

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF COLORADO LIBRARY DISTRICT LAW

- A library district is a political subdivision of the state, funded by a voter approved property tax.
- A library district can be formed by ordinance/resolution or by petition.
- It can be formed to serve a city, a county, or multiple jurisdictions.
- Within 90 days of formation, a written agreement must be made between the city(s) or county(s) and the library district board of trustees.
- If a new or higher tax is proposed, a vote of the people who live in the district is always required.
- The district receives taxes effective January 1 if approved in the preceding November election.
- There is no separate mill levy cap, but all state budgetary and constitutional tax limits apply.
- Five to seven library trustees are appointed by the elected officials of the forming entities.
- Once appointed, the board of trustees has full governance powers and responsibilities including mill levy certification, budget appropriation and the authority to issue bonds.
- The board of trustees can place an issue on any November ballot to request an increase in the library property tax.

Eloise May 11/05
emay@ald.lib.co.us
303-798-2444 x1025