

Piedmont Virginia Community College

Section I – Academic Affairs & Workforce Development Policies

I – 81.0 Circulation Materials, Use of Equipment and Space, and Operations

Effective Date: August 2008

Last Revised: March 2026

Responsible Dept.: Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development

1. Purpose

The following policies govern the circulation of materials, the use of equipment and space, and operational policies in the Betty Sue Jessup Library and apply to currently enrolled PVCC students, faculty, staff, and Virginia residents ages 16 and older.

2. Policy Statement

PVCC students, faculty, and staff automatically have library privileges. All currently enrolled students and PVCC faculty and staff must present a valid PVCC identification card to check out library materials. Virginia residents must bring official photo identification and verification of Virginia residency to the circulation desk to have a record created for them.

3. Definitions

N/A

4. Applicability

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, and students currently enrolled at PVCC.

5. Responsibilities

The Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development is responsible for the implementation of this policy/

PVCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. View the full nondiscrimination statement and find contacts at pvcc.edu/nondiscrimination.

6. Procedures for Implementation

6.1 Use of Circulating Materials

- a) Books in the circulating collections – for students, the 28-day loan period may be renewed three times; all books are due at the end of the semester, and there is a limit of 25 books. For Faculty and Staff, the 28-day loan period automatically renews, with a limit of 25 books. For the Community, the 28-day loan period renews once, with a limit of 10 books.
- b) Periodicals – For students, there is a 7-day loan period that can be renewed once, with a limit of 10 issues, and the current issue is available for in-library use only. For Faculty and Staff, there is a 7-day loan period that can be renewed once, with a limit of 10 issues, and the current issue is available for in-library use only. For the Community, there is a 7-day loan period that can be renewed once, with a limit of 10 issues, and the current issue is available for in-library use only.
- c) DVDs – For Students, DVDs are available for in-library use only. For Faculty and Staff, DVDs are available for on campus or in-library use only. For the Community, DVDs are available for in-library use only.
- d) Equipment, including laptops, headphones, and phone chargers (excluding G.O.A.L Program laptops and classroom equipment) – For Students, equipment must be returned 30 minutes before the library closes. For Faculty and Staff, only headphones and chargers can be used. For the Community, only headphones and chargers can be used.
- e) Reserves, including textbooks and Anatomy & Physiology models – For Students, in-library use only, unless otherwise specified by the Faculty member, with a 2-hour time limit. For Faculty and Staff, available for on-campus or in-library use only. For the Community, use of reserves is not permitted.

Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

All circulating materials are subject to recall and are due as requested. Circulation of materials ends 15 minutes before the library closes.

Holds for circulating materials may be placed on materials by calling, emailing, or online. Items on hold are kept for two weeks before returning them to the shelf.

The library does not maintain users' circulation histories, nor will a user's circulation history be shared with anyone outside the library staff and the College Business Office unless the library is presented with a proper court order.

6.2 Overdue Process

Three notices are sent to students when an item is overdue. The last notice is sent 28 days after the due date and contains the actual replacement cost for the item, or a minimum of \$50.00 if the item is out of print; at this time, the item is considered lost. At the end of the

corresponding semester, students will have an administrative hold placed on their record, and their account will be turned over to a collection agency and the State Department of Taxation's Debt Setoff program, which allows any state refunds or payments to be garnished until replacement fees are recouped.

Administrative holds may be removed temporarily to allow students to register for classes; contact the circulation staff if needed. Students may request a waiver for any replacement or overdue fees by contacting the Director of Library Services. The Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services ultimately determines if the fee will be waived.

Items due in a previous semester or those marked lost cannot be renewed online, via email, or over the telephone. The student must bring the item to the library to renew it. Having overdue or lost items does not prohibit students from checking out additional materials from the library.

If the student returns an overdue item undamaged at any time, all fees will be waived, and the student's record will be cleared. Students who lose or damage books must pay the replacement fee determined by the library. Damage is defined as anything that prevents the item from further circulation. The library will not accept replacements.

Faculty and staff members must return all library materials or pay replacement costs for lost materials before leaving the employ of the College. Community members will be billed a replacement charge for unreturned materials.

6.3 Reserves

Faculty members may place books, folders, study guides, and videos on reserve for their classes. Reserve items are kept at the circulation desk and may be checked out for use in the library. There is a two-hour time limit on reserve items. The library does not renew or accept hold requests for reserved items.

The library does not acquire textbooks for the Reserves collection using library funds. Faculty members who wish to place textbooks on reserve must legally obtain a student edition. Editions may not be marked as "instructor's copy" or "review copy." Consumables such as workbooks will not be put on reserve, nor will the library request textbooks through interlibrary loan to place them on reserve.

