



FINE FREE FACT SHEET

Why Durham Public Library is eliminating late fees

What Do We Know About Library Fines?

- Fines prevent some people from using the library, especially children and low-income families
- Small fines have little to no effect on return rates
- Overdue fines are not a significant source of revenue for the library budget

What Are Our Goals With Fine Elimination?

- Focus on making library resources available to as many people as possible
- Devote staff time to helping patrons, rather than collecting fees
- Encourage people to use the library's many resources

The Big Picture:

We want to provide free, equitable access to information for all.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU



NO MORE FINES

With the exception of museum passes and library equipment, overdue fines have been eliminated



DUE DATES STILL MATTER

Check outs of additional materials will be blocked and patrons will be charged the replacement cost if items are not returned



A CLEAN SLATE

Past overdue fines have been cleared, except for lost or damaged items