



Approved Date: 9/16/2025

Date of Adoption: 9/24/2002

Signed: Hugh G. Brubaker

Rules of Conduct Policy

The Blount County Public Library (BCPL) and its Board of Trustees (BoT) welcome all and encourage the use of BCPL facilities, programming, resources, and services. Together, the BoT and staff strive to ensure BCPL is a designated public forum where everyone receives respectful, courteous, and informative customer service free of bias and favoritism that meets their information needs. The following guidelines are in place to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all who use BCPL and its resources.

The following are required of everyone:

- Civility and respect for the rights and feelings of others
- Adherence to BCPL policies, procedures, and guidelines
- Cooperation with reasonable requests by BCPL employees and volunteers
- Personal hygiene sufficient to avoid disturbing others' experience of the BCPL space and/or activities
- Appropriate use of BCPL equipment, furniture, materials, and other resources
- Appropriate attire, including shoes and a shirt
- Courtesy in the use of communication devices so that neither device noises/sounds nor conversations disturb others
- Willingness to open briefcases, parcels, purses, etc., to enable staff to determine if library materials have been properly checked out

Children six (6) and under must be actively supervised by their parent or adult caregiver at all times. Those seven (7) to thirteen (13) must have their parent or adult caregiver inside the building.

The following activities/behaviors are not permitted in BCPL or on the grounds:

- Leaving children and/or pets unattended in parked vehicles or on BCPL property
- Bringing in any animals except service animals
- Distributing or posting of printed materials and literature
- Operating a business out of the BCPL
- Engaging in any other activities in the common areas that are not consistent with those activities normally associated with the use of public library facilities, that

include, without limitation, reading, studying, using library materials, computers, and/or attending programs

- Selling any materials without the approval of designated BCPL Administrative staff
- Soliciting of BCPL patrons or staff for money, items, or services
- Bringing in trash or littering
- Smoking, vaping, chewing, or any other use of tobacco-related products in the building or within 20 feet from the any of the doors
- Loitering or sleeping in or on the grounds
- Skating, skateboarding or rollerblading
- Loud, abusive or offensive language
- Violence or the threat of violence
- Use of alcohol or any other intoxicating substance
- Intoxication or disorderly conduct
- Any actions that are in violation of City, State, or Federal laws and regulations

Individuals' failure to comply with this code may result in their temporary or permanent exclusion from the BCPL grounds.