

Email Notices



this page has been moved to <https://support.goalexandria.com/knowledge-base/email-notices-best-practices/>

Communicating with everyone is essential when running a busy library, and email is usually the easiest route! Whether it's notifying patrons about holds that are ready to be picked up or letting a librarian know about upcoming reservations, Alexandria and Textbook Tracker offer a variety of notices.

There are two different kinds of email notices: those that are automatic and those that can be set up in Reports. Depending on your library's needs, you can use one or both.

Requirements

In order for any email notice to work, you need to make sure several things are set up:

- Configure your [Email Preferences](#). These can be accessed through **Preferences > Setup > Email** or **/admin > Email**.
- Add an email to your [site record](#).
- Make sure your patrons and operators have a [Primary Email](#) on their record so they can receive notifications and messages. Run a [Patrons with No Email report](#) to see who still needs to have an email added.



Use [GG4L](#) or [Clever](#) to automatically update patron information, such as email addresses.

Automatic Email Notices

Some notices go out automatically when certain events happen in Alexandria or Textbook Tracker. Here are a few things to note about these:

- In order for patrons and librarians to get these notices, you must have [Enable Automatic Email Notifications](#) turned on in **Circulation Preferences**.
- Several notifications also require additional preferences to be set.
- Some notice text can be customized and some can't. Those that can be customized are managed in [Circulation Letters](#) or [Advanced Bookings Notices](#).



These notices are Alexandria only.

Notification	Recipient	Additional Preferences	Customized Notice Text
Queue Hold • Librarian places a hold on an unavailable item through Circulation • Patron places a hold on an unavailable item through Researcher	Patron	N/A	N/A
On-Shelf Hold • Patron places a hold on an available item through Researcher	Librarian	Turn on Circulation Preferences > Circulation Rules > Email Librarian when an On-Shelf Hold is placed through Researcher .	N/A
In-Stock Hold • Librarian bookdrops an on-shelf hold or hold queue item through Circulation, making it in-stock	Patron	N/A	In-Stock Hold

Expired Queue Hold Expired pending hold is automatically removed during daily maintenance  Expired in-stock holds are not automatically removed. They stay until the item is bookdropped.	Patron	Set hold expiration dates with the Days to keep a hold request in the queue preference in Patron Policies .	N/A
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These notices are Alexandria only.

Notification	Recipient	Additional Preferences	Customized Notice Text
Reservation Placed - Librarian places a reservation through Circulation - Patron places a reservation through Researcher	Patron Librarian (at site that owns the reserved copy)	Turn on Circulation Preferences > Circulation Rules > Notify Librarian on New Reservation for the librarian to get a notice.	Patron Notice: Reservation Notice and Reservation Placed Librarian Notice: N/A
Reservation Upcoming Sent when there are a certain number of days before the reservation start date	Patron	Turn on Circulation Preferences > Circulation Rules > Notify Patron of Upcoming Reservations . Use Circulation Preferences > Circulation Rules > Days to Look Ahead for Reservations to modify the number of days Alexandria looks ahead before emailing upcoming reservation notifications.	N/A
Reservation Removed - Librarian removes reservation through Circulation - Patron removes reservation through Patron Status (Researcher)	Patron	N/A	Reservation Removed
Reservation Return Request Sent when there are a certain number of days before an Advanced Bookings reservation is due	Patron	Use Advanced Bookings Preferences > Settings > Days Before Item Is Due to Send Out Notice to set the number of days before items are due to send the notice.	Reservation Return Request



These notices work for both Alexandria and Textbook Tracker.

Notification	Recipient	Additional Preferences	Customized Notice Text
Overdue Item/Textbook Checked out item or textbook becomes overdue	Patron	Set transaction periods and hard due dates in Item Policies .	Circulation Letter
Lost Item/Textbook Overdue item or textbook is declared lost	Patron	Use Item Policy > Overdue > Declare Lost When Overdue to set the time period after which overdue items will be declared lost.	N/A



These notices work for both Alexandria and Textbook Tracker.

Notification	Recipient	Customized Notice Text
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Charge Incurred Charge is incurred on the patron's account (overdues, overdue continuing to accrue, item being declared lost or discarded, manual charges from Circulation)  If you make the charge manually in Circulation, you must check the option to email a receipt; charges made with the F and DL commands won't send a receipt/notice.	Patron	N/A
Charge Paid Charge is paid from Circulation and librarian checks the option to email a receipt	Patron	N/A
Charge Forgiven Charge is forgiven from Circulation and librarian checks the option to email a receipt	Patron	N/A
Charge Refunded Charge is refunded from Circulation and librarian checks the option to email a receipt	Patron	N/A
Credit Added Credit is added from Circulation and librarian checks the option to email a receipt	Patron	N/A
Credit Refunded Credit is refunded from Circulation and librarian checks the option to email a receipt	Patron	N/A

Report Email Notices

Some notices are set up and sent through [Reports](#). With these, you can:

- Send a notice once or [save and schedule](#) it to go out on a regular basis.
- Use selections to be more specific about which patrons get a notice.
- Customize the notice text. Some notices have default text that's determined by [Circulation Letters](#), but it can still be edited while setting everything up.

Report	Use	Circulation Letter Default
Alexandria and Textbook Tracker		
Account Introduction	Give patrons their login credentials and other important library information	Account Access Information
Account Expiring Notice	Notify patrons whose accounts are expiring in the next 30 days	N/A
Send Email	Send out a customizable email to a selection of patrons	N/A
Send Patron Details Email	Email Patron Details to selected patrons  You can also email or print Patron Details from Circulation.	N/A
Overdue Items Notice *	Notify patrons who have items that are overdue	Circulation Letter
Alexandria Only		
Coming Due Items Notice	Let patrons know their items are due soon	Circulation Letter
In-Stock Hold Notice	Notify patrons when an in-stock hold is ready for them to pick up	In-Stock Hold
Lost Items Charge Notice	Notify patrons who have unpaid lost items charges	Circulation Letter

Overdue Items and Unpaid Charges Notice *	Notify patrons who have overdue items and/or unpaid charges	Circulation Letter
Severely Overdue Items Notice	Notify patrons who have items that are severely overdue	Circulation Letter
Unpaid Charges Notice *	Notify patrons who have charges that haven't been paid yet	Circulation Letter



* When using the Email format for these notices, you can choose whether to send the notice to *only* the Primary Email or *all* emails on selected patron records. This allows you to notify both patrons and parents/guardians if necessary.

If there are emails you want for reference but don't want to use for notices, we recommend putting them in the [General Notes section](#) of patron records.

For automatic notices and other email notices, emails send to *only* the first email in the patron record (the Primary Email).