

Patron Registration and Access Policy

Registration

Individuals are eligible for a free BHM Library card if they live, work, attend school, or own property in Beaufort, Hyde, or Martin Counties. To register for a card, the individual should present a valid photo ID with a current address. A photo ID and recent bill listing a current address may also be used. If an individual does not have a photo ID, they may register without one. Library staff will verify the correct address by mailing the new library card to the address given. Children 12 and under require a parent or guardian's signature to obtain a library card.

A BHM Library card gives patrons access to all libraries within the regional system as well as all member libraries of the NC Cardinal consortium. Patrons of other NC Cardinal libraries may use their home library cards to access BHM's libraries and collections.

Individuals who are not residents of Beaufort, Hyde, or Martin counties may register for a library card for a \$10 annual fee.

When contiguous counties are affected by a natural disaster that disrupts library service, residents of those counties may register for a free one year BHM Library card.

Patron Responsibilities

Patrons are responsible for presenting their library cards each time they check out library materials, for the care and prompt return of all materials checked out in their name, and for the payment of all fines and fees charged by the library.

Adults are responsible for the loss, damage, and late return of materials checked out to minor children whose card applications they have signed.

Access to Materials

The BHM Regional Library endorses the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statements adopted by the American Library Association and the BHM Regional Library Board of Trustees. While the library restricts access to some categories of material, including DVDs and technology, to patrons age 18 or over, the library does not restrict access to individual materials within a category on the basis of age. Parents are responsible for monitoring their children's library use, selection of materials, and borrowing.

Confidentiality of Library Records

The library affirms the importance of individual privacy and complies with the Library Privacy Act, North Carolina General Statute § 125-19.

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