

Sunderland Public Library Program Policy

The Sunderland Public Library offers programs to serve a wide variety of patron interests. In an effort to ensure diversity and regularity of offerings for all patrons, the library recognizes three main categories of patrons and schedules several programs for each category every year. The categories are as follows:

- Children: from 0 to 12 years old.
- Young adults: from 13 to 17 years old.
- Adults: over 18 years old.

Program costs

The library seeks to offer all programs free of charge but may on occasion request donations to cover materials costs.

Funding

Program funds come from the library budget, Federal LSTA grants, the Friends of the Sunderland Public Library, grants from the Sunderland Cultural Council, other funding organizations, or from local social, educational, or community organizations.

Co-sponsoring

The library will co-sponsor programs with other organizations subject to the following regulations:

- All residents of Massachusetts are given equal consideration in registering for programs.
- Programs are offered free or at a minimal cost according to the policy outlined above.

Programs will be scheduled according to the availability of funding, interest in the community, need for programs for a specific patron category and availability of staff time and library space. The library will favor programs that are recreational or educational in content, especially those that teach a specific skill or feature a book-related theme. No program leader may charge a fee for any program held at the library; the library as a sponsor will determine whether or not a fee is appropriate but will pay the program leader a flat fee agreed upon in advance. At the time of scheduling, the library will come to an agreement with the program leader in a written contract, provided either by the program leader or by the library.