



Alcohol Policy

Approved by the Lawrence Public Library Board of Trustees on 12/15/2014. Updated and approved on July 17, 2023. Next review date: 07/2026.

Introduction

Alcoholic beverages are generally prohibited in the library facility and on library premises. The purpose of this policy is to describe the limited circumstances in which alcoholic beverages may be served and consumed at library-sponsored events in designated areas by Lawrence Public Library and/or the Lawrence Public Library Friends & Foundation.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as authorizing patron possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in library facilities or on library premises in violation of the Library Behavior and Reservable Room Policies and Guidelines.

Library Director Approval

The Library Director or their designee may grant approval for the serving and consumption of alcohol at events or programs sponsored by Lawrence Public Library and/or the Lawrence Public Library Friends & Foundation held on library premises provided that:

1. The serving of alcohol at an event or program is in compliance with all applicable alcohol laws and regulations, including the verification of age and the prevention of over-serving;
2. The serving of alcohol at an event or program does not interfere with library operations or the rights of library patrons;
3. Alcoholic beverages are served and consumed only in designated areas;
4. Any sales and/or distributions of alcoholic beverages at the library are in compliance with local and state laws, licensing, and permits;
5. The library has sufficient insurance coverage to host an event at which alcohol is served and consumed; and
6. The library assumes no liability for the actions of individuals who consume alcohol on library premises and reserves the right to terminate any event serving alcohol if it is disruptive to library patrons, library operations, or library property.

Summary

This policy is designed to ensure that Lawrence Public Library can sponsor events and programs that may involve the serving and consumption of alcohol in a safe, responsible, and legal manner, while also protecting the library, its users, and its property.