

Library of Congress

§ 701.9

conditions as available staff and facilities permit.

[35 FR 10588, June 30, 1970. Redesignated at 38 FR 27049, Sept. 28, 1973, and amended at 46 FR 48661, Oct. 2, 1981]

§ 701.8 Assignment of special research facilities.

(a) *Study shelves.* Individually-assigned reserve shelves are available adjacent to several reading rooms for the use of researchers whose work requires access to the same materials over an extended period of time. Shelves are assigned to applicants for a specific period through the Research Facilities Office, Humanities and Social Sciences Division. Shelves must be renewed at designated intervals.

(b) *Study desks.* A limited number of study desks are available for the use of researchers engaged in full-time research projects involving extensive use of materials requiring larger amounts of material drawn from the Library's collections, more work space, greater physical security, and/or a more private environment than might be possible in a reading room. Study desk areas shall not be used as a primary office from which the project undertaken is operated, nor as a business location. Study desks are initially assigned for a period not to exceed one year, with the assignment and termination dates determined by the Head of the Main Reading Room Section, Humanities and Social Sciences Division. The assignment of a study desk beyond the first year may be made by the Chief of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division for a maximum of two years from the first assignment when there is a demonstrated need for the continuation of the assignment. Assignments beyond two years require an exception to this part and shall be specifically authorized by the Associate Librarian for Library Services. Any researcher who demonstrates a continuing need for a facility beyond an expiration date may reapply, but priority will be given to applicants on the waiting list who meet the specific criteria.

(c) *Congressional use of study rooms.* Rooms 225A–225E in the James Madison Building are available for the exclusive use of Members of Congress and Committees for official research that re-

quires use of the Library's collections or files in the Congressional Research Service. Assignment of study rooms shall be made in accordance with the Resolution of the Joint Committee on the Library of September 12, 1959, which states: “* * * occupancy of study rooms assigned to Members should not be delegated to others than members of their own office staff who are paid no less than 20 hours per week from U.S. Government funds and at a rate of not less than the minimum salary of a GS–3 clerk-typist * * *, and that Members should not request assignments of rooms for themselves merely for the purpose of sponsoring the work of private individuals and non-Government groups. * * *” Rooms are assigned for one year or the life of the project, whichever is less, with the assignment and termination dates determined by the Director of the Congressional Relations Office.

[62 FR 64280, Dec. 5, 1997]

§ 701.9 Loans of library materials.

The Library of Congress is not a public circulating library and no material in its collections may be taken from the Library buildings except upon approval by the Chief of the Loan Division. Members of Congress, heads of executive departments, and other statutory borrowers, however, have the privilege of withdrawing books by virtue of their office. Subject to regulations and conditions established by The Librarian of Congress, special permission to withdraw materials may be given to congressional staff. Applications for such privilege are acted upon by the Chief of the Loan Division, who is responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the regulations governing loans. Except for Members of Congress, heads of executive departments, and others authorized by the Librarian to have materials assembled and delivered to them, persons having the borrowing privilege must present materials to be borrowed to the Loan Division for recording and for issuance of a door pass. Borrowers must present the materials for inspection to the guards on duty at the exits to the Library buildings. Materials are issued on interlibrary loan to other libraries

within and outside the District of Columbia under regulations established by the Librarian of Congress. Applications from established libraries for such loans, and requests for information about interlibrary loans and loan service, generally, should be directed to the Chief of the Loan Division.

[35 FR 10588, June 30, 1970. Redesignated at 38 FR 27049, Sept. 28, 1973, and amended at 46 FR 48661, Oct. 2, 1981; 51 FR 22073, June 18, 1986]

§ 701.10 Loans of library materials for blind and other physically handicapped persons.

(a) *Program.* In connection with the Library's program of service under the Act of March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1487), as amended, its National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped provides books in raised characters (braille), on sound reproduction recordings, or in any other form, under regulations established by the Librarian of Congress. The National Library Service also provides and maintains reproducers for such sound reproduction recordings for the use of blind and other physically handicapped residents of the United States, including the several States, Territories, Insular Possessions, and the District of Columbia, and American citizens temporarily domiciled abroad.

(b) *Eligibility criteria.* (1) The following persons are eligible for such service:

(i) Blind persons whose visual acuity, as determined by competent authority, is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses, or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.

(ii) Persons whose visual disability, with correction and regardless of optical measurement, is certified by competent authority as preventing the reading of standard printed material.

(iii) Persons certified by competent authority as unable to read or unable to use standard printed material as a result of physical limitations.

(iv) Persons certified by competent authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity to prevent their reading printed material in a normal manner.

(2) In connection with eligibility for loan services "competent authority" is defined as follows:

(i) In cases of blindness, visual disability, or physical limitations "competent authority" is defined to include doctors of medicine, doctors of osteopathy, ophthalmologists, optometrists, registered nurses, therapists, professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or welfare agencies (e.g., social workers, case workers, counselors, rehabilitation teachers, and superintendents). In the absence of any of these, certification may be made by professional librarians or by any persons whose competence under specific circumstances is acceptable to the Library of Congress.

(ii) In the case of reading disability from organic dysfunction, competent authority is defined as doctors of medicine who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines.

(c) *Loans through regional libraries.* Sound reproducers are lent to individuals and appropriate centers through agencies, libraries, and other organizations designated by the Librarian of Congress to service specific geographic areas, to certify eligibility of prospective readers, and to arrange for maintenance and repair of reproducers. Libraries designated by the Librarian of Congress serve as local or regional centers for the direct loan of such books, reproducers, or other specialized material to eligible readers in specific geographic areas. They share in the certification of prospective readers, and utilize all available channels of communication to acquaint the public within their jurisdiction with all aspects of the program.

(d) *National collections.* The Librarian of Congress, through the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, defines regions and determines the need for new regional libraries in cooperation with other libraries or agencies whose activities are primarily concerned with the blind and physically handicapped. It serves as the center from which books, recordings, sound reproducers, and other specialized materials are lent to eligible blind and physically handicapped readers who may be temporarily domiciled outside the jurisdictions enumerated