

Book Vending Machine Tips

Here are steps to assist in securing a vending machine to distribute books if you find a clinic or physician who desires this method for book distribution. These tips are provided by the Smith County Medical Society Alliance, which uses a vending machine for its Texas BookShare program.

1. **Identify a location** for the vending machine (such as a free health clinic, children's advocacy center, or local pediatric clinic).
2. **Find book vending machine companies.** Ask friends or colleagues if they know of vending machine companies in the area, or search Google. If schools in the area have a book vending machine, reach out to find the company they used. (Some vending machine contacts appear at the end of this document.)
3. **Secure funding** to purchase a vending machine. Will the local alliance and county medical society pitch in? Will community organizations contribute? The average cost for a vending machine is \$4,500 to \$5,000 with custom graphics. Be sure to include funds for shipping, which can add several hundred dollars.
4. **Determine the size/type of vending machine needed.** The space available for the vending machine and



how many books you want to offer will help determine the size of machine needed.

The Smith County Medical Society Alliance vending machine is 72" tall x 38" wide x 36" deep and weighs about 500 pounds. It has four drawers with four to six selections per drawer, depending on the size of the books.

The cost of this vending machine was \$3,600, and the custom graphics (logo) on the bottom panel cost around \$500. The vending machine came with 100 tokens kids use to select their book.

Expect production time of about eight

weeks from order placement to delivery.

5. **Decide who will look after the vending machine.** This person will load the machine, restock it, and contact the vendor in the event of malfunction. This could be a member of the local alliance or county medical society, or someone on site.

Vending machine contacts:

[Moran Refreshments](#), Tyler, Texas (used by Smith County Medical Society Alliance)

Patrick Moran: (903) 535-2040 patrick@morancanteen.com

Can provide vending machines for locations across Texas; prefers locations within 1.5 hours of Tyler for training purposes and service/repair issues. Mr. Moran is willing to provide information about vendors he may know in other Texas communities.

[Global Vending Group](#), Buffalo, NY

(800) 592-4220

Seller of [Inchy's Bookworm Vending Machine](#)

Other questions? Email [Kelly Michaels](#), TMA Alliance board member from Smith County