

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. After 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 BPL 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: mailed notice
 - c. Thirty (30) days overdue: bill for the replacement cost of the item mailed to the address on file.
 - d. Sixty (60) days overdue: If the total fees owed on the account is more than fifty dollars (\$50), a collection notice for the replacement cost of the item will be mailed to the address on file. This information is not reported to credit bureaus.
3. 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.
4. Any patron with an account balance of ten dollars (\$10) or more shall forfeit borrowing additional items, electronic items, and using public computers until the charge is below ten dollars (\$10).
5. Should an account be sent to collections due to items sixty (60) days overdue, a ten dollar (\$10) nonrefundable collection agency processing fee will be added to the patron's account. At this point, all fees owed must be paid down to \$0 before account privileges are restored.
6. Replacement Cost fees are refundable (if paid) or waived (if unpaid) only when the item in question is less than one hundred twenty (120) days overdue.
7. Patrons have the option of paying fees by credit card, cash, or check at BPL. Patrons may also pay from their online BPL account.
8. Patrons experiencing unusual difficulty in returning their materials or paying their fees should contact the Library Director.