



Starting January 1, 2018 we have changed some of the parameters regarding the use of the hoopla digital service so that we may better serve our patrons. These changes include:

- Access to all hoopla modules, including eBooks and audiobooks. You can still check out audiobooks, eComics, eBooks, movies, music and television shows using hoopla!
- A maximum check-out of five (5) items per month.
- A daily cost cap: A daily limit on the total cost for the hoopla service has been set. When patrons exceed the daily cost limit they will receive a message to try back the very next day.

As a library patron you have options! In addition to hoopla, the library offers eBooks and audiobooks through eLibraryNJ. We have increased the number of titles available to our patrons through eLibraryNJ to address the issue of longer hold periods.

The reason we made these changes is that the hoopla service works on a “cost-per-use” basis. The library pays for what our patrons check-out and listen to or view. This pricing methodology made it very difficult for us to predict the annual cost of this service. In addition, we found that the costs associated with hoopla to be disproportionate with the percentage of patrons using it, and with our total materials budget.

The decision to change hoopla was not made lightly. We fully appreciate the concerns our patrons have regarding our decision to modify this service; however, we needed to strike a balance between the rising costs associated with the hoopla digital service and being able to offer our patrons access to digital products in all formats. After much discussion we decided to limit monthly hoopla circulations to 5 per month, down from 10, and adopt a daily limit of cost.

These changes will allow the library to be able to predict a consistent annual cost that is an acceptable expenditure and does not affect the library’s ability to offer other services and materials, while still offering, with some restriction, the same services patrons have come to expect in the hoopla product.

The daily limit does mean that there is a possibility that patron access to hoopla may be “not available” after the daily cost allowance has been met. If this happens, access will be reset and available at 7:00 PM every day! We want to reassure our patrons that we have not eliminated the hoopla service. We are very happy that we have found a way to preserve hoopla and look forward to serving your future informational needs.