

1 (B) A customer must abide by the standards of behavior set forth in these rules. These  
2 rules identify prohibited behavior for library customers, with consideration of the  
3 situation and age-appropriateness.

4 (C) A staff member must report criminal activity that occurs in the library to an  
5 appropriate law enforcement officer.

6 **5. Children.**

7 (A) A child under the age of 10 may not remain in the library unless accompanied by a  
8 responsible person who is at least 17 years of age. A person accompanying a child  
9 is responsible for the child and the child's behavior. Unless so accompanied, a  
10 child under the age of ten may not enter, remain in, or be left unsupervised in the  
11 library.

12 (B) If a library staff member determines that a child may not be safely turned away  
13 from the library or that the child is stranded, the staff member ~~shall~~may refer the  
14 child to the Austin Police Department.

15 **6. Animals.**

16 (A) A customer may not bring an animal in the library unless it is the customer's  
17 service animal.

18 (B) This does not apply to an animal used by the library for a special event.

19 **7. Food and beverages.**

20 (A) A customer may not consume food or a beverage in the library.

21 (B) This does not apply to food and beverages that have been purchased in the library  
22 and that are consumed in a designated area.

23 (1) If, due to a disability, a customer must consume special food, the library will  
24 provide a reasonable accommodation for that customer to consume that food in  
25 the designated area.

26 (C) This does not apply to water in a clear, capped bottle that is consumed away from a  
27 workstation.

28 (D) This does not apply to food brought by an adult supervising a child younger than  
29 seven years of age, and consumed by the child in a designated area.

30 (E) This does not apply to breast feeding or bottle-feeding an infant.

31 **8. Attire and Hygiene.**

- 1 (A) If a customer violates these rules, a staff member shall orally warn the customer to  
2 stop the behavior. If the customer fails to stop the unacceptable behavior, the staff  
3 member must ask the customer to leave the library.
- 4 (B) If a staff member determines that a violation of this policy is so serious that the  
5 customer remaining in the library creates a danger to library property, the library  
6 staff, or to other customers, or interferes with the use and enjoyment of the library  
7 by other customers, the staff member may ask the customer to leave without an  
8 initial oral warning.
- 9 (C) If a customer refuses a request to leave the library, the staff member should seek  
10 the assistance of library security or law enforcement personnel.

11 **15. Denial of Physical Access to the Library.**

- 12 (A) This rule is cumulative of the “Rules for Public Use of City Properties” adopted by  
13 the City Manager.
- 14 (B) The director or designee shall~~may~~ deny a customer physical access to the library  
15 as provided in this section if the customer is asked to leave the library for:
- 16 (1) a violation of any combination of these rules in any combination of library  
17 properties, for which the person was asked to leave the library three times in a  
18 six month period;
- 19 (2) any single violation of Section 13(B) that involves physical injury to a person,  
20 theft of or damage to City property or to the personal property of another  
21 person, or a breach of the peace; or
- 22 (3) any single violation of Section 13(C).
- 23 (C) The director must give a customer who is denied physical access to the library  
24 written notice and an opportunity for a hearing as provided in the “Rules for Public  
25 Use of City Properties” adopted by the City Manager.
- 26 (D) The period for which a customer is denied physical access to the library under this  
27 section is:
- 28 (1) Up to one year, beginning on the effective date of the denial; or
- 29 (2) in the case of a customer who has had a previous denial of physical access  
30 under this rule that was not rescinded, the denial of physical access is~~may be~~  
31 permanent.
- 32 (3) A customer who is denied physical access to the library may continue to access  
33 library information and programs in ways that do not require physical access,