General Use Policy

Approved: April 22, 2021 Updated: June 26, 2025



Library Usage: It is the policy of the Petoskey District Library (PDL) Board of Trustees to have the Library open to all for general use and for participating in programs, events, or classes, in accordance with the following guidelines:

Circulation of materials: is limited to Library card holders, including PDL resident and non-resident cards. PDL participates in the PAC2 Consortium and accepts all PAC2 library cards, including: Boyne, Boyne Falls, Walloon Village, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Presque Isle County, Alcona County, Montmorency County, Mackinaw Area Libraries, and Tahquamenon Area Public Libraries.

If a patron is blocked or barred from using their library card, they are not allowed privileges as an authorized user on any other cards.

PDL also has reciprocal borrowing agreements and accepts library cards from any of the following libraries: Beaver Island District Library, Elk Rapids District Library, Fife Lake Library, Indian River Area Library, Kalkaska County Library, Oscoda County Library, Otsego County Libraries, Suttons Bay-Bingham District Library, Traverse Area District Library, and Wolverine Community Library. Cardholders from these libraries must present proof of address and their library card at the circulation desk in order to register.

Library of Things may only be lent to Petoskey library card holders (8615 cards) who are at least 18 years old.

Resident Cards:

- The Petoskey District Library offers borrowing privileges to all residents and property owners within the City of Petoskey, and the townships of Bear Creek, Little Traverse, Resort, and Springvale, known as the Library's "district".
- For patrons 13 years and older, the patron must provide identification to show proof of residency within the district.
- For patrons twelve years of age and under, a parent or legal guardian must show proof of residency within the district and sign the minor's Library card application. If the parent or legal guardian has their own Petoskey District Library card, said card must be in good standing (not barred or blocked) in order to sign for a minor's card.
- Library district resident cards expire after four years from the issue date. At that time, contact information will be confirmed and if still eligible, the card renewed for another four-year period.
- Temporary one-month privilege is granted for residents who do not have sufficient proof of address available during registration (3 items at a time checkout limit, Library of Things and Hotspots are ineligible). After proof of address is given the privilege will be updated.

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Non-resident Cards:

- EDU Card: Students who attend school within the City of Petoskey or the townships of Bear Creek, Little Traverse, Resort, or Springvale will be offered a one year, non-resident card at no charge.
 - Students 13 and older must visit the Library and show proof of address and proof of matriculation.
 - Students twelve and under must visit the Library with a parent or guardian who must show proof of address and proof of matriculation.
 - o EDU Cards are active for one year.
 - To renew an EDU card, the student should bring in current proof of matriculation to update the card for another school year.
 - EDU cards can also be issued and renewed for Petoskey High School students at Petoskey High School with assistance from the PHS Media Aide.
- EMPL Card: People employed by a company/organization that is within the City of Petoskey or the townships of Bear Creek, Little Traverse, Resort, or Springvale, will be offered a one year, non-resident card at no charge, unless eligible for a PAC2 Consortium or reciprocal library card.
 - The patron must visit the Library and show proof of address and proof of employment with a current (within the past month) pay-check stub.
 - o EMPL Cards expire one year from issue date.
 - To renew an EMPL Card, the patron must visit the Library and bring proof of continued employment in the district with a current (within the past month) pay-check stub.
- NonRes Card: If a patron would like borrowing privileges but does not meet the criteria above, a non-resident card may be purchased.
 - A yearly card is available for \$95.00; a six-month card is available for \$50; and a 3-month card is available for \$25.00.
 - o NonRes cards will expire either one year, six months, or three months from issue date, depending on the card purchased.
 - o To renew a NonRes Card, the patron must update contact information and pay the Library card fee either in person or over the phone.

Loan Policies:

- Books, Audio Books, and CDs three weeks
- New fiction books two weeks
- Lucky Day Books one week, no renewals, no holds
- DVDs one week
- Magazines (except current issue which does not circulate) three weeks
- Kindle e-Readers three weeks
- Wi-Fi Hotspots two weeks
- Library of Things 1 week
- Digital library items varies by service

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Renewals:

Most items may be renewed unless there is a waiting list for the item. Renewals may be done using the PAC2 app, at the main desk, by phone, or online through our online catalog. Items without a waiting list may be renewed up to two times. Lucky Day books may not be renewed.

Reserves/Holds:

Reserves/holds can be placed on any circulating item in the catalog, except for Lucky Day Books. Reserves may be placed using the PAC2 app, at an information desk, by phone, or online through our catalog. When the item becomes available, the patron will be notified via email, text, or phone.

Overdues:

A courtesy overdue notice will be sent by email or text after two weeks; a second notice will be emailed or text after four weeks; at eight weeks overdue, the patron will be charged replacement cost for the item. After ten weeks, if items have not been returned, the patron information may be sent to Unique Management Systems (UMS) for collections. Please see the Long Overdue Policy for more details.

Fees:

- Damaged or lost items: Replacement cost, plus a \$5.00 processing fee. Replacement cost will be refunded with return of un-damaged item, up to three months after payment
- Photocopies and computer printing: B & W 10 cents/page; Color 25 cents/page
- 3D Prints: \$1.00 per print, plus 5 cents/gram over 10 grams of weight
- Lamination: 25cents for 8 ½ x 11; 40cents for 11 x 17; 10cents for business card size
- Photo prints in the Makerspace: 50 cents / print
- Buttons from the Makerspace: the first ten buttons are free, and then each button over that is 10 cents per button.
- Fax service: outgoing, no charge; incoming 10 cents per page.
- Notary Service: no charge
- Book sale: Prices posted
- Non-resident Library Card: \$95.00/year, \$50.00/six months, or \$25.00/quarter.
- Meeting Room fee for those that meet the fee criteria: \$25.00/use
- Labyrinth fee for those that meet the fee criteria: \$25.00/use
- Overdue fines will only be assessed on Library equipment and items in the Library of Things collection. Equipment and Library of Things items will be assessed overdue fines in the amount of \$5.00 per day late fee after their stated grace period.
- Library merchandise prices will be posted