

BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

PARENTAL ACCESS TO MINOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARY RECORDS

Bethlehem Public Library is committed to complying with New Hampshire House Bill 273, which grants parents or legal guardians access to their minor children's current borrowing records.

HB 273 amended RSA 201-D:11 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a. All library records related to a minor's current borrowing of printed library materials and audio-visual materials, such as DVDs and CDs, shall be available to either parent or the legal guardian of the minor when requested by either parent or the legal guardian of the minor, or the parent or legal guardian of the minor whose address matches that on the library account or who is listed on the library account.

273:2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

Definitions:

- **Minor:** An individual under the age of 18.
- **Parent or Legal Guardian:** An individual with legal parental rights or guardianship of a minor child.
- **Current Borrowing Records:** A list of printed library materials and audio-visual materials (DVDs, CDs) currently checked out on a minor's library card.
- **Library Records:** Any information maintained by the library that identifies a patron and their use of library resources.

The parent or legal guardian shall complete the necessary form, in person, and provide needed documentation to prove they are the parent or legal guardian. After completion of documentation, the library staff will print out the minor's current borrowing receipt.

Because we value privacy for all our patrons, if the staff member cannot confidently confirm the right to the minor's borrowing records, the request will be referred to the Library Director to complete the request. The Library Director will follow up with the adult to complete the request. The borrowing record will be printed at the time the request is complete and approved.

Staff Training:

All library staff will receive training on this policy and the relevant provisions of HB273.

Patron Privacy:

Bethlehem Public Library is committed to protecting the privacy of all patrons, including minors. While complying with HB273, staff will strive to minimize the disclosure of information and will only provide the information explicitly required by law.

Approved 12/8/2025