

Library Meeting Room Usage Policy

The Orange County Public Library welcomes use of its meeting facilities in keeping with its mission to: enrich lives through collections, programs, and technology.

In light of our mission, the Library's meeting rooms are designed to meet general educational, cultural and civic needs including such activities as discussions, lectures, storytimes, displays and films. The meeting rooms are open to all groups engaged in educational, cultural, intellectual, charitable or civic activities.

Meeting room reservations are handled by the individual locations. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis with library events having the primary priority. Reservations may not be made more than 1 year in advance. As the Library desires to accommodate as many groups as possible, recurring reservations may be denied to allow a fair rotation of access among a variety of groups.

The meeting rooms may not be used for purposes of profit and no admission fees may be charged. Solicitation, sales and/or distribution of product literature are prohibited except by library support groups.

Use of the Library's meeting rooms does not constitute the Library's or the County of Orange's endorsement of viewpoints expressed by participants in any program. Any group using the library's meeting room agrees to add this statement to any publicity in print or social media they use to promote their event: "The Orange County Public Library does not endorse this program or any viewpoints expressed by its participants. The Library is providing space in accordance with its mission to offer services and programs that bring people together, foster creativity and encourage lifelong learning.

The Library reserves the right to require liability insurance for activities.

The Library reserves the right to assess a cleaning fee should the meeting room be left in a state requiring cleaning after an outside group has used it.

Upon adequate notice and for appropriate reasons, the Library reserves the right to deny or revoke permission to use the meeting rooms.

Rules for use:

- 1) The room must be returned to its original condition at the conclusion of the program (e.g. – tables and chairs in the same positions, any audiovisual equipment put away, no trash or litter on the tables or floors). This requirement includes the adjacent kitchen at the Main Library.
- 2) No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed per County policy.
- 3) The Library will not assume responsibility for damage to materials or equipment used in the meeting room. That applies to materials and equipment owned by

groups meeting in the room. Users are responsible for damage to library owned equipment and furnishings and may be charged for those damages. Groups which damage library facilities or equipment may be denied future use of the meeting room.

- 4) Users must abide by the maximum number of occupants designated by the Fire Marshal for each room (55 at the Main Library, 35 at the Wilderness Branch and 36 at the Gordonsville Branch)
- 5) Library staff reserve the right to enter the meeting room at any time.
- 6) Users of the Main Library meeting room will need to obtain a key to have access to the adjacent restroom facilities.
- 7) A \$50.00 deposit is required to obtain a key for after-hours access to the Wilderness Branch meeting room or the Gordonsville Branch meeting room. After-hours access at the Main Library will only be provided by arrangement with the Orange Office on Youth
- 8) Fees to cover the costs of instructional materials are allowed.
- 9) Groups are responsible for providing their own refreshments, office supplies (markers, flip charts, etc.).
- 10) All groups desiring to use the Library Meeting Room must fill out a "Meeting Room Use Request Form" and provide full contact information.
- 11) Per our "Library Programs" policy, meetings in the meeting room will be cancelled in case of a Library closing for inclement weather or other emergency.
- 12) All meetings must be conducted so as not to interfere with the operations of the Library and under the auspices of an organization or individual that agrees to comply with the policies, rules and regulations of the Orange County Public Library.
- 13) Loud amplification or noise that interferes with the normal operation of the library or any adjacent agencies co-located in the building is prohibited.

(Approved by the Library Board of Trustees 6/2005; 10/2010; 8/2016; 8/2020; 2/2024)