

Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library Out of State Library Card Policy

Policy Effective Date: September 9, 2025

Fee Implementation Date: September 9, 2025 (effective immediately)

Expiration Date for Current Out-of-State Cards: January 1, 2026

Purpose

To support the continued provision of excellent resources and services, the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library Board of Trustees has adopted a policy implementing an annual fee for library cards issued to out-of-state patrons. This policy ensures fair contribution from out-of-state users benefiting from library resources, while exempting those who contribute to the state economy through employment and taxes.

Policy Overview

Effective immediately (September 9, 2025), all new out-of-state library cards will require payment of an annual fee of \$35.00 at issuance.

Existing out-of-state library cards will remain valid until January 1, 2026, at which time they will expire.

To continue checking out library materials after January 1, 2026, patrons with out-of-state cards will need to renew their cards and pay the \$35 annual fee unless exempted as described below.

Fee Exception

Out-of-state patrons who work in Massachusetts and can provide proof of Massachusetts state tax payment are exempt from the \$35 annual fee. Proof may include a recent Massachusetts state tax return, pay stub, or other official documentation confirming tax payment in the state.

Eligibility

Massachusetts residents continue to receive free library cards.

Out-of-state residents must pay the \$35 annual fee for new cards now and for renewals after January 1, 2026, unless they qualify for the exemption by working in Massachusetts and providing proof of tax payment.

Renewal Process

To renew an out-of-state library card after January 1, 2026:

Visit the library

Confirm or update your contact and address information.

Provide proof of Massachusetts tax payment if requesting a fee waiver.

Pay the \$35 annual fee if not exempt.

Receive a new card valid for one year.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library community.

Adopted by the Board of Library Trustees on September 9, 2025