

## Chapter PI 6

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

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#### Subchapter I — General Provisions

**PI 6.01 Purpose.** This chapter sets forth requirements and grades of certification an individual must hold in order to be an administrator of a municipal, joint and county public library. In addition, this chapter sets requirements for public library systems and determines reimbursement rates for the costs of providing interlibrary borrowing services.

History: Cr. Register, September, 1992, No. 441, eff. 10-1-92.

**PI 6.02 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) "Division" has the meaning given under s. 43.01 (2), Stats.

(2) "Public library system" has the meaning given under s. 43.01 (5), Stats.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; renum. from PI 6.01, Register, September, 1992, No. 441, eff. 10-1-92.

#### Subchapter II — Public Librarian Certification

**PI 6.03 Public librarian certification. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Administrator" means the head librarian or other person appointed by a library board under s. 43.58 (4), Stats., or by a library system board under s. 43.17 (4), Stats., to direct and administer the library or system.

(b) "County library" means a library created under s. 43.57, Stats.

(c) "Joint library" means a library created under s. 43.53, Stats.

(d) "Municipal library" means a library created under s. 43.52, Stats.

(e) "Population" means the population reported by the U.S. department of commerce, bureau of the census in the last federal decennial census.

(2) **GENERAL.** Administrators employed by a public library system, county library system or any municipal public library, except a library in a city of the first class, supported in whole or in part by public funds, shall hold certification as described in this section. Applications for librarian certificates under this section shall be made in writing to the division.

(3) **REGULAR CERTIFICATION.** The following requirements and grades of certification are established:

(a) **Grade I:** 1. Administrators of municipal, joint and county public libraries with a municipal, joint municipal or county population of 6,000 or more and administrators of public library systems shall hold grade I certification.

2. Grade I certificates under this paragraph shall be granted for a 5-year period to applicants holding both a bachelor's degree from a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than statewide standing and a master's degree from a library school program accredited by the American library association.

3. Grade I certificates under this paragraph may be granted to an applicant holding a master's degree from an unaccredited library school program if the division is satisfied that the program

leading to that degree is substantially equivalent and the applicant's professional experience is demonstrative of the ability to provide professional library services.

(b) **Grade II.** 1. Administrators of municipal, joint and county public libraries with a municipal, joint municipal or county public library population of between 3,000 and 5,999 persons shall hold at least grade II certification.

2. Grade II certificates under this paragraph shall be granted for a 5-year period to applicants holding a bachelor's degree from a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than statewide standing, including or supplemented by earning 3 semester credits of coursework or the equivalent, approved by the division, in each of the following areas:

- a. Public library administration.
- b. Selection of all types of library materials.
- c. Organization of library materials.
- d. Provision of reference and information services.

(c) **Grade III.** 1. Administrators of municipal, joint and county public libraries with a municipal, joint municipal or county public library population under 3,000 persons shall hold at least grade III certification.

2. Grade III certificates under this paragraph shall be granted for a 5-year period to applicants having earned 54 semester credits, half of which shall be in the liberal arts and sciences, at a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than statewide standing, including or supplemented by the successful completion of a basic library management course for public librarians approved by the division.

(4) **CERTIFICATES ISSUED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1995.** Grades I, II, and III certificates granted prior to January 1, 1995, under previous certification rules shall continue to be valid as long as the certificate holder continues to renew the certificate as required under sub. (5). Permanent certificates issued under certification rules in effect prior to May 1, 1979, shall continue to be valid.

(5) **CERTIFICATION RENEWAL.** Certificates under sub. (3) may be renewed upon evidence which satisfies the division that the holder has participated in continuing education in librarianship which is either directly related to the position held or will permit advancement in the profession as follows:

(a) Individuals certified at grade levels I and II shall participate in 100 contact hours of continuing education in the 5 year period prior to recertification.

(b) 1. Except as specified under subd. 2., individuals certified at grade level III shall participate in 100 contact hours of continuing education in the 5 year period prior to recertification.

2. Except for individuals receiving provisional certification under sub. (7), individuals certified at grade level III after January 1, 1995, shall, prior to initial recertification, earn 3 semester credits of coursework or the equivalent, approved by the division, in each of the following areas:

- a. Selection of all types of library materials.
- b. Organization of library materials.

c. Provision of reference and information services.

3. After individuals under subd. 2. have received initial recertification, all individuals shall meet the requirements for recertification as specified under subd. 1.

(c) The public library system to which the library belongs or the division, when a public library does not belong to a public library system, shall assist in determination of requirements for continuing education and validate records submitted evidencing a renewal applicant's participation in continuing education under this subsection.

**(6) TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION.** The division may grant temporary certification at the appropriate grade levels. An applicant shall apply for temporary certification within 3 months of employment in order to be eligible for such certification. Temporary certification may be issued as follows:

(a) 1. To an applicant for grade I certification who meets the requirements under sub. (3) (a) 2. but who has not completed a master's degree.

2. The applicant shall provide the division a written schedule for completing the requirements under subd. 1.

3. The division shall approve the proposed schedule before the certificate may be granted under this paragraph.

4. The certificate under this paragraph is applicable for up to one year and is not renewable.

(b) 1. To an applicant for grade II certification who meets the requirements under sub. (3) (b) 2. but who has not earned 3 semester credits of coursework or the equivalent, approved by the division, in each of the following areas:

- a. Public library administration.
- b. Selection of all types of library materials.
- c. Organization of library materials.
- d. Provision of reference and information services.

