



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Communications Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY FINE DISCOUNT MONTH AT THE SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Program Originated from Mayor Faulconer's San Diego Works Initiative to Save Money, Increase Productivity

San Diego, CA... For a limited time, from September 1 - 30, 2015, San Diego Public Library users can return overdue books and materials and the Library will discount your fines (late charges) by 50% or users can pay 50% of their existing book and material fines due and the Library will erase the remaining 50%.

Library patrons are encouraged to search their bookcases and kids' rooms for overdue library books, CDs or DVDs and return them during this one time only fine discount time period. For those who haven't used their library cards for years because of their fines, this is the time to pay off or pay down their fine. Once they do they can check out all of the FREE resources the library has to offer including WIFI and high speed Internet computers, engaging events and classes for people of all ages, eBooks, eAudiobooks, electronic databases and so much more.

Library Fine Discount Month was an idea proposed by Library staff as part of Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer's *San Diego Works* program that encouraged City workers to submit ideas that save money and increase productivity. The library fine discount is one of 100 proposals that were accepted through Mayor Faulconer's *San Diego Works* program, which rewards City employees for ideas that benefit San Diego taxpayers by generating budgetary savings or improving processes and customer services. The accepted proposals are projected to save the City \$1.3 million in net annual savings once fully implemented.

"The money received from Library Fine Discount Month will help defray the expenses of implementing material handling systems at select branch libraries," said Misty Jones, director of the San Diego Public Library. "These systems, that embed radio frequency identification (RFID) tags in materials, will allow customers to check their materials in and out more quickly and make processing of materials more efficient, so Library staff can be redeployed to assist customers."

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"*San Diego Works* is working," said Mayor Faulconer. "This is just one of the many ideas our employees are putting into action to improve efficiency and customer service. We're working to harness the power of good ideas for the benefit of San Diegans."

This offer does not apply to accounts sent to the Treasurer's Office for collection or for Interlibrary Loan or San Diego Circuit charges. Fines can be paid down throughout the month and will be eligible each time for half price discount, however, this discount offer will not be extended beyond September 30, 2015. The discount does not apply to payments made online via debit or credit. Payments must be made in person by cash or check (or debit card at the Central library).

To learn more about Library Fine Discount Month, access Library's online catalog, or find out about the many other services, programs and events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, visit the library website at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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