

PALATINE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Materials Assistant

DEPT.: Circulation

REPORTS TO: Circulation Assistant Manager

CLASSIFICATION: Non-Exempt

Objective:

Perform duties at check-in station in the Circulation Department and provide clerical assistance as necessary, in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Library District.

Duties:

1. Check in and rough sort all library material.
2. Sort materials after they are checked in, and place them in order on carts before shelving.
3. Shelf materials returned to the library, and used within the library.
4. Empty book chutes.
5. Make decisions regarding the condition of library material returned.
6. Answer phones and handle patron inquiries.
7. Pull hold items from collection using appropriate reports.
8. Place and fill patron holds, fill patron WebPac-requested holds, pull items from collection and trigger holds as assigned.
9. Provide directional information to patrons and assistance at Express Checkout stations as requested.
10. Clean up and straighten materials in the department as needed.
11. Assists with closing tasks including picking up abandoned materials and straightening furniture in public areas.
12. Shift library materials when needed.
13. Understand and enforce the Library's policies and procedures while safeguarding confidential and restricted information.
14. Participate in library meetings and serve on library committees as assigned.

Performs other miscellaneous duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education:

High school diploma or equivalent.

Experience:

Customer service experience in a similar environment preferred.
Bi-lingual preferred.

Skills:

Office & Library

- Ability to work with efficiency, skill, accuracy and appropriate speed
- Knowledge of and ability to carry out policies and procedures
- Ability to read library material labels in order to comprehend and put in correct order
- Ability to alphabetize correctly and to understand numerical arrangement utilizing the decimal point (Dewey Decimal Classification)
- Ability to accurately retrieve information and materials from shelves

Communication

- Ability to work collaboratively as a member of a team
- Communicates effectively in English, both orally and in writing
- Ability to read and understand written information and instructions
- Ability to read information from computer monitors
- Ability to adapt communication style
- Ability to communicate skillfully, accurately and pleasantly in person, on the telephone, via email, and online

Customer Service

- Ability to use good judgment following procedures in support of library policies
- Ability to empathize and relate to patron needs, exploring beyond the initial question to determine the actual information desired
- Ability to work effectively and courteously with the public and staff
- Ability to work efficiently and calmly during busy periods and with frequent interruptions
- Ability to handle emergency situations in a calm, capable manner
- Ability to provide excellent customer service at all times

Organizational

- Ability to handle multiple tasks and efficiently organize work
- Ability to exercise initiative and to make appropriate independent decisions
- Ability to work in a supportive manner with colleagues and managers
- Ability to consistently complete and follow-up on departmental jobs
- Knowledge of library policies and procedures
- Knowledge of materials/services available at the Library

- Knowledge of physical organization of the building and functions of the various departments within the Library

Technology

- Ability to type and enter data into computer accurately
- Knowledge of Windows platforms and Windows Office Suite (Word, and, Outlook)
- Fluency in successfully searching library catalogs
- Experience with integrated library systems (Innovative Sierra preferred)
- Demonstrates ease and comfort with emerging technologies

Supervisory Responsibility:

None.

Contacts:

Internal:

Library staff and management

External:

Patrons

Physical Requirements:

The physical requirements described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the functions of this job.

Physical requirements include: speaking, hearing, vision and keyboarding ability sufficient to adequately perform the job, ability to push/pull up to 50 pounds and lift and carry up to 20 pounds occasionally. Duties will require employee to bend, stoop, reach, and stand for extended periods of time.

Working Conditions:

Work is performed in a typical library environment. Full or part-time position. Will require some weekend and evening work.