2. The applicant shall provide the division a written schedule for completing the requirements under subd. 1.

3. The division shall approve the proposed schedule before the certificate may be granted under this paragraph.

4. The certificate under this paragraph shall be renewed on an annual basis for up to 3 years, provided the applicant has completed at least 2 of the above 4 courses specified under subd. 1. by the end of the second year. The certificate is not renewable after 3 years.

(c) 1. To an applicant for grade III certification who meets the requirements under sub. (3) (c) 2. but who has not completed a basic library management course for public librarians approved by the division.

2. The applicant shall provide the division a written schedule for completing the requirements under subd. 1.

3. The division shall approve the proposed schedule before the certificate may be granted under this paragraph.

4. The certificate under this paragraph is applicable for up to one year and is not renewable.

(d) 1. To an applicant for certification who was previously certified and whose certification has been expired for at least one year and who has not served as the administrator of a public library or public library system in Wisconsin during that period.

2. The applicant shall meet the basic requirements for initial certification under sub. (3) at the appropriate grade level.

3. An applicant who receives a temporary certificate under this paragraph shall complete at least 20 contact hours of continuing education under sub. (5) (intro.) during the temporary certification period.

4. The certificate under this paragraph is applicable for up to one year and is not renewable.

5. The applicant will be eligible for certification under sub. (3) upon completion of the 20 contact hours of continuing education as described under sub. (5) (intro.).

**(7) PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION.** The division may grant provisional certification at the appropriate grade level for a 5-year period to the following applicants provided they continue to work at the same library and comply with sub. (5):

(a) An applicant who was employed as the administrator for a public library in which he or she was originally certified at the appropriate grade level but is no longer properly certified due to the population growth of the jurisdiction in which the public library he or she is employed at is located.

Note: Administrators of public libraries affected by a population increase will be notified by the division when the new population figures are available and certification at the appropriate grade level will be effective at that time.

(b) An applicant who was employed as the administrator for the public library in which he or she is currently employed at the time the library became a member or part of the public library system or a joint public library.

History: Emerg. cr. eff. 1-26-72; r. emerg. rule and cr. Register, April, 1972, No. 196, eff. 5-1-72; am. (2), Register, August, 1973, No. 212, eff. 9-1-73; r. and recr., Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79; r. (1) (b), cr. (1) (b) to (d), am. (3) (a) to (d) and (5); r. and recr. (6), Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; cr. (1) (e) and (7), am. (3) (a) to (d), (4), (5) (intro.), (b), (d) and (6) (b), r. and recr. (6) (a), Register, January, 1994, No. 457, eff. 2-1-94; am. (2), (4), (5) (intro.), (a) and (b), r. (3) (a) 1., (b) 1., (c) 1., (d) and (5) (c) to (e), renum. (3) (a) 2. to 4. to be (3) (a) 1. to 3. and am., renum. (3) (b) 2. and 3. to be (3) (b) 1. and 2. and am., renum. (3) (c) 2. to be (3) (c) 1. and am., renum. (5) (f) to be (5) (e), r. and recr. (6) and (7), Register, May, 2000, No. 533, eff. 6-1-00.

### Subchapter III — Public Library Systems

#### PI 6.06 Requirements for public library systems.

**(1) ADDITIONAL COUNTIES.** A public library system shall allow in its organizational structure for additional counties to join after the system is established.

**(2) PLANS FOR USE OF STATE AID.** Annually, a system shall file a plan for the use of the state aid it will receive. In a federated system such plan shall indicate the funds to be used by the system for system services.

**(3) FILING SERVICE CONTRACTS.** A public library system shall file with the division for library services copies of all contracts regarding services. Included shall be intersystem contracts; contracts with other types of libraries, information centers, and educational organizations; and any interstate contracts developed. A federated system, additionally, shall file contracts concerning system organization, and services among its members.

**(4) REPORTING AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS.** Each system shall:

(a) Maintain all official records at the system administrative headquarters for at least 10 years.

(b) Maintain appropriate public records of the system's financial activities in accordance with accepted accounting practices.

(c) File an annual report on a form prescribed by the division, describing its operations and reporting on its income, expenditures, and programs.

(d) Cause an annual audit of the records to be made by a qualified auditor, and file a copy of such audit with the division for library services.

History: Cr. Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 7-1-72; r. (2), (5), (7) to (11), renum. (3), (4) and (6) to be (2) to (4) and am. (2) and (4) (a), Register, September, 1992, No. 441, eff. 10-1-92.

### Subchapter IV — Interlibrary Borrowing

#### PI 6.10 Definitions. In this subchapter:

**(1) "Interlibrary borrowing services"** means services which involve the direct borrowing of library materials by an individual holding a valid borrower's card of another participating public library.

**(2) "Loan"** means a unit of services that involves checking out a single item from the library to an individual for use outside the library for a specified period. A renewal of that loan constitutes a separate loan.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

**PI 6.11 Reimbursement rates for the costs of providing interlibrary borrowing services.** (1) Under s. 43.24 (2) (n), Stats., if the system reimburses a participating public library for the costs of providing interlibrary borrowing services to an individual who holds a valid borrower's card of another participating public library, the reimbursement may not exceed the actual costs incurred by the public library in providing such services.

(2) In determining the actual cost under s. 43.24 (2) (n), Stats., the total nonfederal operational expenditures of the public library in the preceding year shall be divided by the total number of loans made by the public library in the preceding year. Operational expenditures may not include capital expenditures.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

