



DGPL is

Fine Free!

How does it work? Here are the basics!

- The library no longer collects fines for overdue materials.
- After an item is 21 days overdue, your card will be blocked from checking out other materials. Once the item is returned, the block will be lifted automatically.
- What about books checked out through Inter-Library Loan (ILL)? If you check materials out at DGPL (even through ILL), they will be fine free. If you go to another library (even if DGPL is your home library), you are following their rules; if they are not fine free, you may still be charged overdue fines.
 - A good way to think about it: Our house, our rules. Their house, their rules. If you check it out at DGPL, you will not get charged overdue fines.
- Materials that are lost, damaged, or 42+ days overdue will still be charged to patrons.

Keep an eye on your account to make sure you don't get blocked!

- Log in to your account.
- Check your Account Status:
 - **OK:** You're good!
 - **ALERT:** You've got an overdue item or fine.
 - **BLOCKED:** Your card is blocked from checking out new materials until materials are returned or fines are paid.
- Watch your due dates under the Checkout tab.
- After an item is 21 days overdue, your card will be blocked from checking out other materials.
- Help make sure other community members can check out the same things you love—return your items on time!

Your status: ALERT	
Checkouts	
Digital:	2
Library:	16
Overdue:	2
Holds	
Digital:	5
Library:	7
Fines	
Total due:	\$0.00

Borrowing Periods

3 week checkouts:

- Books and audiobooks
- Magazines
- CDs
- DVDs and BluRays
- Video Games
- Bags

2 week checkouts:

- New books, audiobooks, movies, and music (located in the lobby)
- New video games
- Hot Reads

For unlisted items, please ask staff.

Renewals

Items may be renewed up to five times.

Items will auto-renew upon their due date if not returned.

Items may not renew if another patron has a hold on the item, is part of a non-renewable collection, or if the patron's card is blocked.

Items may be renewed online, over the phone at (630) 960-1200, or in person at the Checkout Desk.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will this eliminate current overdue fines?

Yes! All previous fines for overdue materials have been waived. Welcome back to the library!

Does this apply to all materials?

Yes! The library is fine free for all items checked out.

Are these just "suggested" due dates?

No—after a single item is overdue for 21 days, a block will be placed on a patron's card. They will no longer be able to check out any other materials until the item is returned.

Will this increase my taxes?

No. Overdue fines accounted for about one percent of the library's total operating revenue, and the amount was continually decreasing after the 2017 implementation of auto-renewals. Now that the library is fine free we will save staff time and supplies as a result of eliminating overdue fines.

Why are you removing fines? How will you make sure you get your items back?

We want to focus on access and equity. Most patrons impacted by fines are the same who can afford them the least. Fines create stress-filled interactions, and take significant staff time to manage. Fines can be enough for some patrons to stop using the library entirely.

Patrons are expected to return their materials on time; if they do not their card will be blocked from all future borrowing until the materials are paid for or returned.

What happens if I don't return something?

After an item is overdue for 21 days, a block will be placed on the patron's card until it is returned. After 42+ days, it will be automatically charged to the patron. Replacements are not accepted.