What is Interlibrary Loan?
When material is not available through any of the public libraries in Lancaster County, customers can request the item through Interlibrary Loan. The Lancaster Public Library Interlibrary Loan Department will obtain the requested material from a library outside Lancaster County. This is a service of Lancaster Public Library, funded by the Pennsylvania Office of Commonwealth Libraries, in its role as District Library Center.

Who may request Interlibrary Loan?
Any adult with a Lancaster County public library card—in good standing—may request an Interlibrary Loan item. “In good standing” is defined as no fines, fees, or overdue books on the account.

How long will it take for the materials I request?
Please allow a minimum of two (2) weeks to obtain requested material.

Does it cost anything?
Most items are obtained without incurring fees from the lending libraries. If a fee is assessed by the lending library the customer will be contacted before the material is obtained. These fees typically range from $5.00 to $20.00. Medical texts usually have fees of $12.00 and up.

Is my request confidential?
Yes. Interlibrary Loan requests are confidential.

Are there any items that cannot be obtained through Interlibrary Loan?
In compliance with the Pennsylvania Interlibrary Code, the Lancaster Public Library Interlibrary Loan Department will NOT request the following kinds of materials:
• Best sellers and newly published materials (within 12 months of publication)
• Issues/Volumes of periodicals and journals
• Reference materials
• Books-on-tape, Videos, CDs, and DVDs
• Rare books, special collection, and archival materials
• School/Course materials
• Licensed computer software data files