

Alabama State Law

Title 41. State Government
Chapter 8. Alabama Public Library Service
Article 1. General Provisions
§ 41-8-9. § 41-8-10.

Registration records = "any information which a library requires a patron to provide in order to become eligible to borrow books and other materials" (Alabama State Law Regarding Library Records).

Circulation Records = "information which identifies the patrons utilizing particular books and any other library materials in any medium or format" (Alabama State Law Regarding Library Records).

Patron/customer information contained in registration and/or circulation records "shall be confidential" (Alabama State Law Regarding Library Records).

The following people/organizations have a right to access registration and circulation records (in regards to school records):

- "the library which manages the records"
 - ALSDE to check for "proper operation"
 - "parent/guardian of a minor"
- (Alabama State Law Regarding Library Records)

References:

State Privacy Laws Regarding Library Records.
Retrieved from American Library Association:
<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif/ifgroups/stateifcc/hairs/stateifcinaction/stateprivacy>

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ALA Code of Ethics, Article III, "We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received, and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted"

Media Center Policies

- Confidentiality of Library Records
- Privacy



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Confidentiality and Privacy

Definition of confidential: "spoken, written, acted on, etc., in strict privacy or secrecy" (confidential, 2013).

Definition of privacy: "confined to or intended only for the persons immediately concerned" (privacy, 2031).

In accordance with the AASL position statement on the confidentiality of library records: all records containing personally identifiable information shall be kept confidential and shall only be used for the following purposes:

- "routine record keeping"
- "maintain access to resources"
- "facility arrangement"
- "assure that resources are available to users who need them"
- "provide resources for the comfort and safety of patrons"
- "to accomplish the purposes of the program or service"

-(Librarians, Position Statement on the Confidentiality of Library Records, 2012)

"In a library (physical or virtual), the right to privacy is the right to open inquiry without having the subject of one's interest examined or scrutinized by others" (Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights, 2002).

References:

Confidential. 2013. In Dictionary.com. Retrieved April 26, 2013, from <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/confidential?s=t>

Librarians, A. A. (2012, February 6). *Position Statement on the Confidentiality of Library Records*. Retrieved from American Association of School Librarians: <http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/resources/position-statements/library-records>

Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights. (2002, June 19). Retrieved from American Library Association: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/privacy>

Privacy. 2013. In Dictionary.com. Retrieved April 26, 2013, from <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/privacy?s=t>

Online Links

State Privacy Laws Regarding Library Records
<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif/ifgroups/stateifchairs/stateifcinaction/stateprivacy>

ALA Policy on Confidentiality of Library Records
<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif/statementspols/otherpolicies/policyconfidentiality>

AASL Position Statement on the Confidentiality of Library Records
<http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/resources/position-statements/library-records>

ALA Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/privacy>