

From: [Feist, Marlene](#)
To: [Feist, Marlene](#)
Subject: FW: Spokane Public Library closure to the public
Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020 3:51:18 PM
Importance: High

From: Andrew Chanse <achanse@spokanelibrary.org>
Date: Friday, March 13, 2020 at 11:05 AM
To: SPL Staff <SPLStaff@spokanelibrary.org>
Subject: Spokane Public Library closure to the public

Hi Everyone -

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work through our response to COVID-19. As we see this situation develop across the country and world, we are seeing more and more libraries close their doors to help slow the spread of the virus.

Effective 6 p.m. Saturday, March 14, Spokane Public Library will close all locations to the public and these closures will remain in effect until at least April 13. We will continually monitor the situation and the impact on our facilities beyond the 30-day timeline. We have made this decision based on developing best practice and have not taken the decision lightly.

To date, we have had no confirmed COVID-19 cases in our libraries or in Spokane County, but it is clear that now is the time for strong and decisive action in order to protect the public. We have made this decision in the best interest for the health of staff, the community, and flattening the curve.

Tomorrow, Saturday, March 14, all employees who are scheduled to work are expected to report to work. If you are scheduled for work on Sunday, please do not report to work. On Monday, show up for work if you are well and your managers will start working out details on what we will be doing going forward. You will get paid if you were scheduled to work and you do not need to use sick time or vacation time.

I know you and our customers will have many more questions than are answered in this message and we will continue to respond to those questions in the coming days and weeks.

Thank you for your continued service to this community and, in particular, during this unprecedented event.

Best,



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As a result of COVID-19, the Library has canceled all programs, events, meeting room bookings and outreach services through March 31. [Read our full statement here.](#)