

Sample messages to provide to library staff, boards or patrons¹

GENERIC Statewide or Local use

Publishers are limiting your use of eBooks and eAudiobooks through libraries.

Readers are finding titles listed as “not available” under the new policies the major publishers have for libraries. The new terms restrict how libraries can purchase and circulate eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Here’s the situation:

- None of the big publishers are selling or licensing eBooks and eAudiobooks to libraries in the same way they do print copies.
- Libraries are limited on the number of copies they can purchase, as well as when and how long they can be active in the library’s catalog.
- In some cases libraries are being denied access to the electronic new releases.
- These changes will make it impossible for libraries to provide equal access to information and hurt Hoosiers who depend on the library the most.

Libraries have promoted eBooks and eAudiobooks usage for many years, long before it was as popular as it is today. In fact, more than 9.3 million eBooks and 2.2 million eAudiobooks are in the collection and nearly 15 million e-materials were borrowed from Indiana’s public libraries last year. The costs associated with eBooks and eAudiobooks are rising as well. Libraries are often required to pay several times the retail price and now may be forced to re-purchase popular titles every two years. We hope to modify these new policies by working with the publishers and authors, as well as library consortia, our state and national library associations, and other stakeholders. We will keep you updated on the situation.

Thank you for your support of Indiana’s libraries.

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FOR LOCAL CUSTOMIZATION WITH SPECIFIC LOCAL STATISTICS

Publishers are limiting your use of eBooks and eAudiobooks through the [your library name].

Readers are finding titles listed as “not available” under the new policies the major publishers have for libraries. The new terms restrict how libraries can purchase and circulate eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Here’s the situation:

- None of the big publishers are selling or licensing eBooks and eAudiobooks to libraries in the same way they do print copies.
- Libraries are limited on the number of copies they can purchase, as well as when and how long they can be active in the library’s catalog.
- In some cases libraries are being denied access to the electronic new releases.
- These changes will make it impossible for libraries to provide equal access to information and hurt Hoosiers who depend on the library the most.

[Your library name] has promoted eBooks and eAudiobooks usage for more than [insert #] years, long before it was as popular as it is today. In fact, [insert #] eBooks and [insert #] eAudiobooks were borrowed from the [insert library name] last year. That’s a [insert #] percent increase from 2017. The costs associated with eBooks and eAudiobooks are rising as well. Libraries are often required to pay several times the retail price and now may be forced to re-purchase popular titles every two years. [insert library name] spent \$[insert dollar amount] in 2018 on eBooks and eAudiobooks, an increase of [insert #] percent over the previous year. We hope to modify these new policy changes by working with the publishers and authors, as well as library consortia, our state and national library associations, and other stakeholders. We will keep you updated.

Thank you for your support of [insert your library name].

¹ This document is adapted by Indiana Library Federation from a document developed by Ohio Library Council.