



Dear Friends, Guild and Association Members:

I hope this message finds everyone well. We sure miss seeing you and the important work you do!

This has been a challenging time for all of us, but I want you to know how much KCLS values the partnership, support and friendship that you have provided over the years and during this tough time. We look forward to the day when we can welcome everyone—and our Friends especially— back to our buildings.

I am writing to update you about [KCLS' Path to Reopening](#) and at what point we might be able to get you back in our buildings. Everything is based on Governor Inslee's four-phase Safe Start Plan and public-health directives.

The following is a summary of the activities we will move through at each phase of recovery. Our decisions to progress to the next phase will align with state and county plans, while keeping staff, volunteers and patron safety our top priority.

**Phase 1: All KCLS buildings are closed to non-essential staff; KCLS is an online library (status from March through June 7)**

Like the rest of King County, in Phase 1 staff work from home to bring you online services, programs and resources. KCLS buildings are closed to the public and staff and all staff except those employees who are designated to work at Service Center to keep essential operations running.

**Phase 1.5: All KCLS buildings remain closed to the public; staff return to buildings (current status effective June 8)**

Staff return to the buildings to prepare for the next phase. Libraries remain closed to the public during this phase. Some staff may still be working from home to ensure social distancing in buildings can be achieved.

**Phase 2: KCLS buildings are still closed to the public; limited public services offered**

KCLS begins to offer limited circulation options, such as Curbside to Go pickup of holds, materials returns, and potentially contactless outreach delivery.

**Phase 3: KCLS opens some or all buildings to the public; modified library services offered**

Operating hours and access to services may vary by location and may continue to evolve according to public safety guidelines. It is our hope that during this phase that we may be able to offer limited opportunities for Friends to engage on-site again. Friends will be required to undergo KCLS health screenings, wear face-coverings and practice socially distancing.

**Phase 4: Full service resumes**

KCLS returns to standard business operations while continuing to offer online services and programs for those users who may not yet be able to return to a physical library.

We hope to have more detailed information about when we will be able to have our Friends resume their valuable work in libraries. Your Regional Manager or Library Services Manager will be in touch as the recovery plan unfolds. Thank you for your support and patience as we continue to navigate the complexities of reopening libraries. Take care and stay well!

Sincerely,  
Lisa G. Rosenblum, Executive Director  
King County Library System