

Library Membership Policy

All prospective patrons must complete a library membership application and present proof of their current address to receive a library card. Post office box numbers are not a valid proof of address, because they do not indicate the municipality of the residence. Acceptable proof of address can be a driver's license, piece of mail, lease, utility bill, or other valid forms of ID.

Applicants who are under 18 years of age must have their application signed by a legal parent or guardian. In accordance with the American Library Association (ALA)'s Library Bill of Rights, only parents and/or guardians have the right and responsibility to determine their child(ren)'s – and only their child(ren)'s – access to library resources. The responsibility of the child(ren)'s use of the library, including its programs, services, and materials, is assumed by the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) authorizing the creation of the minor's library card membership. This parent/guardian will also be responsible for any fees accrued as a result of lost or damaged materials.

Upon proof of address the library card application is processed. Patrons with existing memberships will utilize their existing card numbers with updated account information.

The library's current service area (i.e., geographic area coverage by a municipality providing funding to the library either through a tax referendum or appropriation) includes only Ford City Borough. Applicants who live outside the library's service area (Ford City Borough) must pay the fee of \$25.00 at the time the library card is issued. Discounted memberships senior citizens (age 62 and up) and veterans are \$10.00. Temporary, 3-month cards are also available for \$10.00.

If the patron holds a card with another Armstrong County library or holds a valid library card from another Pennsylvania library with the blue AccessPA sticker, a no-charge reciprocal membership (AccessPA) can be created after confirming the patron is in good standing with their home library.

Membership fees are waived if the patron owns property within the service area and provides proof (e.g. tax receipt). Organizations/businesses within the library's service area are eligible for no-charge memberships. A letter from the director/president/owner of the organization must be presented, in which the institution takes full responsibility for any fines, lost materials, or fees accrued on the card. Letters are filed behind patron application cards.