

Columbiana Senior Center Policy

Membership and Eligibility

Citizens of Columbiana and Shelby County can join the Columbiana Senior Center by completing necessary paperwork. Membership is free but there may be fees associated with some trips and activities.

Our center is designed for seniors who meet these criteria:

- Are 55 years old or older
- Are independant
 - Navigates facilities and outing locations without assistance
 - Understands and carries out directions from staff
 - Eat independently
 - Uses restroom without assistance
- Are citizens of Columbiana or Shelby County
- Pose no risk to themselves or others

Individuals who require assistance with independence may be eligible for membership if they have a companion or family member with them at all times to assist with independence. This must be approved by the director.

General Guidelines

Belongings:

The City of Columbiana and the staff of the Columbiana Senior Center take no responsibility for lost or stolen belongings and are not responsible for damage or theft. Any items accidentally left at the center will be placed in the lost and found and after one week will be thrown away or donated. Do not leave personal items at the center.

Absolutely no weapons will be permitted on Senior Center property.

Health and Safety:

The Columbiana Senior center staff are not trained medical personnel and can not assume responsibility for members whose medical conditions require nursing or care-giving assistance.

In the event of an emergency, 911 will be called immediately. Staff will then make every effort to contact your emergency contact. Only after being assessed by the emergency personnel (if the member is conscious and aware of the medical situation) can a member refuse medical assistance.

Activities and classes at the Columbiana Senior Center are to be performed by able bodied members only. The Columbiana Senior Center is not liable for any injury that occurs during an activity or class. Members should consult their doctors before joining exercise classes or programs.

Privacy:

Senior Center Staff will not disclose any information obtained from members. Names, addresses, phone numbers, and other information is confidential and will not be disclosed to other organizations or individuals.

Closing:

The Columbiana Senior Center will generally follow the Shelby County School system for emergency closures and incement weather closings. However, there will be times when Shelby County Schools close and we will remain open. Announcements about closing and cancelations are announced on social media, and will be available on the senior center voicemail. (669-3969)

Nutrition Program

Participants in the Nutrition Program must be 60 years old or older and complete necessary paperwork. A designated number of meals are available each day through the Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging and are available on a first come, first serve basis. Suggested donation is \$2.00 per meal.

Expected Behavior

The Columbiana Senior Center is a designated nonsmoking facility. Smoking is not permitted on the patio or on the front entry. There is a designated smoking area on the Milner Street side of the building.

Pets are not permitted at the facility unless they are part of a program or they are being used as a service animal for a member.

Use of derogatory comments, slurs or abusive language is prohibited. Language or photos that are threatening, loud, insulting or harassing are prohibited. Fighting, physical abuse, challenging others to fight, destroying or damaging property and other disruptive behaviors are prohibited. Such actions may lead to exclusion from the center.

Use of cell phones during programs and activities is disruptive and should be used with discretion.

All walkers and canes must have functioning rubber stoppers, tennis balls, or walker glides.

Exclusion from the Senior Center

Individuals who create serious disruptions or who act inappropriately may be asked to leave by Senior Center staff. The staff will take appropriate measures to have the individual removed if they refuse to leave voluntarily.

In the event that a decision is made to permanently exclude a member from the Senior Center, the member has a right to request, in writing, an appeal.

Volunteers

Volunteers are a vital part of our existence. Volunteer opportunities are available and posted for those interested in helping. Members are encouraged to volunteer.