13.1 Adult Circulating Collection

A. Purpose: New Hanover County Public Library meets the reading and information needs of adults through a wide range of high-quality materials (see also 13.0 Collection Development).

B. Scope: The Adult collection includes current and reliable materials embracing the broader fields of knowledge as well as popular interest materials with due regard for variations in educational level, reading ability and reading interest.
   1) The library selects materials in a wide range of formats to meet the stated purpose of the collection and makes these selections in accordance with both general and specific collection development guidelines.
   2) With the exception of special collections, the library selects and acquires current materials only. Older materials may be acquired in order to complete series or fill in gaps in the collection.
   3) Materials to satisfy highly specialized interests are purchased if real or potential demand exists. These materials generally are purchased in limited quantities for a limited period of time and may be shelved separately or integrated into the collection, depending on the nature and duration of demand for them.
   4) In all instances, the depth of a specific area of the collection is reflective of its use and demand at the time of purchase, and no attempt is made to maintain or provide a quantitative equality of materials.
   5) The Main Library serves as a central repository of materials within the library system and, as such, retains materials for a longer period and in greater depth than other locations.
   6) Due to space and financial considerations, branch collections are limited in scope to current material and do not retain material of limited or infrequent use.
   7) A limited quantity of foreign language material is purchased as demand dictates.

C. Responsibility for Selection: The Library Director delegates the management of Adult collection development activities to primary selectors designated from among the professional reference staff. Secondary selection responsibilities are then assigned to additional staff members.

D. Criteria for Selection: See 13.0 Collection Development (D)

E. Selection Tools: See 13.0 Collection Development (E)

F. Formats: See 13.0 Collection Development (F)

G. Consortia: See 13.0 Collection Development (G)

H. Interlibrary Loan: See 13.0 Collection Development (H)

I. Deselection: See 13.0 Collection Development (I)