

Fireplace Room & Study Rooms Policy

The fireplace room and study rooms of the library are provided free of charge, to individuals and groups for civic, educational, cultural, intellectual, and philanthropic purposes. Attendance at meetings may not be restricted based on age, race, sex, religion, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status. Approval of the use of these rooms does not constitute an endorsement by the Library Board of the group's or individual's policies or beliefs.

A spokesman for the group is responsible for agreeing to the Guidelines for Public Use. Lost or damaged Library items must be replaced. The person scheduling the room is held responsible.

Guidelines for Public Use

- 1] The fireplace room and study rooms are booked on an equal first-come, first-served basis. Reservations should be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. An organization or person may schedule no more than three reservations per week. Exceptions may be made for government agencies and library organizations. Reservation requests are not final until confirmed by library personnel.
- 2] All tables, chairs, and furniture must be restored to its original positions after every meeting. No staff are responsible for the placement of tables, chairs, or other furniture in these rooms.
- 3] No group may schedule the rooms more than 12 months in advance.
- 4] Neither the name nor the address of the library may be used as the official address or headquarters of an organization.
- 5] Children's groups, or any group consisting mainly of persons under the age of 18 may use the rooms, provided they are supervised by adults who accept the responsibility for their behavior. Individuals booking the rooms must be 18 years of age.
- 6] If the furnishings are soiled or damaged during the use of using the fireplace room and study rooms, they must be professionally cleaned at the expense of the organization or responsible person. Violations may result in fines and/or cleaning costs not to exceed the cost of the restorations.
- 7] Parking space for any meeting must allow for normal library parking needs. The library makes no promise for adequate parking space for meetings.
- 8] No conduct disturbing regular library use or infringing on any library rules is permitted. The individual who schedules the fireplace room and study rooms are responsible for the supervision of the group.
- 9] Abuse of the fireplace room and study rooms or failure to adhere to library policies may result in loss of the fireplace room and study rooms privileges. No alcoholic beverages or drugs are permitted on the library's premises. No smoking inside the library facility. Violations may result in permanent loss of the fireplace room and study rooms use.
- 10] Groups must notify the library of a cancellation of the fireplace room and study rooms at the earliest possible date. If the library is not notified of cancelations for two consecutive times by the same group we will assume all future meetings are canceled and reservations will be canceled.
- 11] In consideration of the use of the fireplace room and study rooms, each organization and responsible person agrees that: (A) It will pay for all damage to any property of the Graves County Public Library resulting directly or indirectly from the conduct of any member, officer, employee or agent of the organization or its guests. (B) It will hold blameless the Graves County Public Library from and against

any and all liability which may be imposed upon them for any injury to persons or property caused by the organization or any person in connection with a meeting.

12] The following uses of the fireplace room and study rooms are not permitted:

A. No admission fees or collections will be allowed for any event scheduled in the fireplace room and study rooms, except library functions. Pass-through costs for educational materials may be collected. Library sponsored events for the purpose of raising funds for the library are allowed.

B. No group may conduct commercial or solicitation activities while using the fireplace room and study rooms. Meetings to promote sales or advertise products may not be held. Meetings by private employers may be held if it is for the purpose of staff training, employment testing, or other activities unrelated to sales and/or promotion.

C. Social functions or recitals unless sponsored by the library.

D. Activities likely to disrupt regular library operations.

E. The promotion of illegal activities. Meetings and individuals must conform to local laws or ordinances.

13] Groups shall not issue publicity indicating library sponsorship, and the library reserves the right to post disclaimers as applicable. Neither the name nor the address of the Graves County Public Library may be used as the official address or headquarters of an organization. The Director or designated staff reserve the right to review handout literature and press releases in advance of scheduled meeting.

14] Library functions have priority use of the fireplace room and study rooms.

Review or Appeal Process

Exceptions to this policy may be made at the discretion of the Library Director or his/her designee. Individuals or groups who are denied the use of the fireplace room and study rooms may appeal to the Director. Such appeal shall be filed in writing with the Director within 10 days of rejection. The appeal will be presented to the Board of Trustees who shall be the final authority in granting or refusing permission for the use of the rooms.

Organization Name: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Adopted: 1-21-25