

## **CHAPTER 4 SECTION C LIBRARY FINES AND FEES**

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

As of January 1, 2021, the library will no longer charge late fines for items returned beyond their due date. However, if a patron should have an overdue item, they will not be able to check out more items. Lost items will continue to be charged a replacement fee.

### **PURPOSE**

The library's primary goal is to encourage reading and literacy to the public. Fines and fees create barriers for patrons. Late fines discourage people who can't afford them from using the Library. We want everyone in our community to have equitable access to our programs, services, and materials.

### **APPLICATION**

- Library materials should still be returned in a timely manner.
- Accounts with overdue items will be suspended from further checkouts until cleared. Items may be renewed if available to do so. Digital materials are checked in automatically with no late fines.
- After 8 weeks of an item being overdue, it will be marked as missing and the account will be sent to collections. A \$10 debt collection fee will be added to the patron's account.
- Items returned damaged will be assessed a replacement fee.
- For special circumstances, we will do our best to work with patrons to resolve the situation.
- The library offers courtesy email and text reminders to patrons if they so choose to sign up.

Adopted by City Council 2021-2022 budget; formally adopted by Library Board 4-8-2025.