



Riverside County Library System

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM TO RE-OPEN LIBRARIES WITH LIMITED SERVICES

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA (October 1, 2020) – The Riverside County Library System (RCLS) plans to re-open many of its branches to the public beginning October 5, 2020. The library will offer modified services amid new COVID-19 health regulations with physical distancing measures.

During the modified service, patrons will have limited access to the interiors of the libraries for one hour. Library services are currently limited to the borrowing and returning of materials and accessing public computers.

The libraries have implemented health and safety precautions including requiring masks to be worn by staff and patrons, added wall-mounted hand sanitizer stations, sneeze guards at all transaction counters, floor decals to encourage physical distancing, reduced the amount of available public computers to safely and properly distance patrons, and removed all common area lounge furniture. Based on the number of computers available and space needed for browsing the bookshelves, each location has determined the maximum capacity allowed inside each branch. The libraries will resume normal business hours and will continue to offer digital and curbside service during this time. Additional services and resources will resume as soon as libraries are able to do so in a safe manner.

County Librarian, Barbara Howison, said, “We are really excited to have patrons coming back into the libraries. Our online resources and services have thrived through the pandemic as well as popular programs such as virtual story times. Our staff misses having those day-to-day interactions with the community, and I know our community misses the libraries, too. Our priority remains keeping Riverside County Library System patrons, volunteers and employees safe and well-informed while doing what we can to help minimize the potential spread of the Coronavirus.”

To find out if your library is open for in-person service, please check the website at www.rivlib.net or by calling 951-369-3003. RCLS is asking all patrons, volunteers and employees to wear face coverings and continue to follow health and safety standards when entering the facilities.

The Riverside County Library System is a division of Riverside County Business and Community Services. For more information, please contact the Riverside County Library System at (951) 369-3003 or visit www.rivlib.net.

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