

Sex Offender Policy

This policy is to comply with Louisiana Revised Statute 14:91.2 (as amended by Act 693, 2012), which becomes effective January 1, 2013. This statute bans those sex offenders who have been convicted of sex offenses where the victim was under the age of thirteen years from being physically present or from loitering within one thousand feet of any public library in Louisiana, including all locations of the Lafayette Public Library (LPL).

The Lafayette Public Library Board of Control has adopted on this 19th day of November 2012, the following policy for the purpose of compliance with the statutory mandates set forth in La. R.S. 14:91.2 (as amended by Act 693, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the sex offender to comply with this policy. This policy is only intended to address the restrictions required by Louisiana Revised Statute 14:91.2 (D) and (E) relative to public libraries. The sex offender is subject to any access restrictions that may apply by virtue of other sections of this statute or otherwise set forth in the law.

POLICY

Effective January 1, 2013, persons who have been convicted of sex offenses where the victim was under the age of 13 (referred to as "sex offenders" for purposes of this policy) may not be physically present on library property and may not loiter within 1,000 feet of library property, as follows:

- I. No sex offender shall be allowed to register for or attend a library program or event for children or teens, whether on library premises or held off-site. No sex offender shall be allowed to attend any program, meeting, or other event (such as tutoring) in a library meeting space, computer lab, maker space, or study room where children or teens are present
- II. No access is allowed at these library locations due to the proximity of children during all library hours of operation, including locations within 1,000 feet of other prohibited locations per R.S. 14:91.2 as amended by Act 191 of 2012. If a sex offender needs access to an item from the collection in one of these facilities, they may arrange for a surrogate to retrieve the item or may request the item via telephone or from another library facility that allows access, and have the item sent to a facility that allows access.

A. Butler Branch Library, 309 Cora Street, Lafayette, LA

No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the Butler Branch Library in the Martin Luther King Recreation Center. Children are present in the library during all hours of

operation. This Library facility is in a City of Lafayette Recreation Center. There is no separation of the Children's and Adult areas. There is one staff member on duty.

B. Duson Branch Library, 310 Avenue au Nord, Duson, LA

No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the Duson Branch Library in the Duson Community Center. This Library is currently across the street from an elementary school and is in a municipal Community Center that is located inside a public park. Children, including class visits, are regularly present in the library. There is no separation of the Children's and Adult areas. There is often just one staff member on duty.

- III. Limited access to these smaller library locations with separate children's areas is allowed as follows. If a sex offender needs access to an item from the collection in one of the restricted areas, they may arrange for a surrogate to retrieve the item or may request that a library staff member at the Circulation Desk retrieve the item for them. If a sex offender needs access to an item from the collection in one of these facilities during a restricted time, they may arrange for a surrogate to retrieve the item. Any use by a sex offender of public access computers or the library's Wi-Fi access to the Internet must be in accordance with R.S. 14:91.5 and R.S. 15:543.1 and as they may be subsequently revised or amended, or any other laws that may be enacted relative to sex offender access to the Internet, in addition to complying with the Library's Electronic Resources Policy and Patron Behavior Policy.

A. Milton Branch Library, Cedar Village Shopping Center, Hwy 92, Milton, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Section of the Milton Branch Library at any time.
2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the Milton Branch Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and closing, Monday – Friday or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - c. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library's website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

- IV. Access to these library locations with larger staffs, facilities, and/or separate children's departments is restricted as follows. If a sex offender needs access to an item from the collection in one of the restricted areas, they may arrange for a surrogate to retrieve the item or may request that a library staff member at the Circulation Desk retrieve the item for them. If a sex offender needs access to an item from the collection in one of these facilities during a restricted time, they may arrange for a surrogate to retrieve the item. Any use by a sex offender of public access computers or the library's Wi-Fi access to the Internet must be in accordance with R.S. 14:91.5 and R.S. 15:543.1 and as they may be subsequently revised or amended, or any other laws that may be enacted relative to sex offender access to the Internet, in addition to complying with the Library's Electronic Resources Policy and Patron Behavior Policy.

A. Main Library, 301 West Congress Street, Lafayette, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Department, Storytime Room, or Teens Department of the Main Library at any time. This includes no access to any study rooms, collections, computers, tables, chairs, public service desks, and restroom facilities that may be located within those areas.
2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the Main Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - c. During Summer Reading Club Kick-off Day held at this location, sex offenders may not be in the library beginning at library opening time and continuing until 4 p.m.
 - d. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library's website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

B. South Regional Library, 6101 Johnston Street, Lafayette, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Department, Storytime Room, or Teens Department of the South Regional Library at any time. This includes no access to any study rooms, collections, computers, tables, chairs, public service desks, and restroom facilities that may be located within those areas.

