

Hinsdale Public Library

Collection Development Policy

Purpose

This policy governs the decisions to add items to the collection and to retain or discard material already in the collection. Library collection refers to items owned and lent by the Hinsdale Public Library (HPL) as well as content to which HPL subscribes or leases access on behalf of its patrons.

Community Profile

The Village of Hinsdale is a community of 17,395 people, located 21 miles west of the City of Chicago. About 32% of the total population is under the age of 18; about 15% is over age 65.

The population of Hinsdale is 77.33% white. 12.4% of Hinsdaleans identify themselves as Asian, the second largest ethnic group. 5.4% identify as Hispanic or Latino and smaller numbers of the population identify themselves as Black or multiracial.

The community is well educated; more than 98% of the adult population has a high school diploma or higher, and 81% has a bachelor's degree or higher.

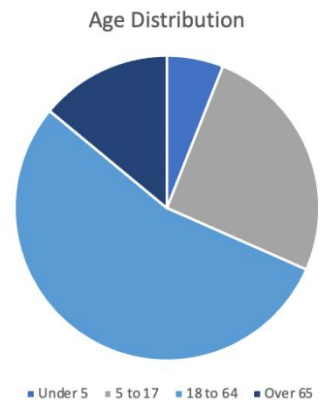
Median household income is \$203,368, well above the national average. Single-family housing comprises more than 85% of housing in the community, with the rest comprised of condominiums and rental housing.

The Library actively develops a collection that reflects the educational and cultural interests and priorities of its residents.

Source: US Census 2020.

The HPL Board of Trustees affirms, endorses, and adopts as its own the principles articulated in the appended American Library Association's (ALA) Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

Also attached are ALA's Freedom to Read Statement, Freedom to View Statement, and Illinois Public Act 103-0100.



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POLICY

Collection Goals

The Hinsdale Public Library strives to build and develop a diverse collection of media and materials responsive to the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of Hinsdale residents of all ages.

HPL spends roughly 12 percent of its operating budget on materials for patrons. This money is apportioned by the Executive Director based on demographics, circulation statistics, and in consultation with HPL's public services managers.

As tailored to the community as the collection aims to be, there will be items of interest to individuals that are not purchased for the collection. Staff is knowledgeable about interlibrary loan procedures and can assist patrons in locating and requesting materials from other libraries.

Selector Responsibility

Ultimate responsibility for the selection of all materials rests with the Executive Director, who operates within the framework of policies and goals established by HPL Board. Assigned managers and their designated staff have collection development responsibilities for specific subjects and formats.

Selectors prioritize purchasing high-demand titles, especially for digital materials. Selectors are responsible for ordering copies of materials in anticipation of and response to demand. Selectors are knowledgeable about the community they serve and the publishing/distribution trends in their selection areas. Selectors purchase items for which there is a local audience.

Selection Criteria

Criteria influencing selection include, but are not necessarily limited to, those listed below. As it is not possible for HPL staff to personally read and review the large number of books and other materials produced each year, the information gathered from critical reviews; reputation of the author, artist or distributor; and other media related to the item, generally serves as the basis for applying these criteria, which include:

- Community demand, whether expressed or anticipated. Demand may be for specific titles or for material and resources covering certain topics or in certain formats. Multiple copies may be acquired to meet demand.
- Intrinsic value or quality of the work, relating to such considerations as factual accuracy and authoritativeness of content, comprehensiveness of treatment, style, clarity, effectiveness of expression, and creativity.
- Scope, depth of coverage, or approach of a work. For example, highly technical materials and scholarly studies of limited value to the community at large will generally not be added to the collection.
- Importance of a work in adding balance to or filling gaps in the collection.
- Relevance to local school curricula and reading lists
- Compatibility of the subject, treatment, or style of a work with its intended audience. This criterion pertains especially to materials and resources being considered for the Youth and Young Adult Services' collections.
- Authority, reputation, and standing of the author.

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- Availability of the same or similar material at neighboring libraries or through interlibrary loan.
- Cost of the material or resource.
- Suitability of the physical form of the material for library use, including the quality, durability, and general usefulness of the format.
- Ease and practicality of providing effective physical and bibliographic access to the material or resource.
- Local interest or local historical significance of the work.
- Availability of the item for purchase.

The responsibility for children's reading, viewing and listening materials rests with their caregivers.

