

The Legalese:

**TITLE 23, SUBTITLE B: CULTURAL RESOURCES, CHAPTER I: SECRETARY OF STATE, PART 3050,
PUBLIC LIBRARY NON-RESIDENT SERVICES**

Section 3050.25 Applying for a Non-Resident Library Card

- a) A non-resident shall apply for a non-resident library card at the closest public library. The factor for determining the closest public library shall be determined by the residence of the non-resident. Nonresidents shall apply at the participating public library in the school district in which the non-resident has his or her principal residence unless, due to the commonality of community interests, library services at another library that is physically closer may better serve the needs of the non-resident.
- b) If there are two or more public libraries in the school district in which a non-resident resides, the participating public libraries in that school district, in cooperation with

- the applicable regional library systems, shall determine the appropriate library service area for non-residents to make application for a non-resident library card.
- c) If there is no participating public library in the school district in which the non-resident resides, the applicable regional library systems that serve the school district shall, in cooperation with participating libraries in the general area of the school district, determine the non-resident service area. The factor to be used for determining a non-resident service area shall be the commonality of community interests that influence the activities of all the residents of the service area.

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Metropolitan
Library
System

*Why do I have
to pay for a
Library Card?*



Metropolitan
Library
System

*Why do I have
to pay for a
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What is PL 92-0166?

Illinois Public Law 92-0166 stipulates that "A person residing outside of a public library service area must apply for a non-resident card at the public library located closest to the person's principal residence."

How do I know which library is closest to my home?

The rules currently define "closest public library" as meaning a participating public library that serves the high school district in which the non-resident resides or the library physically closest to a non-resident's primary address. Full details can be found in the Illinois State Code at 23 ILCS 3050.25. (see back of this page)

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Information provided by the State of Illinois indicates that you live in an area that does not pay taxes to support a public library. Illinois state law allows residents who do not fund a public library through taxes to purchase a card at their nearest public library



With your proof of residency, the library will issue you a card for the period of one year. This card is valid at any public library in Illinois as long as you have no outstanding fines.

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How do I determine my high school district?

Your high school or unit school district can be determined by checking your tax bill, viewing the school district maps available at <http://www.illinoismap.info/> or by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education at 312-814-2220 or <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/>.

How much will it cost to purchase a non-resident card?

The rules also provide three formulae a public library can use to determine its non-resident fee: General Mathematical Formula; Adoption of the Average Non-Resident Fee in the System Area; and Tax Bill Method. Call or visit your closest public library to determine the exact amount.

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