



THE LIFE CYCLE

of a Library Book

Library Staff

Library Patron

Board-Approved Collection Development Policy

Staff Selects

Professional Journals (e.g. Publishers Weekly, Library Journal, BookList), Magazines, Newspapers, Staff Expertise

Purchased

Baker & Taylor, Ingram, Local Bookstores, Amazon, Direct from Publisher

Processed

Stamped, Labeled, and Covered

Cataloged

Added to online catalog

Shelved

Children's, Young Adult, or Adult

Copies Added

Community demand triggers the purchase of more copies

Systems' ILS Deliveries

Checked In

Reshelved

Weeded

Deselected or damaged material given to Friends for booksale or recycling

Staff Selects New Books

Community Member/Taxpayer

90% of library budgets come from municipal governments (city, village, town, county, tribal, etc.)

Patron Request

Word of mouth, media mentions, newspapers, magazines, BookTok, etc.

Read in Library

Hold Placed

Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Requested

Checked Out

Returned

Material Challenged
(See other side)



WISCONSIN
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

wisconsinlibraries.org
wla@wisconsinlibraries.org

When there is a

BOOK CHALLENGE

Challenges to Library Materials

Libraries have policies and procedures in place to respectfully address a community member's concerns. It begins long before an item is placed in the collection.

How are **MATERIALS ADDED** to a library's collection?

- A locally appointed Library Board of Trustees develops a Collection Development Policy to guide its library's selection of materials.
- Local library staff use their training and expertise, professional book reviews, and patron requests to purchase materials that fit the Library Board's Collection Development Policy and reflect the needs and interests of the local community.
- Librarians locate materials in the library based on their professional expertise, knowledge of the community, and the Collection Development Policy.

What process does a library use to deal with a **MATERIALS CHALLENGE** ?

The library's board-approved Collection Development Policy details a process for responding to materials challenges:

- When a patron notifies the library of an item they believe should be removed or relocated, staff provide the patron with a materials-reconsideration form that allows the patron to express their concerns.
- Staff review the submission; read, listen, or watch the item in its entirety; and determine whether the item complies with the Collection Development Policy.
- The Library Director notifies the patron in writing of its decision. The patron has the opportunity to appeal the decision to the Library Board.
- If the patron appeals the decision, the Library Board conducts its own review in relation to the Collection Development Policy. The Library Board notifies the patron of its decision in writing.



Always feel free to talk to your local library director with questions or concerns.



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