Technology and Media

HPL will add new material formats as community demand, availability, industry trends, budgetary considerations, and compatibility with HPL environment allow. Any equipment or devices that HPL adds to its collection will also be subject to the criteria established in this policy. Digital content and other emerging format acquisitions may require additional considerations, such as:

- Community interest in the format; ability of residents to access the format with readily available technology.
- Cost of the material or resource.
- Availability of other versions/updates once electronic content is available.
- Supplementary costs—including hardware and software requirements.
- Possible duplication of content.
- Terms of licensing agreements.
- Preservation and long-term access issues.
- Provisions for in-library access and patron accessibility off-site.
- Performance questions, *i.e.* does this technology make information more easily or accurately available than its print counterpart?
- Training of staff and patrons in the use of new electronic resources.
- Ability to direct patrons to this resource through our online catalog.
- Ease of use.

Special Collections

HPL adds new collections based on expressed and observed community interest. Items in a special collection may be in any format Library staff deem appropriate. Staff evaluate items to be added to a special collection based on relevancy, ability to safely store and circulate, and replacement or repair costs. Examples of a special collection would be circulating hotspots or laptop computers.

Suggestions for Purchase

HPL encourages patron suggestions regarding the collection and makes every effort to acquire requested items that meet HPL's selection standards. Hinsdale residents may recommend items be added to the collection at any public service desk or on HPL's website.

Staff may recommend options for borrowing the item from another library, if available.

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Acquisitions

Librarians with collection development responsibilities determine which vendors are most appropriate for their purchases. Library vendors are generally preferred, as they may offer substantial discounts, expedited shipping, MARC records, and special packaging. The Collection Services Department processes most material upon arrival and materials are made available to patrons in a timely manner.

Materials are cataloged according to standard library practices, with ease of access in mind. Public services managers may work with the Executive Director and the Collection Services manager to customize the organization of materials to facilitate patron access.

Gifts and Memorials

When feasible, HPL gratefully accepts donations of books and other materials. Materials will be added to the collection only if they are needed and meet the selection criteria listed above. HPL reserves the right to utilize gifts as it sees fit and to dispose of gifts which are deemed to be unsuitable for or unneeded in HPL's collection. Unless special arrangements are made in advance, donations will not be returned to the donor.

When HPL receives a cash gift for the purchase of materials, donors may specify the general nature or subject area of the item(s) to be purchased. Selection of specific titles will be made in accordance with the needs and selection policies of HPL. Similarly, all such gifts will be processed in the same manner as items purchased by HPL.

Special or memorial collections are generally not shelved as separate physical entities. Such collections are only accepted with the understanding that they will be integrated with other materials.

Additional information about HPL's gifts program and policies, including donor recognition guidelines, is provided in the [Gifts to the Library Policy](#), available on HPL's website.

Collection Evaluation and Assessment

In order to maintain a collection of useful and relevant materials, HPL engages in continual assessment. Inventories are conducted regularly, and each selector monitors the usage statistics of their area. The materials budget is allocated according to these usage statistics as well as community demand and industry trends.

Retention of Materials

Weeding—the ongoing, systematic withdrawal of Library materials—is an integral part of collection evaluation and maintenance and helps assure HPL's usefulness and vitality. Library staff use much of the same criteria used in the selection process. Materials considered for deaccession may include items that are

- superseded by a new edition or a better work on the same subject,
- of little or diminished interest to the community,
- worn or damaged,
- outdated or inaccurate,
- no longer within the scope of the collection,
- in a format which is no longer viable.

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Weeded items may be replaced with another copy of the same title or another work on the same subject. Gifts, memorials, and donated items may be withdrawn from the collection using the criteria above. In all instances, HPL reserves the right to dispose of withdrawn items as it sees fit.

Reconsideration

HPL's collection reflects the needs and interests of the community it serves. HPL recognizes that some materials address issues that some individuals may find controversial. Whenever any resident questions the presence or absence of items in HPL's collection, the concern will be given serious consideration.

Residents are welcome to discuss their concerns about items in the collection with the appropriate staff. If that discussion does not adequately resolve the patron's concern, they may submit a letter to the Executive Director providing the information outlined in the appended Request for Reconsideration or Relocation of Library Materials and Resources document, which is also available on HPL's website and at public service desks.

Items that have been formally reconsidered will only be evaluated again within the next three years if the objections to the material are substantially different from the initial request.

Process

- Resident submits a completed "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials and Resources" to the Executive Director.
- The Executive Director reviews the Reconsideration Request with the appropriate department manager.
- The Executive Director replies to patron with their decision.

Appeal

- To appeal a decision made by the Executive Director, a patron may submit a request to the President of the Board of Library Trustees via letter or email.
- The Board President will appoint an *ad hoc* Board committee to review the request and make a recommendation to HPL Board.
- Following a vote by HPL Board, the Executive Director or Board President will contact the patron with the Board's decision.

The Board aims to resolve all patron issues in a timely manner.

