

3.4 Teen Services Patron Use

Adopted: December 23, 2021

Approved: December 23, 2021

POLICY:

The Council Bluffs Public Library strives to enrich, inform and empower the community by maintaining an inviting and safe space for teens. Teens may socialize, hang out, use library resources on their own and during programs.

PROCEDURE:

- Teens are defined as patrons in 6th through 12th grade, including those who have finished 5th grade the day after school gets out to those who have just finished 12th grade throughout the summer until the school year resumes.
- Only patrons in the above age group and their parent or guardian (including caregivers, tutors, or legal advocates) may be in Teen Central and are expected to abide by the library's behavior code.
- Younger children may only be in Teen Central if they are the child of the teen. For example, if a teen is babysitting, they should be in the age-appropriate area of the library for the child being cared for.
- The Teen Department allows food and drinks with lids in designated areas only. Snacks must be dry, and cannot require heat or refrigeration unless they are part of a program.
- Programs for teens are age-restricted to encourage social development and learning. Therefore, younger children and adults may not attend programs that are designated for teens. Supplies and program materials in Teen Central are provided for patrons in grades 6 through 12. Parents and other adults may not participate in programs or use program materials.
- Accommodations will be made for any individual who wishes to attend an age-appropriate program. Individuals must be accompanied by a caregiver if one-on-one attention is required.