

Return this form by email to
the New York State Library at:
MINSTAN@nysed.gov

Variance Request Form



Commissioner's Regulation 90.2 - Standards for Registration of Public, Free Association and Indian Libraries

Instructions: Use this form to request a variance from the requirements of Commissioner's Regulations 90.2, Standards for Registration of Public, Free Association and Indian Libraries (effective January 1, 2021). **If the library is not in compliance with one or more of these Standards, request a variance on a separate form for each standard with which the library fails to comply.** The Library Director, the Library Board President, the System Director and the System Board President sign each variance request form. Attach any information that will strengthen the request. The library system submits all variance request forms to Library Development. No variance granted by Library Development shall be deemed to relieve a public, free association or Indian library of any obligation imposed by any other provision of federal or state law.

1. Library Information (Name of library, contact person, phone number)

D. R. Evarts Library
Kathy Jackson, President
cell: 845-235-5395

2a. Request for Variance from Standard Number: 8
b. What is current status? (Please attach explanation.)

3. Circumstances Over Which the Library Has No Control That Are Barriers to Compliance. Explain in detail on a separate sheet the circumstances that prevent the library from meeting this standard of service as set forward in *Commissioner's Regulations 90.2*. Attach documentation to demonstrate that the library has no control over the circumstances.

4. Plan for Compliance. Describe in detail on a separate sheet the library's plan for meeting this requirement before December 31st of this year. **(Please attach documentation.)**

Chloe Higgins
Library Director

4/25/23
Date

Kathryn Jackson 4-25-23
Library Board President Date

System Comment and Review: Variance request

_____ may be approvable _____ may not be approvable
(Please include explanation.)

This variance request was reviewed at the _____ meeting of the Board of Trustees of
(Month/Day)
the _____ System.

System Director

Date

System Board President

Date

FOR SED USE ONLY: ___ Variance request is approvable; Variance granted until: _____
(Month/Day/Year)

___ Variance request is not approvable because:

Reviewed By: _____

Library standards variance

Standard #8: Maintains a facility to meet community needs, as outlined in the library's long-range plan of service, including adequate space, lighting, shelving, seating, power and data infrastructure, and a public restroom.

D. R. Evarts Library accessibility

The D.R. Evarts Library is currently unable to provide programming to address all community needs due to its inaccessibility; any mobility challenged residents or caregivers with strollers are unable to participate in our extensive calendar of programs at the library because they can't access the building.

Over the past five years, we have been working feverishly toward our goal of library accessibility for all. We have made progress with renovations of an accessible restroom and built an exterior ramp. However, the ramp currently leads to nowhere as the planned small addition with an elevator construction has yet to be complete. Indispensably together, the ramp, addition, & elevator would allow all patrons access to our library as well as our program room. The skyrocketing costs of the pandemic have financially set us back. We are frantically fundraising to building up matching capital funds for the upcoming library construction grant to cover the cost of the construction necessary to make our library accessible. We are determined to find the funding needed to make the D.R. Evarts Library able to offer all its programs to all its residents. With our total library budget of \$150,000, our economically depressed community can't support a bond for a project of this size. Our fundraising efforts include private donations and foundations to acquire the necessary 25% match for the 2023-2024 library construction grant. While we have been reaching out to our local, state and federal representatives for additional help, we have not found success thus far.

Due to the elongated cycle for government-sponsored grants, we won't have the necessary funds to complete this project until the end of 2024. This aggressive date assumes the 2023-2024 library construction grant offer is sufficient. Without a full 75% 2023-2024 library construction grant offer, the project could take several more years while we continue to build additional matching funds.

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1. Library Information (Name of library, contact person, phone number)

D. R. Evarts Library
Kathy Jackson, President
cell: 845-235-5395

2a. Request for Variance from Standard Number: 9

b. What is current status? (Please attach explanation.)

3. Circumstances Over Which the Library Has No Control That Are Barriers to Compliance. Explain in detail on a separate sheet the circumstances that prevent the library from meeting this standard of service as set forward in *Commissioner's Regulations 90.2*. Attach documentation to demonstrate that the library has no control over the circumstances.

4. Plan for Compliance. Describe in detail on a separate sheet the library's plan for meeting this requirement before December 31st of this year. **(Please attach documentation.)**

Chris Higgins
Library Director

4/25/23
Date

Kathy Jackson
Library Board President

4-25-23
Date

System Comment and Review: Variance request

_____ may be approvable _____ may not be approvable
(Please include explanation.)

This variance request was reviewed at the _____ meeting of the Board of Trustees of
(Month/Day)
the _____ System.

System Director

Date

System Board President

Date

FOR SED USE ONLY: ___ Variance request is approvable; Variance granted until: _____
(Month/Day/Year)

___ Variance request is not approvable because:

Reviewed By: _____

Library standards variance

Standard #9: Provides programming to address community needs, as outlined in the library's long-range plan of service.

D. R. Evarts Library accessibility

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