

Hopkins District Library is now Fine-Free!



What does that mean?

Any book you check out that belongs to Hopkins District Library will no longer be charged a daily late fine if it is not returned by the due date. If you check books out from other libraries (through Lakeland or MeL) those books may still accrue late fines depending on what library owns the book.

Why aren't you charging late fines anymore?

Research has shown that charging late fines doesn't increase the number or timeliness of items returned, and it actually keeps people from using the library who otherwise would. In an effort to make the library a more welcoming place for the entire community, we will no longer charge daily late fees for overdue materials. Late fines make up less than 1% of the library's budget, and it's more important for everyone to be able to freely access information than the small monetary boost provided by fines.

Does this mean books have no due date?

No, materials you check out still have a due date. We ask you to return (or renew) the item by that date. Items that are not returned (or are returned damaged) will eventually be billed, and you will be unable to check out more books until those overdue items are returned or paid for.

What will happen to the fines I already owe?

Past fines for overdue materials will be forgiven. Past charges for lost or damaged books are still your responsibility.

What about mobile hotspots?

Because of the high demand and the monthly cost to the library, mobile hotspots will still accrue late fees at the rate of \$1/day.

Who should I talk to if I have questions?

If you have questions, you can email the Library Director, Kevin Meyer (hopkm@llcoop.org), or talk to any of the library staff.