

# Reopening the FAU Libraries to Students and Faculty

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<https://faulibrarydean.wordpress.com/2020/08/10/reopening-the-fau-libraries-to-students-and-faculty/>

Dear FAU Community,

After months of planning, reviewing safety guidelines produced by the CDC and the University, and discussion with colleagues across the state and the nation to determine best practices, the FAU Libraries are preparing to reopen our facilities to FAU and Palm Beach State College students and faculty. ***Opening day for those patrons is tentatively scheduled for August 20, 2020.***

We have been operating almost entirely remotely since the middle of March, providing a wide array of services virtually and a few in-person services by appointment. Many of these virtual and concierge style services outlined in our [Lib2Go](#) guide will continue, even after we reopen the buildings. All FAU students are able now to access all remote services, no matter which campus they call home.



ONLINE RESOURCES  
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

**Lib2GO**

Need to access databases and journals? Or want to virtually meet with one of our librarians? Click the link to learn more about our remote resources.

VISIT TODAY AT [LIBRARY.FAU.EDU/LIB2GO](http://LIBRARY.FAU.EDU/LIB2GO)

Due to health and safety guidelines and the deep and frequent cleaning of the public spaces inside the library buildings, the [Libraries will not initially be able to serve as the collaborative gathering and active study place](#) that we have worked so hard to make them into. This is a great disappointment to us and we look forward to getting back to the way things were as soon as possible.

The following is a summary of what the initial opening of the library buildings will look like:

- ***Owl or Panther cards will be required*** for entry to FAU controlled library facilities; ***the general public will not be allowed in except by special appointment.***

- Hours in Boca Raton’s library will be Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and hours in Jupiter’s library will be Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Only the first floor of the libraries in Boca Raton and Jupiter will be open to visitors.
- Since only the first floor will be open, the elevators and stairwells will not be available to visitors.
- The HBOI library will be open to the HBOI community by card swipe access.
- The use of face coverings of the nose and mouth will be required for entry, for service, and for the duration of time visitors spend in the buildings.
- Because face coverings are required at all times, no food and drink will be allowed inside the facilities.
- Dunkin Donuts in the Boca Raton library is closed until further notice.
- Occupancy in Boca Raton and Jupiter will be limited strictly to allow safe social distancing. Numbers of occupants will be controlled through entry gates and specialized camera systems and software. When maximum safe occupancy is reached, visitors will be directed to other [locations for study and access to computers](#).
- Students are encouraged to limit their time in the library buildings so that other students will be able to come in and use the facilities. If demand consistently exceeds availability, it may be necessary to institute an appointment system for using the library.
- All couches and communal seating have been removed to promote safe social distancing.
- Many computer workstations have been disabled in order to ensure safe social distancing.
- Fixed computer workstations in the libraries will reboot after two hours of use. Students should be prepared to save their work to the cloud or to a thumb drive. Signage in the computer labs, along with early warnings on the computer screen, will alert students to this. Students will be able to log back in more than once.
- Many chairs and tables have been removed to ensure safe social distancing.
- No access to the book stacks will be possible; books will need to be requested using [an online form](#) and will be delivered through low-contact or contactless delivery mechanisms.
- No physical course reserves will be available.
- Group study rooms will not be available for checkout.
- Library faculty and staff will be available for phone, email, and virtual consultation but may not be present at the service desks, unless needed.
- Instruction sessions will be available virtually, by appointment.
- Visitors will need to use the available cleaning supplies to wipe down their seats and work areas before and after their use.
- Printers and photocopiers will need to be wiped down by visitors before and after use.
- Students in Davie should consult with [Broward College’s University/College Library](#) on in-person library services and hours. Students in Fort Lauderdale should consult with the [Broward County Public Library](#) for hours of operation and in-person services.
- Members of the general public are encouraged to visit their public libraries for library services until such time as we are able to reopen our spaces for broader use.

As soon as it is safe and as soon as there is adequate staffing for keeping all areas clean and sanitized, we will try to open up more space and expand hours of operation. Bookmark our [What to Expect: Fall 2020](#) website for the most current information.

We appreciate your patience and compliance with the University’s health and safety guidelines. We are here for our FAU and PBSC communities and look forward to continuing to serve you with energy, commitment, and creativity when the new semester starts.