

Age-based Hold Protection for all New Materials

Proposal:

Officially sanction the use of Age-Based Hold Protection for *all* types of new materials.

Age-based hold protection limiting holds being placed on items to only those holds where pickup library = owning library for a period of 2 months based on the copy created date –

Use of age-based hold protection would be optional and individual libraries would decide which types of materials to protect.

PLS would recommend that age-based hold protection be used only for new releases, not used for replacement copies of older materials.

Age-based hold protection background facts:

- Current “hold protection” policy limiting holds for new videos only is based on limitations of the Unicorn system, where hold protections could only be defined as a part of the Item Type/general circulation rules
- Hold protection is its own setting in Evergreen and *is not linked* to circulation modifier or loan duration; limitations on new materials circulation characteristics are handled independently of the age-based hold protection
- It is not related to shelving location
- It can only be applied for items newly added to the catalog; the 2-month protection period is based on copy created date
- It cannot be used to "protect" items beyond the 2-month period
- It is *automatically deactivated* by the system

Pros:

- Meet board/trustee/director desire that materials purchased with local funds first meet local needs
- Help "my patrons first" hold fulfillment (if the item is only holdable for pickup at the owning library, chances are good it will continue to fill holds/circulate from that library)
- Reduce (hopefully eliminate) workarounds that libraries currently are doing to "protect" materials

Cons:

- Holds may not be filled as fast for libraries who do not own copies of titles where the majority/all other copies are protected
- Impression that materials are not equally shared by all libraries
- Age-based hold protection is not immediately discernable as a “hold denied” reason