



Meeting Room Policy

Currently, the Morton Grove Public Library has one meeting room, the Baxter Auditorium, that is available for the public when not in use for Library and library-related programs and services.

Room Capacity and Accessibility

Baxter Auditorium

- Capacity: 124 chairs; 165 person maximum
- Partially wheelchair accessible via wheelchair lift
- Multiple aisle arrangement
- Tiered floor with stairs
- Stage (13'x33') with oak floor and no stage wings
- Stage spotlights
- Fees: See *Meeting Room and Equipment Fee Schedule* below

General Rules

Priority for reserving the use of the meeting room is given in the following order to meetings, activities, or events held by:

1. MGPL programming/services and library-related activities.
2. MGPL Board of Trustees
3. Local governing bodies and administrative boards serving the Morton Grove community.
4. Educational, civic, or cultural organizations and groups operating in and/or serving the Morton Grove community.
5. Local businesses and commercial organizations operating in and/or serving the Morton Grove community.

The following rules apply to all outside users of the Morton Grove Public Library meeting room(s):

- Meeting room is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Meeting room requests are processed in the order in which they are received.
- Organizations using a meeting room must follow all policies of the Morton Grove Public Library and applicable federal, state, and local laws.

The Library excludes the use of its facility for private social functions or activities that materially and substantially interfere with the function, purpose and mission of the Library.

- Use of the Library's meeting rooms does not constitute or imply endorsement of the users' policies, beliefs or programs by the Morton Grove Public Library, its staff or the Board of Trustees.
- Groups may not publicize their activities in such a way as to imply Library sponsorship. All publicity must include the following easily visible disclaimer: ***This event is not sponsored by the Morton Grove Public Library.***
- The Library's name, address, phone number or URL may not be used as

contact information for any outside organization or group.

- All meetings shall be open to the public. No admission fees may be charged. Money raising activities are prohibited unless prior express approval has been given by the Executive Director or their designee. Presenters can sell their wares, subject to permission from the Executive Director or their designee.
- Library personnel must have free access to the meeting rooms at all times. The Library retains the right to monitor all meetings conducted on Library premises to ensure compliance with Library policies, rules and regulations.
- Technical support is available for Library equipment only.
- Additional electrical equipment, other than that provided by the Library, is not permitted in the meeting room without prior approval by the Executive Director or their designee.
- Groups or organizations reserving the Library's meeting rooms assume full responsibility for providing and paying for special accommodations that are requested by participants in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Fees will be charged to outside groups using the Library meeting rooms. Fees are listed on the *Meeting Room and Equipment Fee Schedule* (below) and the *Application for Use of the Meeting Room*. Waiver of fees is at the sole discretion of the Executive Director or their designee.

Reservation Rules

- Meeting rooms may be requested up to 60 days in advance of the use date, but no fewer than ten (10) days prior to the use date.
- The meeting room application form must be completed and signed by a Morton Grove Public Library cardholder 18 years or older. This cardholder must be willing to assume responsibility for the group as well as any fees or damages incurred during the use of a Library meeting room. Cardholder must be present at the meeting.
- Meeting room applications are available online. Once applications are reviewed, applicants are contacted to deny or confirm reservation. The rooms will not be considered scheduled until the applicant receives confirmation.
- All applicable meeting room fees must be paid within seven (7) days of confirmation.
- All meetings must begin and end during regular Library hours. Meeting rooms must be vacated no later than 30 minutes prior to Library closing.

Indemnification

For and in consideration of the use of the meeting rooms and Library facilities, any person or group using them agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Morton Grove Public Library from any and all actions or suits relating to its use of such rooms and facilities.

Use/Care of the Rooms

- Groups may not exceed the stated capacity of the room.
- Any moving or rearranging of equipment other than the podium must be done by Library staff.
- The wheelchair lift must be operated by Library staff.
- All entrances, exits, and pathways in the meeting rooms must remain clear at all times.
- The Library does not provide storage or assistance in transporting supplies and materials to the meeting room(s).
- The Library is not responsible for security of property owned by groups using the Library nor is it responsible for damage or loss of property of others.
- No materials including signs, posters, or decorations, may be affixed to the walls, stage curtain, movie screen, or ceiling by any means whatsoever.
- Minors under the age of 18 may use the meeting rooms only under direct and constant supervision of adults who assume full responsibility for activities and conditions. At non-Library related meetings, there must be one adult for every 15 minors in attendance.
- Light refreshments are permitted in the meeting rooms. Groups must supply their own coffee, cream, sugar, and paper products. All beverages need to be covered, and, prior to leaving the room, all food must be disposed of in the receptacles provided.
- The selling, serving, and consumption of alcohol by outside groups is prohibited.
- Groups are responsible for leaving the facilities in order after use. Any individual, group, or organization using the meeting rooms shall be held responsible for willful or accidental damage to the Library building, grounds, collections, or equipment caused by the group or organization, its members or those attending its program.
- A list of the equipment available in the meeting room(s) can be found on the *Meeting Room and Equipment Fee Schedule* at the end of this policy.

Cancellations/Revocation of Permission

- Outside Groups and Organizations
 - When it is necessary for a group or organization to cancel a reservation, the Adult Services staff should be notified immediately by calling 847-965-4220 x. 1.
 - Cancellation less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time may result in the forfeiture of the meeting room reservation fee.
- Library
 - The Morton Grove Public Library reserves the right to cancel any reservation due to unforeseen circumstances, a Library building, or weather-related emergency.

- The Library reserves the right to revoke permission to use the meeting space based on violation of Library policy, inclusion of false information on the application form, or other library-related cause.

Prohibited Uses of Meeting Rooms and Library Facilities

The following are prohibited uses of the Library meeting rooms and facilities:

- Admission fees charged or donations collected for programs.
- Deliveries for groups that have scheduled meetings.
- Smoking within 15 feet of entrances, exits, windows that open, or ventilation intakes.
- Sale, serving, and consumption of alcohol.
- Use of hazardous materials.
- Use of candles and other fires.
- Excessive noise.
- Access to the Projection/Sound Booth.

Meeting Room and Equipment Fee Schedule

**Meeting room reservation fees do not include equipment fees.
Equipment fees will be charged per use, as applicable.**

Room Use Fees

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	BAXTER AUDITORIUM
Local tax-supported government agencies (including schools)	No fee
Private organizations; Non-profit organizations with state or national affiliation	\$25 per hour
For-profit organizations; businesses	\$50 per hour

Equipment Use Fees

EQUIPMENT	BAXTER AUDITORIUM
Yamaha upright piano	\$25 flat fee
Portable podium with microphone and speaker	No fee
Portable Epson projector with VGA or HDMI cable	\$10 flat fee
PC Laptop (library provided)	\$10 flat fee
Overhead PA system with wired microphones with stands (3 microphones available)	\$25 flat fee
Wireless microphone (handheld, lapel, or handset)	\$25 flat fee
Headphone jack cable to connect laptop to overhead PA system	No fee
Personal Amplification Units for hearing impaired (4 available)	No fee
DVD/Blu Player operated by staff	\$10 flat fee
Easel	No fee
Wooden Privacy Screen(s)	No fee

See Meeting Room Application for standard room set up options.

Approved by the Morton Grove Public Library Board of Trustees on June 13, 2019; July 8, 2021; October 12, 2023.