

WINTER HAVEN

The Chain of Lakes City

Winter Haven Public Library Card Guidelines

The Winter Haven Public Library is supported by the City of Winter Haven and Polk County taxes, making all residents eligible to receive a free library card. As a member of the Polk County Library Cooperative, Winter Haven library cards may be used at any public library in the county.

A library card can be used to check out materials; to place holds; to request interlibrary loans; to access the library's subscription databases; and also to access the Internet inside of the library.

Resident Membership: Anyone who owns or rents property within Polk County is eligible for a free library card. Photo ID is necessary at the time of application along with proof of current physical street address. The following proofs of residency forms are acceptable: driver's license, current utility bill, local personal checkbook, car registration, voter registration card, or property tax receipt.

Youth Membership: Children age 17 and under must have a parent or legal guardian accompany them at the time of application. A parent/guardian must sign the application and assume responsibility for materials borrowed on the card of the child.

Non Resident Membership: This membership is for persons residing outside of Polk County that would like to use the Winter Haven Public Library services as well as the fifteen other members of the Polk County Library Cooperative. The required identification listed above is necessary as well as a \$35.00 membership fee, renewable annually.

Reciprocal Borrowing: The Polk County Library Cooperative shares reciprocal borrowing privileges with many libraries throughout the state of Florida. Patrons with cards from any Polk County library may take their card to these counties and check out materials free of charge and vice-versa. The required identification listed above will be necessary as well as your library card. See staff for the current participating libraries, as this list is subject to change.

Misplaced/Lost Library Card: Library card holders are responsible for all items checked out on their cards. If a card is lost or stolen, the borrower is responsible for reporting the loss, and will no longer be responsible for its use from the date the loss is reported. Anything checked out on a lost or stolen card prior to its being reported is still the responsibility of the borrower.

(revision – May 2023)