



Hobbs Public Library
HOBBS, NM

BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Hobbs Public Library welcomes everyone and is committed to meeting the needs of our community while fulfilling our mission to enrich lives and inspire creativity, curiosity and literacy through access to information and entertainment in our multicultural community.

The purpose of the Behavior Policy is to encourage all visitors to use the Library in a safe and respectful manner. Libraries are public spaces where each person is responsible for their own safety and the safety of those in their care.

Library visitors are expected to behave in a civil, respectful, and non-disruptive manner. Violations of these rules will be firmly and courteously addressed by the Library staff and, if necessary, by the Hobbs Police Department. The rules and behaviors listed below are not all-inclusive. Library staff have the authority to address any behavior not specifically listed here that interferes with the comfort, safety, or rights of others, staff's ability to carry out their duties, or normal Library operations. The following rules are implemented in a tier-based system.

LEVEL 1

- ◆ Behaving in a manner that reasonably can be expected to interfere with another person's use of the Library or disrupt staff duties.
- ◆ Creating disruptive noise, including playing audio equipment or using cell phones so others can hear them.
- ◆ Running, climbing, or jumping on the furniture or in the building.
- ◆ Exuding overly strong scents, including perfumes, drugs, issues of hygiene and sanitary concerns and scents that create a nuisance to others.
- ◆ Distributing printed materials, soliciting donations, panhandling, or selling items to other visitors.
- ◆ Animals are not allowed in the Library, except service animals, as defined by the ADA (The Americans with Disabilities Act), or animals participating in Library programs.
- ◆ Bathing in the restrooms or entering the building without a shirt, without shoes, or wearing inappropriate attire, such as clothing that is excessively dirty, revealing, contains offensive language, or is otherwise not suitable for a public facility.
- ◆ Large items, including but not limited to carts, bicycles, scooters and/or hoverboards, are to be left outside of the building. Wheeled devices may not be ridden in the Library, except when required for mobility.
- ◆ Taking Library materials into restrooms.
- ◆ Failing to comply with staff instructions or warnings.



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LEVEL 1 continued

- ◆ No person shall lie down, doze, or sleep in or on the Library premises except for children who are not yet of school age.
- ◆ Visitors' bags and belongings should be carry-on size or smaller and are the responsibility of the owner. The Library is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- ◆ Consuming food or drinks in the computer lab.
- ◆ Tampering with Library computers.
- ◆ Use of marijuana, tobacco, vapes and e-cigarettes is prohibited in the Library or within 25 feet of entrances.

LEVEL 2

- ◆ Using Library computers to engage in gambling, illegal activities, threatening or bullying behaviors or publicly viewing sexually explicit or pornographic materials.
- ◆ Stealing, damaging, altering, or defacing any Library property or equipment.
- ◆ Tampering with fire/emergency alarms.
- ◆ Consuming, using, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

LEVEL 3

- ◆ Possession or use of weapons on Library property.
- ◆ Verbal or physical harassment or threats to staff or visitors, including assault, abusive or obscene language, or physically intimidating behavior.
- ◆ Sexual harassment or inappropriate sexual behavior and actions.

PENALTIES AND VIOLATIONS:

Committing any of the above-listed actions or behaviors or refusing to follow facility rules, regulations, and policies will subject the individual to the following levels of disciplinary action. Penalties, determined by the Director or Librarian in charge, may range from 1 to 365 days. Repeated behaviors will result in escalation of penalties.

Level One: Any visitor who violates these rules will be required to leave the premises and may be denied access for up to 90 days depending on the severity, as assessed by the Director or Librarian in charge.

Level Two: Any visitor who violates these rules will be required to leave the premises and may be denied access for up to six months, depending on the severity, as assessed by the Director or Librarian in charge.



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Level Three: Any visitor who violates these rules will be required to leave the premises and may be denied access for up to one calendar year, depending on the severity, as assessed by the Director or Librarian in charge. Criminal Trespass may be issued and served.

A visitor whose privileges have been limited or suspended for more than 30 days must attend a meeting with the Library Director or designee to review the Library behavior policy before privileges can be reinstated.

Appeal Process: Any visitor who receives a suspension of privileges longer than two weeks may request an appeal from the Library Director or their designee within 10 business days. Appeals will be heard in person or in writing and will be reviewed by the Library Board at the next scheduled meeting, subject to availability. Library Board appeals must include a mailing address; appeal decisions will be issued in writing within one week of review. Appeal decisions made by the Library Board are final.

Adopted by the Hobbs Public Library Board

APPROVED: January 7, 2026