

Public Library Systems should return this form to:
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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 29, 1999). 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)

Catskill Public Library Attn: Elizabeth Hague, Interim Director. 518-943-4230, ext. 103

2a. Request for Variance from Standard Number: -2-

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

As of 12/31/2021, the Catskill Public Library has had a long range plan of service that was developed without community input, and is out of date.

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.

The initial goal for 2021 was to participate in the MHLS "Turning Outward" program. This participation, requiring public input, would then enable us to develop our plan. Administrative changes and staffing shortages, coupled with the COVID infection rates/restrictions in our service area, prohibited the library from completing this goal.

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.)**

The library continues to struggle with administrative and staffing changes, and is now working with MHLS on a modified "Turning Outward" program that will enable us to have an updated and compliant Long Range Plan by 12/31/2022

Elizabeth Hague 3/10/2022

Library Director

Date

[Signature]
Library Board President

Date

System Comment and Review: Variance request

___ maybe approvable ___ may not be approvable
(Please include explanation.)

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

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: _____

MINIMUM PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS

Commissioner's Regulation 90.2 Standards for registration of public, free association and Indian libraries.
(c)Variances. If circumstances over which any public, free association or Indian library has no control prevent it from meeting one or more of the standards of service set forward in subdivision (a) of this section, such library may apply for a variance for such standard(s). The application for such variance shall be submitted for such library by the public library system of which such library is a member, in a form prescribed by the commissioner. No variance granted pursuant to this subdivision 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.

Listed in the table below are descriptions of each standard and the schedule for compliance as outlined in Commissioner's Regulation 90.2.

STANDARD NUMBER	MINIMUM PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS DESCRIPTION																
1	Is governed by written bylaws which outline the responsibilities and procedures of the library board of trustees;																
2	Has a board-approved, written long-range plan of service;																
3	Presents an annual report to the community on the library's progress in meeting its goals and objectives;																
4	Has board-approved written policies for the operation of the library;																
5	Presents annually to appropriate funding agencies a written budget which would enable the library to meet or exceed these standards and to carry out its long-range plan of service;																
6	Periodically evaluates the effectiveness of the library's collection and services in meeting community needs;																
7	Is open the following scheduled hours: <table><tr><th><u>Population</u></th><th><u>Minimum Weekly Hours Open</u></th></tr><tr><td>Up to 500</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>500 -2,499</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>2,500 - 4,999</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>5,000 - 14,999</td><td>35</td></tr><tr><td>15,000 -24,999</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>25,000 - 99,999</td><td>55</td></tr><tr><td>100,000 and above</td><td>60</td></tr></table>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Weekly Hours Open</u>	Up to 500	12	500 -2,499	20	2,500 - 4,999	25	5,000 - 14,999	35	15,000 -24,999	40	25,000 - 99,999	55	100,000 and above	60
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100,000 and above	60																
8	Maintains a facility to meet community needs, including adequate space, lighting, shelving, seating, and restroom;																
9	Provides equipment and connections to meet community needs including, but not limited to telephone, photocopier, tele-facsimile capability, and microcomputer or terminal with printer to provide access to other library catalogs and other electronic information;																
10	Distributes printed information listing the library's hours open, borrowing rules, services, location and phone number;																
11	Employs a paid director in accordance with the provisions of Commissioner's Regulation 90.8.																