

ZION BENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Safety Mask Policy

The Library is committed to staff and patron health and safety and is taking precautions to minimize the spread of COVID-19. All staff and patrons over the age of two are required to wear a face covering which completely covers their nose and mouth in all indoor public areas of the Library at all times. Face coverings must also be worn in outdoor public areas of the Library when participating in Library-sponsored events or programs.

Acceptable face coverings include disposable masks, cloth masks, and religious face coverings and or face shields in conjunction with a facial covering. Mesh masks, masks with openings, holes, visible gaps in the material, vents, or valves designed to facilitate easy exhaling are unacceptable and their use is not considered an adherence to this policy.

Patrons must maintain a six-foot distance from anyone not in their household while in and around the Library.

Patrons who are unable to wear a mask due to a pre-existing medical condition are encouraged to use the Library's curbside services. Additional reasonable accommodations such as personalized reader's advisory services and online resources are available. In addition, homebound delivery may be available to those who are medically prevented from or decline to wear a face covering. Any accommodation request must be communicated to the Library and it will decide how to accommodate that request.

Patrons who refuse to wear a face covering and/or choose not to maintain a six-foot distance will be asked to leave the Library. Patrons, who violate this policy, are also in violation of the Library's Code of Conduct.

This policy shall be in place any time the Illinois Department of Health and/or the Library Board of Trustees determines that the safety of all patrons, vaccinated or unvaccinated, is best served by enforcement of this policy.