



ANKENY KIRKENDALL PUBLIC LIBRARY
Ankeny, Iowa

The mission of Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library
Welcoming all to Learn, Imagine, and Do

SUBJECT:

SEX OFFENDER

POLICY:

The Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library Board of Trustees is committed to providing a safe environment for all members of the community conducive to the use of Library materials and services. Patrons have the right to be served in an environment free of concern for their personal safety and that of their family members. All patrons of the Library are responsible for being respectful of the rights of others (including staff members) and universally committed to using the Library for its intended purposes. The Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library Board of Trustees is committed to upholding the laws of the State of Iowa thus insuring that patrons have a safe and event free library experience.

BACKGROUND:

During the 2009 Legislative session, the Iowa Legislature revised the State's existing sexual offender laws, making the following changes which went into effect July 1, 2009:

- Iowa Code Chapter 692A of Subtitle 1 of Title 16 prohibits a sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor from being present upon public library real property or from loitering within 300 feet of the boundary of the real property of a public library. "Loiter" means remaining in a place or circulating around a place under circumstances where a reasonable person would believe that the purpose or effect of the behavior is to enable a sex offender against a minor to become familiar with a location where a potential victim may be found, or to satisfy an unlawful sexual desire, or to locate, lure, or harass a potential victim. A "sex offender" is someone who is required to be on the Sex Offender Registry.
- In addition, the law prohibits a sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor from being employed by or from acting as a contractor or volunteer at any public library.

EXCEPTIONS:

The law identifies two exceptions to this requirement including:

- 1) the period of time reasonably necessary to transport the offender's own minor child or ward to or from the library; and
- 2) the period of time reasonably necessary to vote in a public election if the polling place is located in a public library.

The Library Director of the Kirkendall Public Library operates as the Library Administrator for purposes of Iowa Code Chapter 692A and further operates at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the Library. The Board of Trustees has determined that under no circumstances shall the Library Director grant permission for a convicted sex offender to be on the real property of the Library other than pursuant to the limited exceptions set forth in Chapter 692A(2) as such exceptions may be further amended or modified.

PROCEDURE:

The responsibility for compliance with this law is on the offender. If Library staff has knowledge that a person who has been convicted of a sex offence against a minor is on Library premises the following procedure will be initiated:

- 1) The Library Director or designee will be notified immediately of the situation and every effort will be made to confirm that in fact a person meeting the criteria of a "sex offender" is on the premises.
- 2) The Library Director or designee will contact the Ankeny Police Department for a determination on the person's status under the Iowa Code in order to confirm the allegation.
- 3) Upon confirmation that a "sex offender" is on the premises the Library Director or designee will notify the Ankeny Police Department to have that person removed from the facility.

ACCESS TO MATERIALS: It is the responsibility of the person to arrange for a third party to select, check-out and return materials to the Library. The Library will issue a borrower's card to the prohibited person to be used by a third party, who will be noted on the person's account.

Appeals to administrative decisions regarding this policy will not be entertained.

Adopted by Library Board of Trustees:

9/18/14

Policy Revised/Approved:

3/18/21

4/18/24