2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the South Regional Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - c. During Summer Reading Club Kick-off Day held at this location, sex offenders may not be in the library beginning at library opening time and continuing until 4 p.m.
 - d. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library's website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

C. North Regional Library, 5101 N. University Avenue, Carencro, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Department, Storytime Room, or Teens Department of the North Regional Library at any time. This includes no access to any study rooms, collections, computers, tables, chairs, public service desks, and restroom facilities that may be located within those areas.
2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the North Regional Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - c. During Summer Reading Club Kick-off Day held at this location, sex offenders may not be in the library beginning at library opening time and continuing until 4 p.m.
 - d. Sex offenders are prohibited from attending any library sponsored program for children, teens, or families held in the Carencro Community Center.

- e. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library's website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

D. East Regional Library, 215 La Neuville Road, Youngsville, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Department, Storytime Room, or Teens Department of the East Regional Library at any time. This includes no access to any study rooms, collections, computers, tables, chairs, public service desks, and restroom facilities that may be located within those areas.
2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the East Regional Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - c. During Summer Reading Club Kick-off Day held at this location, sex offenders may not be in the library beginning at library opening time and continuing until 4 p.m.
 - d. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library's website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

E. West Regional Library, 501 Old Spanish Trail, Scott, LA

1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present in the Children's Department, Storytime Room, or Teen Department of the West Regional Library at any time. This includes no access to any study rooms, collections, computers, tables, chairs, public service desks, and restroom facilities that may be located within those areas.
2. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at the West Regional Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children's or teens' programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
 - a. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.

- b. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, between 11 a.m. and closing on Saturday, on Sunday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
- c. During Summer Reading Club Kick-off Day held at this location, sex offenders may not be in the library beginning at library opening time and continuing until 4 p.m.
- d. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library’s website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

F. Chenier Center Library, 220 W. Willow Street, Building C, Lafayette, LA

- 1. No sex offender is allowed to be physically present at Chenier Center Library during peak hours for children or during hours when children’s or teens’ programs are scheduled (including 30 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the program).
- 2. During the school year, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday – Friday, on Saturday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - a. During the summer, sex offenders may not be in the library between 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday, on Saturday, or when any program for children or teens is scheduled.
 - b. A schedule of programs is posted in advance on the Library’s website www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org
 - c. Sex offenders are prohibited from attending any library sponsored program for children, teens, or families held in the auditorium of the Clifton Chenier Center Town Hall Auditorium.

VOLUNTEERS/CONTRACTORS/VENDORS

This policy applies to all volunteers, contractors, and vendors. The Library will not knowingly allow any individual whose access to the Library is restricted under this policy to volunteer. It is the responsibility of any contractor, sub-contractor or delivery company / carrier to be aware of this policy and to make alternate arrangements as appropriate.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to these restrictions are:

- A. Police station/courthouse/polling station – There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender is reporting to a police station, courthouse, health unit, other public facility except as prohibited by law, or polling station that is within the restricted area. The South Regional Library at 6101 Johnston Street, Lafayette, LA is currently the only library in the Lafayette Public Library system designated as a polling station during national, state, and local elections.
- B. Shared properties – There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender is visiting a nonlibrary facility within 1,000 feet of library property for legitimate business purposes.
- C. With special permission – There shall be no violation of this regulation if the sex offender has requested and has been granted written permission to be physically present on public library property from the Library Director or his designee, and the sex offender complies with any special restrictions contained within the permission.

APPEALS

- A. Any individual may appeal, in writing, to the Library Director, c/o 301 W. Congress St., Lafayette, LA 70501 within 15 days of being denied access under this policy. The appeal must list the library location, the date, the time, the reason access was needed and the reason access was denied. The appeal must list the appellant's name, address, and daytime phone number or email address as well as the appellant's probation officer, address, daytime phone number and email address. A written determination will be sent by the Library Director within 15 days of the receipt of the appeal. Unless appealed under part b. below, the determination of the Library Director shall be final.
- B. If the individual is dissatisfied with the resolution provided by the Library Director, the individual may submit a written appeal to the Library Board of Control, c/o President, 301 W. Congress St., Lafayette, LA 70501 within 15 days of the Library Director's determination. The individual will be scheduled on the agenda at the next available Library Board meeting for appealing this matter. The determination of the Library Board of Control at this meeting shall be final.

NOTIFICATIONS

- A. This policy will be posted on the Library's web page
- B. This policy will be available upon request at the Circulation Desk of any library location and through the Library Director's office.

Authority Note

Act 693 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature amended and re-enacted R.S. 14:91.2. The effective date of the Act is January 1, 2013.

Adopted by the Library Board of Control, November 19, 2012

Effective, January 1, 2013

Amended by the Library Board of Control, January 11, 2016

Effective January 12, 2016

Amended by the Library Board of Control April 15, 2019

Effective May 1, 2019