



From the State Library - March 13, 2020

Coronavirus Guidance for Iowa Libraries



With the COVID-19 Coronavirus officially classified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization, libraries should be preparing to take steps to slow the spread and help combat misinformation about the virus.

The administration at the State Library is listening to public health and government officials for guidance on Coronavirus. At this point, remaining open to the public is encouraged to support your communities and act as a steady influence and source of reliable information.

The State Library is recommending that libraries implement the following steps:

- Strongly consider canceling, postponing or rescheduling nonessential program events.
- Make hand sanitizer available at all public service locations.
- Post signage and flyers from reputable sources in public areas.
- Step up disinfection and cleaning of surfaces in the library.
- Remove toys, Legos, puzzles, games, and fabric or soft items from children's areas.
- Review the sick leave policy with library staff.
- Promote the library's online, ebook, and audiobook resources to patrons.

We will do our best to communicate any changes to the above recommendations. Below are additional helpful resources on Coronavirus to browse, bookmark, and share with the public.

General Resources on Coronavirus:

- [Official CDC Coronavirus Website](#)
- [Iowa Department of Public Health Coronavirus Website](#)

Resources for Communicating to the Public:

- [CDC Coronavirus Communications Resources](#)
- [Libraries and Accurate Information about The Coronavirus from Libraries 2020](#)
- [NPR Coronavirus Comic for Kids](#)

Other Resources for Libraries:

- [Library 2.0 Free Webinar on Coronavirus on March 26](#)
- [ALA Pandemic Preparedness](#)
- [EveryLibrary Resources for Libraries on Coronavirus](#)
- [American Libraries: Libraries and Pandemic Preparedness](#)
- [Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness for Wisconsin Public Libraries](#)

1112 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
1-800-248-4483

