

Nampa Public Library
Unattended Child and Vulnerable Adult Policy

Approved by the Board of Trustees 11.09.2015

Updated 1.9.2018

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The Nampa Public Library welcomes children and vulnerable adults to use its facilities and services. The care, safety and behavior of children or vulnerable adults using the library is the responsibility of the child or vulnerable adult's parent, guardian, teacher, custodian, or caregiver.

Young or vulnerable children or adults must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible party when in the library.

An unattended child generally is defined as:

- A. a child under the age of eight (8) who is not accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, custodian or caregiver aged twelve (12) or older.

OR

- B. a child under the age of eighteen (18) who is not accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, custodian and who: (1) does not know or have the information necessary to contact a parent, legal guardian or other responsible adult, (2) is not picked up by closing time and who needs assistance procuring transportation, (3) is alone, frightened and/or crying in the library, (4) violates the customer behavior policy but is unable to leave the library alone, (5) seems to be at risk from another person at the library, (6) is involved in a situation that is potentially harmful to the health or safety of the child or others, or (7) appears to need staff help beyond assistance with normal library services.

A vulnerable adult is an adult who: (1) is unable to reasonably care for himself/herself or follow the library's Patron Rules of Conduct policy without supervision, (2) seems to be at risk from another person at the library, or (3) is involved in a situation that is potentially harmful to the health or safety of himself/herself or others. This includes adults who are mentally or physically challenged and who need staff help beyond assistance with normal library services and are not under the direct supervision of a parent, legal guardian, or custodian. Additionally, an individual is considered a vulnerable adult when he/she is not picked up by closing time and needs assistance procuring transportation.

When an unattended child or vulnerable adult is found, or if such a child or vulnerable adult is left unattended at the library at closing time, staff will notify the parent, guardian, teacher, custodian, or caregiver to resolve the situation. If such a responsible party cannot be reached in the library or can immediately pick up the child or vulnerable adult, staff will contact the appropriate law enforcement agency to ensure protection of the child or vulnerable adult.

Staff members are not permitted to transport a child or vulnerable adult.

Parents, legal guardians, custodians, caregivers, children, and vulnerable adults who are in violation of this policy or the Patron Rules of Conduct policy are subject to suspension of library privileges.