



Rahway Public Library has joined a shared library services consortium called LMxAC, short for Libraries of Middlesex Automation Consortium!

LMxAC is a consortium of more than 42 libraries and branch locations, spanning Middlesex, Monmouth, and Union counties, including the neighboring communities of Cranford, Scotch Plains, Westfield, and Fanwood.

After our transition to LMxAC, Rahway residents will be able to reserve items from any of the 40+ LMxAC libraries (including Middlesex College), and have items sent directly to our Library for checkout. This will expand the number of books and other items that Rahway residents have access to from 100,000 to more than 3.2 million!

This will also expand our offerings of eBooks and eAudiobooks via Libby by Overdrive. Additionally, all valid Rahway Library cards will be automatically accepted at all 40+ LMxAC libraries.

Membership in LMxAC will also bring new technology services, including a mobile app LMxPRESS, which Rahway residents can use to find books, reserve items, and even use as a digital library card.

To make this transition, there will be several temporary impacts to service. We thank you for your patience as we work to provide a smooth transition.

Transition Timeline

- **May 6-June 13:** Pause of processing new material & Interlibrary loan requests
- **June 4 through June 13:** Limited library services
- **June 13:** New library system available

How Will This Affect Me?

May 6-June 13

New material will not be added until after we've transitioned. We encourage you to take advantage of our e-resources or catch up on your to-be-read list! The library has plenty of books waiting for you to enjoy.

June 4 through June 12

The following library services will be **unavailable**:

- Placement of holds (Your current holds will remain active)
- Issuing of new library cards
- Renewing existing library cards
- Payment of fines/fees

During this period:

- Due dates & library card expirations will be extended.
- No overdue fees will be charged.
- Checkouts will be available only to EXISTING Rahway Public Library & MURAL cardholders only.
- Patrons MUST have their physical library card (or present card number on mobile app). We will be unable to look up accounts using your ID or name.
- During this period we are unable to check in returned materials. We will begin to check-in all returned material on June 13. Please be patient as our staff may take several days to check these items in.

June 13

Our new library system will be launched, complete with a new library catalog and app! The new catalog is user friendly and will help you discover some new favorites! All services that were suspended will be reinstated, including requesting items through inter-library loan, placing holds, applying for and renewing library cards, and returning items. We ask for your patience as we launch this new system and troubleshoot as necessary. Thank you and we look forward to our continued service to the Rahway community!

If you have any questions, please call the Reference desk at 732-340-1551 ext. 212 or email us at info@rahwaylibrary.org

FAQ's

How Do I Join?

By registering for a library card at your home library, you are automatically entered into the LMxAC system.

How Does it Work?

Browse the online catalog. Residents of Rahway will automatically have access to materials in all LMxAC libraries! You can visit any library, check out materials or place holds. Select the pick-up location of your choosing. You can return materials to any LMxAC library.

Will the catalog that we use to search for books be the same?

No. Rahway will be migrating from our current catalog to one managed by LMxAC. It will be able to search for items in all the LMxAC libraries, not just Rahway.

What can I borrow from other LMxAC libraries?

Books, CDs, DVDs, magazines, and other items. Some LMxAC libraries may not lend all items to cardholders outside of their library.

Will I be able to return books from other LMxAC libraries to Rahway?

Yes. You will also be able to return Rahway materials to other LMxAC libraries. Hotspots must be returned to Rahway only.

Can I place holds on items at other LMxAC libraries?

Yes. You will be able to place holds on items owned by other LMxAC libraries and have them sent to Rahway or your preferred LMxAC library.

Will Rahway still participate in M.U.R.A.L.?

Yes. Rahway residents will have automatic access to a majority of MURAL libraries in Middlesex and Union counties through LMxAC.

Please note that each library reserves the right to limit or refuse loan privileges based on their individual library policies and procedures.

View a map of member library locations [here](#).