Print copies of articles may be placed on reserve for one semester. Further use requires copyright permission.

6.4 G.O.A.L Program

The G.O.A.L. Program allows students to check out a laptop for an entire semester. The laptops are loaned at the beginning of the semester and are due on the last day of exams. Students must apply each semester to participate in the program.

Students sign a contract detailing their responsibilities and the associated fines. The

contract stipulates:

- The laptop is the student's responsibility, and the student is liable for any damage.
- Students will be held responsible for any actual damage or replacement costs sustained while it is in their possession. Repairs covered under warranty will result in no charge.
- The library and the Department of Public Safety & Campus Police must be notified immediately if the laptop is stolen or lost.
- If the laptop is not returned by the due date or upon withdrawal from all classes, then the student will be charged a fine of \$2.50/business day. The maximum accruable fine is \$2,000, the total replacement cost. Fines do not accrue when the College is closed.
- Students must return the laptop, charger, and case by the due date. If the laptop is not returned within seven days of the due date, the student forfeits their ability to participate in the G.O.A.L. Program in the future, and the laptop will be locked, preventing further use.
- Overdue fines and replacement fees for the cases and chargers do not prohibit students from checking out a laptop in a future semester.
- Students will be charged the replacement fee for the laptop if it is not returned.
- The student agrees to abide by the PVCC Computer Use Policy and copyright and software laws.
- The student will not hold the College responsible should any data loss occur.
- The student is responsible for the replacement fee if the computer is returned more than a year late.

Students who cannot return the laptop by the due date should contact the library before the due date to make alternate arrangements; otherwise, overdue fines will accrue.

6.5 Classroom Equipment for Student Use

Authorized students enrolled in certain classes may check out equipment for use outside of the library. Example equipment includes but is not limited to DSLR cameras and video cameras. The loan periods are determined in conjunction with the faculty.

Students sign a contract detailing their responsibilities and the associated fines, which stipulates:

- The equipment is the student's responsibility, and the student is liable for any damage.
- Students will be held responsible for any actual damage or replacement costs

sustained while the equipment is in their possession.

- The library and the Department of Public Safety & Campus Police must be notified immediately if the equipment is stolen or lost.
- If the equipment and all its peripherals are not returned by the due date, then the student will be charged a \$2.50/business day fine, up to the replacement cost of the equipment. Fines do not accrue when the College is closed.
- Overdue fines and replacement fees for the equipment do not prohibit students from checking out equipment in a future semester.
- If the equipment is never returned, division approval is needed to check out additional equipment in subsequent semesters.
- The student will not hold the College responsible should any data loss occur.

Students who cannot return the equipment by the due date should contact the library before the due date to make alternate arrangements; otherwise, overdue fines will accrue.

6.6 Computer Use

The Betty Sue Jessup Library has desktop and laptop computers. The primary purpose of having computers in the library is to assist students with research related to their coursework at the College. At times when the demand for computers exceeds availability, priority will be as follows:

- Currently enrolled students and faculty and staff engaged in research for coursework or business of the College.
- Currently enrolled students and faculty and staff conducting research not related to coursework.
- Community members engaged in research.

The library staff enforces these priorities by limiting computer time to 30 minutes, restricting use to persons with higher priority, or restricting activities not related to research. Any other use of computers must be approved in advance by the library staff.

Patrons should understand and abide by the provisions of the College's Computer Use Policy and the PVCC Computing Handbook.

Only currently enrolled students may check out laptop computers on a first-come, first-served basis for use in the library. In the event of loss or damage to a laptop computer, the borrower will be charged the replacement cost of a comparable item. Laptops must be returned 30 minutes before closing.

6.7 Group Study Rooms

The six group study rooms are primarily for student groups to use or for individuals to

connect to a scheduled online. Students may sign up in advance on the library's Web site to reserve a room for up to three hours per day, for a total of nine hours per week. If a student is more than 20 minutes late for their reservation or swaps rooms with another student without informing library staff, they forfeit the reservation.

Individuals may use a room but must leave if the room is reserved. Individuals may only reserve a room for class-related recordings or to attend a scheduled online.

Faculty members are not allowed to reserve the group study rooms, nor are the rooms to be booked for meetings. Faculty members may meet with groups of students to review for tests or exams, but a student must reserve a room for these sessions. These rooms are not to be used for teaching on a regular basis. The Library Classroom/Quiet Area is only used for library instruction and quiet study; it cannot be used for teaching on a regular basis or instructor-led review sessions.

7. Sanctions for Violation of Policy

N/A

8. Other General Information

- Cell phones must always be silent.
- Patrons may bring food and drink into the library. Open containers are not permitted in the computer area.
- In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to study and research, excessive noise is prohibited.