

Fines and Fees Policy

300 W. Merrill St. Birmingham, MI 48009 | 248-647-1700 | www.baldwinlib.org

In keeping with the Baldwin Public Library's (BPL) core values of equitable service and barrier-free access to information and services, BPL will no longer impose or collect fines for the late return of materials.

Regulations

1. BPL does not charge overdue fines for borrowed materials.
2. Once available renewals have been utilized, BPL will notify a patron that an item is overdue. Notifications will be sent to the email address, cell phone, or mailing address listed on the patron's account. It is the patron's responsibility to notify the Library of any changes in their contact information or notification method. The following notices and bills will be sent to patrons when an item is:
 - a. Seven (7) and fourteen (14) days overdue: email or text notice
 - b. Twenty-one (21) days overdue: emailed notice
 - c. Thirty (30) days overdue: bill for the replacement cost of the item emailed to the address on file.
 - d. Sixty (60) days overdue: collection notice for the replacement cost of the item will be mailed to the address on file. Accounts owing more than fifty dollars (\$50) will be sent to collections if the materials are not returned or paid for after thirty (30) days from the billing date. This information is not reported to credit bureaus.
3. A ten dollar (\$10) nonrefundable collection agency processing fee will be added to the patron's account for items sixty (60) days overdue.
4. Replacement Cost fees are refundable (if paid) or waived (if unpaid) only until the items are one hundred twenty (120) days overdue.
5. Any patron with an item that is not returned within ten (10) days of the due date shall forfeit all account privileges until the item is returned.
6. Any patron with an account balance of ten dollars (\$10) or more shall forfeit borrowing new items or using public computers until the charge is below ten dollars (\$10).
7. Patrons have the option of paying fines by credit card, cash, or check at the Library. Patrons may also pay from their online Library accounts.
8. Patrons experiencing unusual difficulty in returning their materials or paying their fines should contact the Library Director.