
Multnomah County Library Priorities 2020–2021

Multnomah County Library’s mission: Empowering our community to learn and create

Multnomah County Library serves our community based on a set of priorities that change over time and on four pillars that will not change.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic we face profound challenges now and for the foreseeable future. People of color and communities subjected to marginalization are experiencing higher risk and worse outcomes from COVID-19 as a result of systemic inequities. Multnomah County Library will focus library resources on our community’s recovery, starting with those most deeply impacted by the crisis. Equity is at the core of the library’s response, and the priorities below center equity and lived experience.

■ Our pillars:

- *Free access for all*
- *A trusted guide for learning*
- *The leading advocate for reading*
- *A champion for equity and inclusion*

■ Our priorities:

Helping people find work and develop career skills

We help people look for work

We offer resources to learn new job skills

We help people with resumes and applications

Supporting education and learning for all ages

We support teachers and educators in their work

We offer students tools and resources to help virtual and in-person learning

We provide tools and help for lifelong learning

Enhancing and diversifying virtual services

We will expand digital collections and resources

We will increase virtual services in the most spoken languages in our county

We will engage more diverse voices and communities online

Technology training, access, and assistance for all

We work to make technology available and useful for those who need it most

We collaborate with partners to provide devices, access and training

We amplify the urgency of digital inclusion through advocacy and action

Creating and maintaining safe and healthy spaces

We serve people in buildings that are safe and healthy

We follow public health guidance and use best practices

We plan for future library spaces that support personal and public health