

Gloversville Public Library

Policy Changes

Frequently Asked Questions

Effective September 8, 2009, the Gloversville Public Library will enact revisions to its *Circulation* and *Computer and Internet Use* policies which will limit access of its materials and services for some patrons. The newly adopted *Program Policy* may also result in limitations for some patrons.

How do I know if I am affected by these new policies?

You ARE NOT affected if you are a resident of Gloversville Enlarged School District (GESD) or pay taxes to the Gloversville Public Library through your GESD tax bill, or you are a resident of the following communities that currently support a public library in Fulton County through taxes:

- Town of Caroga
- City of Johnstown
- Town of Johnstown
- Northville Central School District (which includes parts of the towns of Bleecker, Mayfield, Northampton)

You ARE affected if you are a resident of the towns of Broadalbin, Ephratah, Oppenheim, Perth and Stratford. Most residents of the Town of Mayfield will be affected. The attached map shows areas that are not part of any library's chartered service area.

What is the change I should expect if I'm affected?

Your access to the Library's programs and services will be limited.

LIMITED ACCESS means that you WILL be permitted to use the library's collection and services on-site, attend programs that do not require sign-ups, to use the card catalog, access the wireless internet with your own computer, and borrow most of the books in the Library's collection.

LIMITED ACCESS means that you will NOT be permitted use the public computers, borrow books from the New and Popular Section (A-Frame in lobby), borrow any Audio Visual materials which include CD's, DVD's, Videos, Books on Tape or CD, or participate in programs that require sign-ups. Group and class visits by organizations based in a community that does not support a public library in Fulton County will no longer be allowed.

Am I affected by this policy if I already have a Gloversville Public Library card?

All new and existing patrons will be affected according to their place of residency as outlined in the first FAQ.

Can I buy a card or make a contribution to the Gloversville Public Library, The Friends of the Gloversville Public Library, or the Gloversville Library Foundation in order to lift the restrictions?

No. In accordance with New York State Education Law a public library is not allowed to sell a library card to residents within the Mohawk Valley Library System (MVLS) service area which encompasses Fulton, Montgomery, Schoharie and Schenectady counties.

If I have a library card from Johnstown or Northville public libraries, can I use the library?

Anyone may use the library's collection and services on-site, but not everyone will have FULL ACCESS. If you are a resident of a community or town that supports a public library through taxes (see the first FAQ), you will have FULL ACCESS to the Gloversville Public Library.

FULL ACCESS to programs and services at the Gloversville Public Library means that may you borrow all of the materials available for circulation, use any computers, and participate in all programs.

If I have a library card from the Mayfield Library, can I use the Gloversville Public Library?

The Mayfield Library is not a public library and its cards are not valid at the Gloversville Public Library.

If you are a resident of a community or town that supports a public library through taxes (see the first FAQ), you will have FULL ACCESS to the Gloversville Public Library.

Why is access to the Gloversville Public Library being limited for some people?

The Gloversville Public Library is supported by the taxpayers of the Gloversville Enlarged School District through a direct library tax. Library use by residents outside the Gloversville Public Library's chartered service area presents an economic hardship for the Library. It is the Board's responsibility to safeguard resources and services for those it is chartered to serve.

Who is the Gloversville Public Library required to serve?

The Library is registered with the State of New York and chartered by the NYS Board of Regents to serve the residents of the Gloversville Enlarged School District.

The Library's membership in MVLS requires it to provide some level of library service to all residents of Fulton, Montgomery, Schoharie and Schenectady counties.

What can I do to obtain **FULL ACCESS** to library services at the Gloversville Public Library?

- You can petition your town supervisor to provide financial support to the Gloversville Public Library in your municipality's annual budget. A budgetary allotment would constitute a contract between the municipality and the Gloversville Public Library to provide full access to residents.
- You can collect petitions from the taxpayers of your school district to have a proposition placed on the ballot at the school election. This proposition, if passed, would constitute a contract between the residents of the school district and the Gloversville Public Library thereby allowing full access to the Gloversville Public Library. Money would be collected annually by the school district and turned over to the Gloversville Public Library each fall.
- You can collect petitions from the taxpayers of your municipality to have a proposition placed on the ballot at the November election. This proposition, if passed, would constitute a contract between the municipality and the Gloversville Public Library thereby allowing full access to the Gloversville Public Library. Money would be paid to the Gloversville Public Library each fall.

If you need help proceeding with any of these options, feel free to contact the Gloversville Public Library Director Barbara Madonna, or Library Trustees Christine Pesses or David Fisher.

References

- Policies of the Gloversville Public Library – www.gloversvillelibrary.org
- Mohawk Valley Library System Direct Access Plan – <http://www.mvls.info/about/index-planofservice.html>
- Service area maps for MVLS - <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/libs/pldtools/plsmaps/mvls.htm>
- Library taxes – school district ballots - <http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugef.cgi> Search for Education Law 259 – Library taxes
- Library taxes – municipal ballots - <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/libs/pldtools/guide/h-inbyin.htm>

Fulton County Public Library Service Areas

