

Library Access for Sex Offenders Convicted of Sex Offences Against Minors

In accordance with Chapter 692A113 of the Code of Iowa, sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors are prohibited from being on library property or loitering within 300 feet of library property without written permission of the Library Director. This policy adopts the prohibitions and exceptions laid out in the Code of Iowa.

There are two exceptions to this law. A sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor may be present: 1) during the period of time reasonably necessary to transport the offender's own minor child or ward to or from the library; and 2) during the period of time reasonably necessary to vote in a public election if the polling place is located in the library.

The Library Director may give written permission for sex offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors to be present on library property, as allowed by Iowa Code (Section 692A.113(f)). To be considered by the Library Director, a written letter requesting permission must be received by the Library Director. Upon receipt of such a letter, the Library Director will notify the Executive Committee who may meet and discuss the request. Those receiving permission may be subject to limitations on their library use. Individuals may appeal the decision to grant or withhold such written permission, as it relates to them, to the Library Board of Trustees.

Persons excluded from library property under this law remain entitled to library services that are not associated with being on library property. If a person is prohibited from visiting library property by this law but has been issued a library card, it is the responsibility of the affected person to arrange for a designated individual to select, check out, and return materials to the library through possession of the affected person's library card. The issuance of a library card to an individual who has been convicted of a sex offense involving a minor does not grant that individual permission to enter the library or to be present on library property.

Persons excluded from library property under this law will not be served by the library's homebound delivery service. In addition, they will not be allowed access to any library services that are provided only on the premises, such as the use of public computers.

The police department will be immediately notified if any person believed to have been convicted of a sex offense against a minor is on library property without permission.

Approved November 2009, revised 2/2026