

Welcome to Pierce County Library System



Welcome to the world of information and imagination that Pierce County Library System will bring to you!

Online catalog

- Through the website, browse the Library's online catalog of books and other items.
- From the catalog select the items you want and then pick them up at any Pierce County Library.
- Conveniently check account and renew items online.
- Mobile catalog.

Your Library serves you in your community

In your community

The Library will take resources for job seekers on the road via mobile computer labs.



Child care offerings

Staff prepares books and materials for licensed child care centers and home day cares, and offers free STARS classes and parenting workshops on early literacy.

Bookmobile

The Bookmobile provides weekly and bi-monthly library service to communities in remote and isolated areas, as well as communities hardest hit by the economic downturn. It brings books, magazines, audio tapes, CDs and DVDs along with staff to answer questions and help people find good books to read. The bookmobile provides more than 20 stops where customers may pick up requested items and return library materials. Events and services are also available to kids and teenagers through the bookmobile.

Explorer Kids' Bookmobile

The Explorer Kids' Bookmobile partners with schools and other agencies serving youth to bring weekly library services to children and teens in low-income neighborhoods. Explorer helps build early literacy skills and supports and promotes reading to assist children in being successful in school.

Adult care facility and homebound services

People who are confined to their homes can have books, music, movies and other materials delivered directly to their home. The Library brings people in adult care facilities, retirement and group homes books, audiobooks and more.

Library System

Pierce County Library System serves 560,000 people in unincorporated areas of the county plus 15 cities and towns that annexed to the Library for service: Bonney Lake, Buckley, DuPont, Eatonville, Edgewood, Fife, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, South Prairie, Steilacoom, Sumner, University Place and Wilkeson.

Borrowing from other libraries

If you live in Pierce County Library's service area, you may also get a free card at any of the following public libraries and vice versa; if you live in one of the following libraries' service areas, you may get a free card from Pierce County Library.

- Fort Vancouver Regional Library
- King County Library System
- Kitsap Regional Library System
- North Central Regional Library
- North Olympic Library System
- Puyallup Public Library
- Roy Public Library
- Sno-Isle Regional Library System
- Tacoma Public Library
- The Seattle Public Library
- Timberland Regional Library

Hearing/visually impaired

- The Library can be contacted through the Washington Relay TTY 711 communication device for the hearing-impaired.
- The Library also offers assistive/adaptive technologies for the visually-impaired at some library locations.

Something for everyone

The broad range of print, electronic and audiovisual material offered by Pierce County Library reflects the great diversity of interests and opinions in Pierce County communities.

Parents and legal guardians should help guide and participate in their children's use of the Library.

In compliance with the federal Children's Internet Protection Act, all Internet access through computer stations is filtered to block out material inappropriate for children. Customers age 17 and older may select either filtered or unfiltered access.

Helping the Library

Pierce County Library Foundation

The Pierce County Library Foundation raises funds for the Library System, including an Adopt a Book program. Through its active volunteer board of directors, the Foundation encourages charitable gifts, which extend library programs and services beyond tax-based funding sources.
www.piercecountylibrary.org/donate

Friends groups

All libraries have Friends of the Library groups who sponsor special events and donate books, furnishings and other items. Membership is open to all. Gifts of books, magazines, movies and music for library use or for Friends' fundraising book sales are accepted at all libraries.

Volunteers

You have numerous opportunities to become a valued member of the Library's volunteers. If you enjoy helping in a positive, idea-rich environment and want to make a difference in your community please share your time and talents as a volunteer. Applications are available at all libraries.



GET THE CARD! • www.piercecountylibrary.org • 253-536-6500

To request this document in an alternate format, call 253-548-3426, or Washington Relay TTY 711.

PCLS 11 PS 5/11 (15M)

We are the community's choice for the discovery and exchange of information and ideas.

Your Library card brings free access

- More than 1.3 million books and other materials for babies, kids, teens and adults: best-sellers, large-print books, newspapers, magazines, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs and readalongs (children's books with recordings of stories).
- Live online help with homework from professional tutors.
- Online help for writing resumes, planning careers and getting jobs.
- Downloadable audiobooks, e-books and music.
- Credible, reliable information from online e-sources, subscription magazines, personal investment resources, car repair manuals, encyclopedias and other resources.



