

Collection Development Plan

Purpose

The purpose of the Collection Development Plan is to provide the community and the library staff with a document that informs and supports the development of library collections. The plan defines the nature and scope of library collections, establishes collection priorities that will maintain and improve the collection, and sets standards for the inclusion and exclusion of resources. The Collection Development Plan is a direct result of the Collection Development Policy approved by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners.

Goals

The Library strives to provide a well-balanced and broad collection of materials in a variety of formats for all age groups based on the needs of the community. The primary goal is to select, organize and make available print, audiovisual, and electronic materials within the limitations of space and budget that meet the diverse educational, informational, cultural, and recreational needs of the community.

Intellectual Freedom

The Library agrees with the principles contained in the Library Bill of Rights, Intellectual Freedom Statement, Freedom to Read Statement, and Freedom to View Statement of the American Library Association. The Library accepts responsibility for the provision of free access by the public to all points of view. However, the addition of an item to the collection in no way represents an endorsement by the Library of any theory, idea, or policy contained in the item. Selection of materials for the collection will be based on the criteria given throughout the Collection Development Plan. The race, religion, nationality, orientation, or political views of a creator, the frankness or coarseness of language, controversial content, or the endorsement or disapproval of an individual or group in the community will not result in items being automatically included in or excluded from the Collection.

General Selection Criteria

Materials are evaluated according to standard selection criteria. Items need not meet all criteria in order to be added to the collection. Some specialized collections make use of additional criteria, which are listed separately. All selection and deselection must adhere to one or more of the strategic service priorities in the HCPLC Strategic Plan. Detailed guidelines for collection development can be found in the Collection Development Guidelines.

Responsibility and Authority for Selection

The ultimate responsibility for materials selection rests with the Library Director and the Library Board. The community is encouraged to participate in the selection process through purchase suggestions which will be evaluated in accordance with the Collection Development Plan.

Revision Statement

The Collection Development Plan should be reviewed every three years by library staff. Procedures related to maintaining Library collections addressed in this plan may be adjusted as deemed necessary.