

LIBRARY MEETING ROOM APPLICATION

Organization name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Contact person _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Alternative contact _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Meeting topic _____

Expected number of attendees _____

Single use: Meeting date _____

Start time* _____ End time* _____

Multiple uses: Meeting date(s) _____

Start time* _____ End time* _____

* Meetings may be scheduled during the library's open hours only. Meetings must adjourn at least 15 minutes before the library's scheduled closing time.

As an authorized adult representative of the above organization, I hereby apply for the use of the meeting room as indicated above. I have read **Public use of library meeting rooms** and agree that they will be carefully observed. If a meeting is cancelled, I agree to notify the library as far in advance as possible.

Signed _____ Date _____

Library location _____

Please note: Meeting room reservations are not confirmed until this completed form has been reviewed and approved by designated library personnel.

Appeal process: Groups or individuals who are denied use of a library meeting room may appeal in writing to the Director of Libraries.

Please mail, email or fax completed applications.

Mail: Multnomah County Library, 205 NE Russell St., Portland, OR 97212

Email: meetingroomapproval@multcolib.org

Fax: 503.988.5226

F-MISC-11
08.19



FOR LIBRARY USE ONLY

Application approved

Application denied

Reason for denial:

Signed _____ Title _____ Date _____

Public use of library meeting rooms

In keeping with its mission, Multnomah County Library offers meeting room space to the public for educational, cultural, civic and recreational purposes, subject to the rules outlined below.

Multnomah County Library supports and endorses the American Library Association's **Library Bill of Rights**, which states:

"Libraries which maintain meeting spaces, exhibit space or other facilities open to the public should make them available on equal terms to all persons, regardless of their beliefs or affiliations."

In keeping with the role of a limited public forum, public libraries have traditionally provided free meeting room space for community groups when space is available.

The fact that an organization is permitted to meet at the library does not constitute an endorsement of the organization's beliefs by the library, its staff, its advisory board or the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners.

Meeting room use rules

1. Library or Multnomah County programs and sponsored events have priority in the use of meeting room space. The library reserves the right to reschedule confirmed meeting room reservations to accommodate library-sponsored programs and events. Cancellations by either the group or the library must be made 24 hours in advance of the meeting date.
2. Reservations of meeting rooms may be made two months in advance, with the exception of the small room (2B) at Central Library, which may be reserved as a quiet room no more than one week prior. Use is granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Use of the meeting rooms may be limited to once per month for each group, due to limited meeting room space.
3. All meetings must be open to the public.
4. No admission fees may be charged or solicited. No donations of money or other property may be solicited or collected from the audience. No promotions or sales of services, products, merchandise, materials or other items are allowed. The Constitution of Oregon, Article XI, Section 9, precludes a government agency like the library from providing financial aid to private enterprise absent a clear public purpose.
5. Sales of services, products, merchandise, materials or items or solicitations for donations authorized pursuant to a library-sponsored program or event, or on behalf of the Friends of the Library or The Library Foundation, are permitted.
6. As described in number 4 above, commercial use of library meeting rooms is generally not permitted. However, a commercial entity or professional practitioner may use a library meeting room to provide an educational program open to the general public related to his or her field of expertise. In such a case, an educational opportunity offered by an expert provides benefit to the public. During such a program, no attempt may be made to sell, at the time of the program or in the future, a specific product or service offered by the entity or practitioner or any other commercial interest. Therefore, the individual or entity offering the program may not hand out business cards or brochures promoting any business, product or service and may not solicit personal information (names, addresses, phone numbers, etc.) from the program participants, either as part of a pre-registration process or during the program itself.
7. Musical recitals and individual practice sessions are not permitted. Rooms may not be used for birthday and anniversary parties, weddings, funerals, or other personal celebrations.
8. Neighborhood library meeting rooms in locations that do not have quiet study rooms may not be reserved as "quiet rooms" but may be used as such on a drop-in basis if not in use.
9. Meeting rooms are available during hours when the library is open. Meetings must adjourn 15 minutes before closing time.
10. In publicizing a meeting to be held in a library meeting room, the sponsoring group must be clearly identified. Groups must not imply library sponsorship of their program or organization in their publicity.

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11. With prior approval, groups may post signs in library-approved locations.
12. Tables and chairs are available at each location. No other equipment is provided. The group is responsible for setting up, rearranging, and taking down tables and chairs. Meeting rooms must be left clean, in good repair and in the same condition as found. Any group that damages library property will be liable for costs incurred in connection with such damage and may lose the privilege of using meeting rooms in the future.
13. The library is not responsible for theft of or damage to property brought into a library meeting room.
14. An adult age 18 or older must sign the **Library Meeting Room Application**, and at least one adult age 18 or older must be present when youth groups use the meeting rooms.
15. Each group is responsible for ensuring that attendance at its meeting does not exceed the maximum occupancy for the meeting room as set by the Fire Marshall.
16. All groups, clubs, entities or individuals using a library meeting room must comply with these rules and with the **Multnomah County Library rules**. Failure to comply with the rules may lead to immediate termination of the meeting, exclusion of individuals from library premises pursuant to the rules, and/or loss of future meeting room use privileges.

Meeting room use by other government agencies (e.g. city, county, state and federal)

The library makes its meeting rooms available for use by other government agencies, or their contractors, when possible. Library and county programs and sponsored events have priority for use of meeting room space, and demand by the public for meeting room space may also affect how frequently library meeting rooms are available to other government agencies. Use by other government agencies is subject to the above rules, with some exceptions:

1. Another government agency, or contractor working on behalf of a government-funded agency, that has booked space within two months of the use date will be considered to be confirmed in the use of the space.
2. Reservations of meeting rooms may be made four months in advance.
3. Meetings booked by other government agencies do not need to be open to the public.
4. If the public will attend a meeting, meeting rooms are available to other government agencies during hours when the library is open. Agencies holding meetings open only to their own staff may be approved to use the meeting room during hours the library is staffed but not open to the public. An agency that wishes to use a library meeting room during hours the library is not staffed will be referred to the Central Library Director or Neighborhood Libraries Director.

Procedures

1. All groups must complete an **Library Meeting Room Application** and review the meeting room rules and procedures contained in **Public use of library meeting rooms** (latest revision 05.05.10).
2. Application forms are available at all library locations where meeting rooms are available and on the library website.
3. Submit the application at the library where the proposed meeting will be held. Applications are kept on file and must be updated annually. The library supervisor or manager at the location where the meeting is requested will review and approve or deny all applications based on the **Public use of library meeting room rules**. When in doubt, the application will be referred to the Neighborhood Libraries director or the Central Library director for consultation.
4. Any applicant denied use of a library meeting room may appeal the denial in writing to the director of libraries. The director will review the application and respond in writing to the applicant.