

# **CHAPTER 6**

## **SECTION \*\*\***

## **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Collection Development Policy for the Ellensburg Public Library is based on and reflects the library's stated mission, vision, and goals. Ellensburg Public Library's collection is designed to meet the needs of its community, Ellensburg and Kittitas County.

### **PURPOSE**

The Ellensburg Public Library recognizes that within the service area there are groups and individuals with diverse and often disparate interests, backgrounds, cultural heritages, social values, and needs. The Library Board recognizes that the library serves all the people within Kittitas County, regardless of age, race, sex, gender identity, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, or ideology, including those with physical or mental health needs. Selection of library materials shall be made on the basis of their value to people of the community.

### **APPLICATION**

The library selects materials in a variety of formats, including licensed electronic resources and online databases. These materials shall be selected and retained as long as they address the interests of people in the community.

The library takes into consideration the limitations of space, staffing, and budget when developing and maintaining its collection, which consists of a core collection of popular materials in conjunction with materials of added breadth and depth in selected areas. Materials and formats that are obsolete or no longer relevant to the needs and interest of the community will not be maintained. This ensures a collection of current interest to our patrons. Textbooks and materials of a highly technical or specialized nature more appropriate for research or special libraries are generally excluded from the collection.

The library believes that reading, listening to, and viewing library materials are individual, private matters. While one is free to select or to reject materials for oneself, one cannot restrict the freedom of others to read, view, or inquire. Parents have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the reading of their own minor children. The library does not stand "in loco parentis."

The Library Board recognizes the right of individuals to question materials in the library's collection. The Board supports the guidelines set by the American Library Association in its Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement, and Freedom to View Statement and considers all materials selected under this policy to be protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. A library patron questioning material in the collection is encouraged to talk with the Director concerning such material. To formally state their opinion and receive a written response, a patron may submit the form provided for that purpose, which is available at the library or on the library's website. [Section G Reconsideration of library materials.pdf](#)

The library will be responsive to public suggestion of titles and subjects to be included in the library collection. Gifts of materials may be accepted with the understanding that the same standards of selection are applied to gifts as to materials acquired by purchase, and that any gifts may be discarded at the library's discretion.

To ensure a vital collection of continuing value to the community, except in the area of local history,

materials that are not well used may be withdrawn.

The Ellensburg Public Library will adhere to and support the following policies found in the American Library Association (ALA) documents:

- [Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](#)
- [The Freedom to Read Statement | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](#)
- [Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](#)
- [Access to Digital Resources and Services: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](#)