

## **Reopening the Building Following a Public-Health Related Closure**

Objective: to provide a general statement of goals, rationale, objectives, and authority for reopening the library following a public- health related closing.

1. The primary goal of reopening is to provide physical library services to the public while taking the necessary precautions and making the necessary deviations from previous policies, procedures, and customary practices to protect the health and safety of library staff and patrons.
2. Reopening will happen in phases, guided by medical experts, the governor's orders and directives, other applicable law, and public health standards.
3. Not all areas of the library building will open at once. Not all library services will return at once. Some areas of the library may remain closed to the public and/or repurposed for an extended period. Some services may be suspended, reduced, or limited for an extended period. Some services may be altered in delivery method.
4. Guidelines for re-opening the library will be made available in a public document. Due to the changing nature of a public health crisis, the guidelines and the procedures developed from them will change rapidly. Because we often learn as we execute, the guidelines will be revised to reflect changes, but the revisions to the physical or online document may lag behind the changes themselves.
5. Given the nature of a phased approach and the need to quickly adapt to the changes of law and public health needs, the library delegates to the director full authority to decide when to move from one phase to another, to return to a previous phase, and to responsively and responsibly change library policy, procedures, and customary practices--including but not limited to policy to facilitate changes to space utilization, building maintenance, patron and staff behavior and practices, and library services until further notice. While procedure and practice remain the purview of the director, the board retain ultimate authority for policy. Therefore, the director will present all responsive changes to policy to the library board at the next regularly-scheduled board meeting for the board's approval and support.

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