Material and resources undergoing review within the context of the formal request for reconsideration process may not necessarily be withdrawn from the collection pending resolution of the process.

Policy Review and Revision

This document will be reviewed by the Board at least biennially.

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Hinsdale Public Library Board of Trustees

Approved and Adopted by HPL Board on October 23, 2007. Revised 1/24/12; 08/28/12; 05/20/14, 06/28/16, 11/27/18, 1/19/2021, 8/22/2023, 6/24/2025

Request for Reconsideration or Relocation of Library Materials and Resources

To request that HPL reconsider an item in our collection, please send your concerns to HPL's Executive Director. Please include the following information, as well as anything else you wish to provide:

- Item information (title, author, format, etc.)
- Have you read/viewed/listened to the entire item?
- What do you approve of in the item? Citing specific pages, scenes, or tracks is helpful.
- What do you object to in the item? Citing specific pages, scenes, or tracks is helpful.
- What are you requesting that HPL do with the item?
- If possible, please recommend another item that you believe better addresses the subject matter of this item.
- Are you writing only for yourself or as a representative of a group?
- Are you a Hinsdale resident?
- Please provide your name and preferred contact information.

Following receipt of your request, the Executive Director and manager responsible for the collection will review and discuss your request. The Executive Director will make a decision regarding your request and inform you of that decision.

Please send your request to:

Executive Director
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple Street
Hinsdale, IL 60521

- or -

director@hinsdalelibrary.info

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Appendices

[Source: American Library Association](#)

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the Library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Material should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use the Library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 18, 1948. Amended February 2, 1961, and January 21, 1980, inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996, by the ALA Council.

Freedom to Read Statement

1. It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox or unpopular with the majority.
2. Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.
3. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.
4. There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.
5. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept with any expression the prejudgment of a label characterizing it or its author as subversive or dangerous.
6. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large.
7. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.

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Based on the Freedom to Read Statement adopted June 25, 1953 and revised January 28, 1972, January 16, 1991, July 12, 2000, June 30, 2004 by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee.

Freedom to View Statement

The freedom to view, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expressions. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989. Endorsed by the American Library Association (ALA) Council January 10, 1990.

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Public Act 103-0100

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Library System Act is amended by changing Sections 1 and 3 and by adding Section 8.7 as follows:

(75 ILCS 10/1) (from Ch. 81, par. 111)

Sec. 1. Because the state has a financial responsibility in promoting public education, and because the public library is a vital agency serving all levels of the educational process, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to encourage the improvement of free public libraries and to encourage cooperation among all types of libraries in promoting the sharing of library resources, including digital resources. In keeping with this policy, provision is hereby made for a program of state grants designed to establish, develop and operate a network of library systems covering the entire state.

It is further declared to be the policy of the State to encourage and protect the freedom of libraries and library systems to acquire materials without external limitation and to be protected against attempts to ban, remove, or otherwise restrict access to books or other materials.

(Source: P.A. 83-411.)

(75 ILCS 10/3) (from Ch. 81, par. 113)

Sec. 3. The State Librarian and the Illinois State Library his staff shall administer the provisions of this Act and shall prescribe such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry the provisions of this Act into effect.

The rules and regulations established by the State Librarian for the administration of this Act shall be designed to achieve the following standards and objectives:

A provide library service for every citizen in the state by extending library facilities to areas not now served.

B provide library materials for student needs at every educational level.

C provide adequate library materials to satisfy the

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reference and research needs of the people of this state.

D provide an adequate staff of professionally trained librarians for the state.

E adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval or, in the alternative, develop a written statement declaring the inherent authority of the library or library system to provide an adequate collection stock of books and other materials sufficient in size and varied in kind and subject matter to satisfy the library needs of the people of this state and prohibit the practice of banning specific books or resources.

F provide adequate library outlets and facilities convenient in time and place to serve the people of this state.

G encourage existing and new libraries to develop library systems serving a sufficiently large population to support adequate library service at reasonable cost.

H foster the economic and efficient utilization of public funds.

I promote the full utilization of local pride, responsibility, initiative and support of library service and at the same time employ state aid as a supplement to local support.

The Advisory Committee of the Illinois State Library shall confer with, advise and make recommendations to the State Librarian regarding any matter under this Act and particularly with reference to the formation of library systems.

(Source: Laws 1965, p. 3077.)

(75 ILCS 10/8.7 new)

Sec. 8.7. State grants; book banning. In order to be eligible for State grants, a library or library system shall adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval or, in the alternative, develop a written statement prohibiting the practice of banning books or other materials within the library or library system.

Effective Date: 1/1/2024