

HOMEBOUND POLICY

Patron Eligibility

Any patron living within the city limits of Independence with a valid library card who is unable to come to the library for one or more of the following reasons, is eligible for the program:

- Persons with a temporary **or long-term** hardship ~~due to a major illness/injury~~ **illness or injury.**
- ~~Persons with an ongoing need due to physical handicap~~
- ~~Persons with a long term illness~~
- **Persons who are generally confined to home due to mobility problems or the need for assistive devices.**
- ~~Homebound seniors.~~ **Persons who are medically discouraged from leaving home.**

Exceptions to the delivery service area may be made on an individual basis at the library director's discretion.

Application

An application for Homebound Services must be completed by the library patron requesting home delivery of materials and approved by the Independence Public Library. Applications can be picked up for a homebound patron at the library, printed out from the Library's website, or mailed to the patron.

Loan Periods/Fines

Materials will be assigned their standard loan period unless pick up is scheduled later than the loan period, in which case the loan would be extended to that day. Overdue fines will not be charged on homebound materials, but the Library's standard fees will apply for damaged or lost items.

Materials and Responsibilities

Books and Audiobooks are eligible for homebound delivery. The library staff or volunteers will select materials for use, check the materials out, and arrange to have a staff member or volunteer deliver to and pick up materials at the home of the patron.

The individual assigned will be available only for scheduled visits to discuss reading selections and delivery of books. They will not provide assistance with activities of daily living or advice on financial or personal matters.

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Homebound patrons and volunteers will sign a release form relieving the library of any liabilities.

Environment Required for Homebound Delivery:

Patrons requesting homebound services must provide a safe and appropriate environment for volunteers or staff members who make deliveries to their homes. Patrons must also protect all library materials while in their custody. Volunteers/staff members may choose not to deliver to a residence or leave a residence immediately and recommend suspension of service for any of the following reasons:

- The home or the path to the home is unsafe or unsanitary.
- Pets are not controlled.
- The person delivering materials feels unsafe, offended, or harassed.

The Library Director shall send written notice to the patron of the reason for and the length of any suspension of service. No suspension of service in excess of thirty (30 days) shall be imposed without recommendation by the Director and approval of the Board of Trustees. Any homebound patron may request in writing that the suspension of service be reviewed by the Board of Trustees at the next monthly Board meeting.

Disclaimer:

The homebound program could be discontinued at any time.

The patron and volunteers will agree to hold harmless and release the Independence Public Library, its officers, agents, employees, volunteers and representatives from any loss liability, claim, suit or judgment that may arise out of or in conjunction with the Library Homebound Delivery Service.