

Get a library card

To borrow books and other media from the city libraries in Bremen, you need a library card (BIBCARD). Find out more here.

Competent Department

- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Gröpelingen](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Huchting](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Osterholz](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Vahr](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Vegesack](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Busbibliothek](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Zentralbibliothek](#)
- [Stadtbibliothek Bremen - Bibliothek Lesum](#)

Basic information

Once you have registered at a municipal library, you will receive a library card (BIBCARD) in person or by post. With the BIBCARD, you can borrow or order books or media from a municipal library and use other library services (e.g. film and music streaming). You must present the BIBCARD for each loan.

The BIBCARD is free of charge for certain groups of people:

- Children and young people up to the age of 18.
- Trainees of all ages.
- Anyone doing a Voluntary Social Year (FSJ) or Federal Voluntary Service (BuFDi).
- Students at universities in the state of Bremen (University of Bremen, Bremen University of Applied Sciences and University of the Arts).
- Refugees without a work permit.
- Childcare professionals (You can obtain the form for the certificate for official use from your library. The document must be signed by your daycare center management including the daycare stamp).
- Multipliers:
 - People who work in refugee shelters.
 - Volunteers at the volunteer agency.
 - Members of associations that deal with integration and language learning.
 - Volunteers working with older people, such as neighborhood helpers or helpers in retirement homes.
 - Volunteers in patient care, such as the "green ladies".
 - Reading helpers in schools.

- Helpers who support people with disabilities, such as inclusion helpers or personal assistants.
- Helpers at the adult education center who help with learning.

You can get a cheaper or reduced BIBCARD if you can present one of the following documents:

- a pension certificate
- a Bremen-Pass
- a certificate from the employment agency confirming receipt of unemployment benefit I or citizen's allowance/basic income support
- a certificate from the Office for Social Services confirming that you receive assistance with living expenses
- Basic income support in old age or in the event of disability or BaföG
- a valid ChamberCard from the Bremen Chamber of Employees
- a library card for the Institut Français or the Instituto Cervantes or a library card from the Bremen State and University Library for which a fee is charged

Requirements

People who live in zip code area 27 or 28 can apply for a BIBCARD.

What documents do I need?

- To obtain the BIBCARD, you need a valid identity card or passport with a registration certificate.

If applicable, proof of a free or reduced BIBCARD (e.g. student ID or proof of training, student ID or semester ticket)

- A written declaration of consent from a parent or legal guardian is also required for children and young people up to the age of 18.

Procedure

You can register for the BIBCARD online or get it on site at one of the 8 locations.

Online

- You can only register online if you have your first or second place of residence in zip code areas 27 and 28.
- You will find the link to online registration under "Further information" - "Online service" - "Online registration for new customers".
- Fill in the form and send it off.
- The library will check your data.
- The next working day (Monday to Friday) you will receive an e-mail with your BIBCARD number and further information.

On site

- Visit one of the 8 city libraries
- Please bring a valid identity card or passport with a registration certificate and, if applicable, proof of a free or reduced-price BIBCARD.
- Please fill out a registration form. You will receive this on site.
- Children and young people up to the age of 18 also need the signature of a parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian must also bring a valid identity card or passport with a registration certificate.
- You will receive the BIBCARD immediately on site.

Legal bases

- [Nutzungsordnung](#)
- [Entgeltverzeichnis](#)

More information

Digital BIBCARD

- A spontaneous visit to the library and the BIBCARD is at home? That's no longer a problem. Simply download the app to your smartphone and you'll always have your BIBCARD with you.

And this is how it works:

- Do you have an iOS device? Download the "Bremen City Library" app from the AppStore and log in with your access data.
- In the menu under "ID" you will find the barcode of your BIBCARD, which you can use to borrow or renew media.
- Do you have an Android device? Please download the app "mobilOPAC Recherche und Konto".
- Select the Bremen location in this app. From this point on, you can use the app as usual and the Bremen City Library logo will be displayed as an app icon.
- In the Android app, you will also find your BIBCARD in the menu under ID card.

You can also find out more under "Further information" - "Where can I find out more?" - "Video 'Our digital BIBCARD'"

- Pupils in Bremen can also create a digital BIBCARD using their school iPad. Find out more under "Further information" - "Where can I find out more?" - "Create a digital school Bibcard for pupils in Bremen".
- Teachers in Bremen can use the free BIBCARD for teachers on their work iPad. Find out more under "Further information" - "Where can I find out more?" - "Create a digital Bibcard for teachers in Bremen".

Reusing the BIBCARD: If your BIBCARD has expired and you no longer need it, please do not throw it away. The City Library can reactivate the card for you at any time if you want to use it again in the future.

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

The fees are payable annually.

Subscription BIBCARD: The BIBCARD is valid permanently and without interruption.

Regular BIBCARD: The BIBCARD is valid for 12 months from the date of issue or renewal. After this period, you must renew the BIBCARD at one of the city libraries.

How long does it take to process

You will receive your card immediately on site. If you register online, you will receive your BIBCARD number by e-mail as soon as possible.

What are the costs?

An overview of the costs can be found under "Legal basis".