

Fort Dodge Public Library

Homebound Patrons and Library Service

Purpose

Fort Dodge Public Library strives to provide all patrons with fair and equal access to library materials. Through its “Books on the Go” program, the Library offers services to homebound patrons residing within the city of Fort Dodge.

General Policies

Homebound is defined as being generally confined to one’s residence either temporarily due to illness, accident or surgery, or permanently due to disability, age, or other mobility issues.

A valid library account in good standing is required to participate in the Library’s “Books on the Go” program. If a person does not already have a library card, they must register for one. Arrangements for registration will be made based upon their situation. Permanently homebound patrons’ cards will be kept on file at the Library.

Homebound library service is provided at no cost to the patron.

Homebound patrons are responsible for all library materials checked out to them and left in their possession. They will be charged for any materials that are lost or damaged.

Patrons requesting homebound services must provide a safe, appropriate environment for “Books on the Go” volunteers who make deliveries to their home. Volunteers may choose not to enter a home, leave a home immediately, or recommend suspension of homebound services if any of the following conditions exist:

- Any person in the home exhibits signs of illness or engages in any behavior that may endanger the health or safety of the volunteer.
- Any person in the home harasses the volunteer.
- Any person in the home is engaging in any illegal activity at the time of service.
- Any person in the home is dressed inappropriately at the time of service.
- Any pets in the home pose a threat to the volunteer.
- The conditions of the home and/or property are unsafe or unsanitary.

Fort Dodge Public Library reserves the right to terminate this service to any individual who does not meet the terms and requirements as listed above.

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