



Patron Code of Conduct

The Unicoi County Public Library (hereafter, “UCPL”) is a tax- and foundation-supported public-service institution. As such, The UCPL Board of Trustees has the responsibility and authority to establish reasonable rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of every UCPL patron, staff member, and volunteer, and to preserve UCPL’s holdings, equipment, facilities, and grounds. All library users must comply with the following Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in fines, suspension, or exclusion.

1. Shirt and shoes are required.
2. Alcohol, controlled substances, and firearms are prohibited in the Library and on Library grounds. Use of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vapes, is allowed only in personal vehicles and not in the Library or on Library grounds.
3. Children 11 years old and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Children 10 years and under must at all times be supervised. It is the responsibility of the attending adult to monitor and manage behavior. No minor may be at the library after closing; after two failed attempts to contact the guardian of a child, local authorities will be contacted.
4. All UCPL patrons and staff are entitled to a safe, peaceful, pleasant environment and experience. Lewd, hostile, or disruptive language and behaviors are not tolerated.
5. Respect for and care of Library property (e.g., materials, furniture, equipment, physical space) is required. Stealing, damaging, defacing, or destroying Library property will result in loss of Library privileges and/or prosecution to the extent allowed by law.
6. Do not leave belongings unattended. UCPL is not responsible for patrons’ personal property, losses, or damages.
7. Cell phone use is permitted in the Library, provided it is not a disturbance to UCPL patrons and staff. Headphones/earbuds are required when utilizing sound on Library computers or personal devices. Volume levels must not disturb other patrons or staff.
8. Food and drinks are not permitted around public-access computer stations or Library-owned equipment. Light snacks and lidded drinks are allowed in seating/reading/study areas. Please clean up after yourself!
9. Patrons are not permitted behind the Circulation Desk or in areas designated “Staff Only.”
10. Animals are not permitted in the Library unless they meet the definition of “service animal” as defined by ADA law or are part of a Library program.
11. Solicitation of any kind is not permitted in the Library or on Library grounds.
12. Actions in violation of City, State, or Federal laws and regulations are not permitted in the Library or on Library grounds.