



# Press

# Release



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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Wichita Falls Public Library Takes Phased Approach to Reopening on May 11**

Wichita Falls, Texas – The Wichita Falls Public Library will take a phased approach to reopening to the community. This action is in response to the City of Wichita Falls’ request for residents, businesses, and service providers to support Governor Abbott’s *Texans Helping Texans* protocols.

“We’ve been closed to the public since March 23, but have still been able to provide no-contact curbside pickup, appointments to use our U.S. Census computers, and phone circulation and reference services,” said Jana Hausburg, Library Administrator. “Beginning May 4, we will increase the hours we provide curbside pickup, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and then from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.”

On May 11, the library will enter into a new phase which will allow limited customer access to the lobby and Service Desk. During the hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. a maximum of 30 people will be allowed inside the building for reference services, limited computer use, and item request pickup while practicing social distancing and following safety protocols.

Pending any changes from Governor Abbott, the third phase of reopening will begin on May 26. The library will return to normal operating hours and extend services to include opening up the stacks for browsing. A maximum of 10 public computers, scanning, faxing, and copying will all be available by appointment only. This phase will allow no more than 50 people inside. The final two phases of reopening will be contingent upon the success of Phase III and the control of contagion.

According to Hausburg, “This phased approach will provide a level of safety to customers and staff, while also helping meet the information needs of our community.”

Patrons visiting the library are encouraged to wear a face mask to protect themselves and others from possible spread of COVID-19.

“All library staff will wear a face mask at all times. We’ve had a wonderful volunteer offer to make extra masks that we can hand out to customers who do not have a mask, while supplies last” said Angela Hill, Assistant Administrator, Information Services.

For more information, call 940-767-0868.

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