DVD sections are popular with families.

Your Library serves you in your library locations

17 Library locations and more

Visit any Pierce County Library and you may check out books, movies, music and more with your library card!

Answers and information

- Staff answer your questions, help you find information and good books to read, help you use computers, get materials from other libraries, and choose books, music and movies.
- You may also ask questions via mail, phone or email.
- All locations provide information books and other resources such as atlases, dictionaries, almanacs and encyclopedias.
- Staff teach computer classes.

Free Internet access

All Pierce County Libraries offer computers with Internet connections as well as wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi).

Services for youth

- Staff is specially trained to help children, young adults, parents and caregivers find appropriate print and audiovisual materials.
- Early learning computers help build reading skills in toddlers to age 8.
- Free events include story times, summer reading program, teen writing and art contests, gaming activities as well as local programming and book clubs.



Story times for ages 0 - 6.

Job and Business Centers

All Pierce County Libraries can give you:

- Books and materials to check out, from how to start a job search to what to wear to win the job.
- Computers, printers and fax machines to use.
- Many also offer computer classes.
- Dedicated website: www.piercecountylibraryjbc.org

Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Parkland/Spanaway, South Hill, Sumner and University Place Pierce County Libraries offer Job and Business Centers dedicated to help people improve their job skills, search for and get jobs, as well as start and grow successful small businesses.



World languages

- Most library locations offer books and other popular and informational materials in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish or Vietnamese.
- Computers at larger libraries offer an option to search the Internet in Spanish or Korean.

Learning languages

- Learn new languages online. English speakers may learn many world languages ideal for travelers or more in-depth learning. Learn English through specialized English as a Second Language Courses.

Meeting rooms

- Meeting rooms for public use may be reserved online in advance for all library locations (except DuPont, Orting and Tillicum) and for the Library's Processing and Administrative Center.
- The rooms have chairs, tables and some audiovisual equipment. Most libraries have smaller study rooms, too.

Equipment

- All libraries have coin-operated photocopiers, and most locations with meeting rooms have overhead projectors, screens, TVs, and, in some cases, DVD players.
- Coin-operated microfilm reader/printers are available at Gig Harbor, Lakewood and South Hill Pierce County Libraries.

Your Library serves you in your home

Online services

With your library card you can access all online services for free – 24/7. Some of the services include:

- **Downloadable audiobooks and e-books** – Thousands of book choices for all ages.
- **Downloadable music** – More than 500,000 songs.
- **Book, audio and DVD lists/newsletters** – Sends reading suggestions directly to your email or via RSS.

- **Mobile catalog**
- **School Accelerated Reader Lists Online** – Read the Book provides searchable lists of books from participating local schools' Accelerated Reader lists.
- **E-sources** – Variety of online resources including Consumer Reports, Morning Star, Valueline, car repair information, language learning and genealogy.

Online homework help

- Every day from 1 to 10 p.m., you can get live online help from professional tutors, who can help you in math, science, social studies and English. Also available for Spanish-speaking students.
- Tutors help kindergarten through college-age students. Also, adults may receive online help in a variety of subjects.
- Skills practice allows students to access practice worksheets for specific skills.
- 24-hour writing lab where tutors review and assist students with their papers.
- www.piercecountylibrary.org, search site: homework



Job and business help

- Dedicated website: www.piercecountylibraryjbc.org
- Resume and cover letter writing and designing help.
- Live, online coaching from experts for every stage of the job search, including career coaching and constructive suggestions on resumes and cover letters.
- Practice and feedback for interviews.
- Local job search links.

Ask a librarian

Email a librarian for help finding information or answers to your questions at webref@piercecountylibrary.org.

Library website

- With your library card you have access 24/7 to resources through the Library's website @ www.piercecountylibrary.org.
- Find out about library events and services.
- Rate and review your favorite books, movies and music in the Library's online catalog.



Librarians help you find books for research.

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