Non-residents are defined as "a person who resides outside the taxing area of a public library" [23 Ill. Adm. Code 3030.110]. Non-residents have the option to annually purchase a card in order to obtain public library service.

Public library boards have the authority to extend the use of the library to non-residents for an annual fee, which must be at least equal to the cost paid by the residents. Selling non-resident cards is optional but most public library boards offer this fee-based service. Administrative rules [23 Ill. Adm. Code 3050] determine where non-residents must go to purchase their non-resident card. These same rules also delineate formula options that library boards should use in calculating the library’s non-resident fee. Once non-resident cards are purchased, the card is recognized as a valid public library card and can be used at other public libraries.

Therefore the Berwyn Public Library Board of Trustees agrees to participate in the State of Illinois’ nonresident fee program. The Berwyn Public Library will use the tax bill method to determine the cost of the nonresident card. The tax bill method applies as follows:

- For Home/Property Owners: The library’s tax rate is multiplied with the valuation of the nonresident’s property assessment. The nonresident must bring their most recent tax bill then this method is used. When this method is chosen, each nonresident card sold must be individually recalculated.

- For Renters: The library will either charge a minimum of 15 percent of the monthly rent as the annual nonresident fee, or devise its own formula. The nonresident must bring their most recent rent receipt. The local formula takes into account the average local rent of the general community of the public library, property tax rate, and the nonresident fee for residential homeowners.

A non-resident student may be issued a card, without payment of fee, pursuant to 75 ILCS 5/4-7. "Student", for purposes of this section, means an individual currently enrolled in a public or nonprofit private school (K-12) who does not have his or her principal residence within a public library service area. The student must present proof of eligibility, as required by statute, at the time of application for this card.