

Bartholomew County Public Library

How to Get a Library Card

We welcome new borrowers, and there are a few rules:

Bartholomew County residents and persons who own real property (real estate) in Bartholomew County can receive free library service from BCPL.

Persons living in library districts with which BCPL has a reciprocal agreement may receive free library service from BCPL.

These library districts include the statewide Reciprocal Borrower covenant libraries, plus Greensburg Decatur County Public Library, Jackson County Public Library, Jennings County Public Library, and Edinburgh residents, whether living in Bartholomew County or Johnson County.

Any student who attends school in Bartholomew County can receive free library service from BCPL. Any instructor who teaches in Bartholomew County can receive free library service from BCPL.

A person who lives in another Indiana public library district can buy an annual Public Library Access Card. The PLAC fee is set annually by the Indiana State Library.

A non-resident who does not qualify as a reciprocal borrower, student, or teacher and cannot purchase a PLAC can pay an annual fee directly to Bartholomew County Public Library. This fee is set annually by the Library Board.

Please visit the Main Library in Columbus, Hope Branch Library, or the Bookmobile to register.

A new borrower who is 18 years of age or older must show identification including his/her current address. This identification can include, but is not limited to:
Driver license or other photo ID / Passport / Utility bill / Tax bill

A new borrower who is 13 to 17 years of age must show identification.
This identification can include, but is not limited to:
Driver license / School ID / Other photo ID

A new borrower who is under the age of 13 years must have the signature of a parent or guardian.

An adult who's 18 years of age or older gets a white "Adult" card.
A teen between the ages of 13 and 17 years gets a blue "Teen" card.
A child under the age of 13 years gets a red "Child" card.
The card is mailed to the new borrower to verify the address.

A new borrower who's waiting for his/her borrower's card to be mailed can check out two items with the exception of videos and DVDs. When an item is returned, another item can be checked out before the borrower's card has been received. A student who visits the library with his/her class and applies for a borrower's cards is subject to the same restriction as other new borrowers.

A previously registered borrower who's requesting a new card is NOT subject to the new borrower restrictions. These re-registering borrowers include:
13-year-olds moving from Child to Teen status.
18-year-olds moving from Teen to Adult status.
Persons changing between PLAC and resident status.
Persons needing replacements for lost, stolen, or damaged cards.

Questions: Please call 812-379-1255 - Adult Circulation