

### 3.4 Teen Services Patron Use

Adopted: December 23, 2021

Approved: December 23, 2021; June 26, 2024

Amended: June 26, 2024

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#### **POLICY:**

The Council Bluffs Public Library strives to enrich, inform and empower the community by maintaining an inviting and safe space for teens. Teens may socialize, hang out, use library resources on their own and during programs.

#### **PROCEDURE:**

- Teens are defined as patrons aged 11 to 18, including those who have finished 12th grade throughout the summer until the school year resumes. Younger children may only be in Teen Central if they are the child of the teen. For example, if a teen is babysitting, they should be in the age-appropriate area of the library for the child being cared for.
- Only patrons in the above age group and their parent or guardian (including caregivers, tutors, or legal advocates) may be in Teen Central and are expected to abide by the library's behavior code.
- The Teen Department allows food and drinks with lids in designated areas only. Snacks must be dry, and cannot require heat or refrigeration unless they are part of a program.
- The Teen Department computers and iPads are reserved for use by patrons aged 11 to 18. A family computer area is available on the second floor.
- Programs for teens are age-restricted to encourage social development and learning. Therefore, younger children and adults may not attend programs that are designated for teens. Supplies and program materials in Teen Central are provided for patrons who can use the space. Parents and other adults may not participate in programs or use program materials.
- Accommodations will be made for any individual who wishes to attend an age-appropriate program. Individuals must be accompanied by a caregiver if one-on-one attention is required.