Feb. 9, 2021  Yale libraries are currently open with access limited to students, staff, and faculty (including emeriti) who are authorized to be on campus.

While the university’s Campus Visitor Policy [1] changed on Feb. 4, the new guidelines have not yet been extended to the libraries. Library leadership is working with the COVID Review team to develop new visitor access guidelines for the libraries, and we will post here and on Yale Library social media when those are approved.

In the meantime we regret that we cannot yet extend access to library buildings, including special collections reading rooms, to other patron groups, including retired staff and faculty without emeritus status, alumni, family members, other Yale affiliates, and the general public—and we thank you for your continued patience. Please contact Ask Yale Library [2] if you have questions about your status to access the library.

Library hours and access may shift without notice in response to weather, changing pandemic circumstances and university guidance. Please check library hours on the library website [3] before coming to campus. (Yale Library hours listed in Google are not always accurate, especially in cases of inclement weather, holidays, or other unusual circumstances.)

For now, only members of the Yale community who are authorized to be on campus may request and use special collections materials in the special collections reading rooms. Advance reservations are required for special collections reading rooms at the Divinity Library, Manuscripts and Archives, Lewis Walpole Library, and the Medical Historical Library. Advance reservations are not currently required for Beinecke Library or Arts Library Special Collections. See all access requirements for special collections, [4]

Library staff are currently working onsite at least two days per week, depending on operational roles and needs. We continue to offer research consultations, workshops, library instruction, and access to electronic resources online. Please contact individual staff directly to check their availability for in-person or online consultations and appointments in the new year.

Current students, faculty, and staff may request to have library materials, including BorrowDirect and interlibrary loan materials, scanned or mailed to U.S. addresses. To request this service, use the “Send to home address” links in Orbis and Quicksearch.

See our COVID-19 FAQ [5] for more about online and remote services.