, and recreational organizations in the community when planning and evaluating programs.

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