

## Trustee Orientation Policy

**Effective date:** 06-14-2012

**Last revised:** 07-20-2022

**Last reviewed:** 06-13-2024

The Jessamine County Public Library recognizes the importance of Board member orientation to the Library's efficient operation. Once a Library Board member has been appointed and taken the oath of office, the Board member will go through an orientation process that encompasses the information and tools needed to understand the duties and responsibilities of being a Board member. This orientation process will be conducted collaboratively by the Executive Director, President, and the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives Regional Consultant.

While not a requirement, previous participation on the Advisory Board can be beneficial to potential Trustees. Once the new Board member has been appointed, the Executive Director or President will contact the Board member to welcome the member to the Board and set up an appointment to have an orientation session. The Executive Director will assist in scheduling an opportunity for the regional consultant to provide additional orientation information in conjunction with or in addition to the Library orientation.

Board member orientation includes introducing the Board member to the following documents, as well as any other documents necessary for compliance with Kentucky law governing libraries and information specific to the Jessamine County Public Library:

- The Kentucky Public Library Trustee Manual
- A list of Board members with their contact information, terms of office, and offices held, and
- The location and schedule of Board meetings, Board bylaws and policies.

Documents each Board member must receive within 60 days of their appointment shall be included at the orientation: *Your Duty Under the Law*; *Managing Government Records*; and the Proof of Receipt to acknowledge that those two documents have been received. When the Proof of Receipt has been signed, copies of these documents will be retained by the Library.

Additional documents that shall be provided by the Executive Director as part of the Board member orientation process may include the following documents, among others:

- The Library's latest Annual Report
- The Library's long-range or strategic plan
- The Library's current and previous year's budget
- The Library's tax rate (taxing districts only)
- Board packets from the previous three months' meetings, including minutes, statistics, and financial reports

*All JCPL policies can be read at [www.jesspublib.org](http://www.jesspublib.org).*

## Jessamine County Public Library

- An organizational chart of the Library
- A copy of the Library's policies and/or the location where they can be accessed
- Brochures or other concise information about the Library or library services
- PR or information on any recent Library accomplishments

The orientation process shall also include a tour of the Library facilities and an introduction to the Library staff, allowing the new Board member to ask questions in context as they view the different services, activities, and areas of the Library facilities.

Some topics that could be addressed and discussed during the tour include:

- How the Library is operated on a day-to-day basis
- How the Library is linked to other resources and libraries
- How the Library serves the needs of the community
- How the Library could better serve the needs of the community

Every attempt will be made by the President, Executive Director, and Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives Regional Consultant to provide the new Board member with any additional pertinent information requested to assist in equipping the Board member with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in their new role.