

STATE LIBRARY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Fourth Quarter 2024-2025  
May 9, 2025

AGENDA

10:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Deborah Knox, Chairperson

A. Approval of Minutes [February 14, 2025]

Unfinished Business

B. Administration Report and SFY2025/FFY2024 Agency Funding

C. State Aid and Scholarship Rules

Other Unfinished Business

New Business

D. State Aid/Scholarships

- a. Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid
- b. Fourth Quarter State Aid Disbursement
- c. Draft Aid Proposals for First Quarter FY2026 State Aid
- d. New Scholarship Applications
- e. Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance

E. Staff Reports, Travel, and Correspondence

F. Public Library Systems and Library Development Districts

G. Board Information

- a. Board Directory, By-Laws, and Meetings

Other New Business

Public Comment

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The State Library Board convened on February 14, 2025, in the Bessie Moore Conference Room at the Arkansas State Library. Board members present were Deborah Knox (Chair), Shari Bales, Jason Rapert, and Lupe Peña de Martínez, with JoAnn Campbell and Pamela Meridith attending via Zoom. Staff members present were State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Deputy Director Kristen Cooke, Brooke Crawford, Jenn Wann, Sarah Lipsey, and Jaynie Browne. Sarah DeBusk from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

Knox called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from November 8, 2024 [A1]. A motion for approval was made by Rapert, seconded by Bales. The motion passed.

Brooke Crawford, Administrative Services Manager, covered items in Tab B, beginning with an update on the current vacant positions. The number of authorized staff is 49, and the agency's budgeted staff number is currently 43. The current staff is 39 full-time positions and an extra help position, with 2 shared services positions and 6 vacant positions. Federal closing reports were completed November 2024. The State Library Administrative Agency Survey, which is from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is currently in review. Attached to Crawford's report was the State Library Appropriation Bill for FY25-26, HB1127. Crawford completed her report with an overview of the State General Revenue [B2] and the Federal LSTA Revenue [B3] spreadsheets.

Chilcoat reviewed Tab C, containing the Standards for State Aid to Public Libraries [C1], the Rules Governing Distribution of Scholarship Assistance [C2], and the Scholarship Assistance Application form [C3].

Debbie Hall, Manager of Grants and Special Projects, gave her report [D1]. The FY23 State Program Report was submitted to IMLS at the beginning of December. Feedback for the report was received on February 13. After 39 years of service with the Arkansas State Library, Hall is retiring on April 30, 2025.

Sara Debusk from the AG's Office gave a summary of the federal court decision in *Virden et al. v. Crawford County* and *Fayetteville Public Library et al. v. Crawford County, Arkansas et al.*

Knox invited Rapert to address the agenda item E(a) regarding the American Library Association. Rapert confirmed with Chilcoat the existence of references to ALA within documents of the Arkansas State Library. At the request of Rapert, a video was shown of testimony opposing Connecticut Senate Bill 1271 of 2025, which would, among other requirements, prohibit school or public libraries from censoring or excluding books based on "race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability."

Rapert made a motion for the ASLB to draft amendments to all ASLB rules to remove all references to the American Library Association and to draft policies to ensure no state funds, grant funds, or scholarship funds are used to pay for American Library Association memberships or programming to the libraries that we issue funds to. Bales seconded. The motion failed on a voice vote, and a roll call vote was requested. Voting against the motion were Peña de Martínez, Knox, and Campbell. Voting for the motion were Bales and Rapert.

Rapert made a motion to suspend all distribution of funds or payments to any library actively suing the state of Arkansas or Arkansas taxpayers pending the final outcome of litigation in state or federal courts. The Arkansas State Library Board will ultimately decide how to handle the disbursement of any withheld funds at the conclusion of any pending litigation. The motion did not receive a second.

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Rapert made a motion to suspend all distribution of funds or payments to any library that allows unrestricted access to books or materials that contain sexually explicit, obscene, or pornographic materials to minor children. Bales seconded. The motion failed.

Chilcoat covered the rest of Tab E, beginning with a Memorandum of Understanding for the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library [E3] and a Memorandum of Understanding for the Carroll and Madison Library System [E4] for those libraries to engage the services of J.P. Myrick and Misty Hawkins, respectively, as MLS of Record. A motion to approve the Memoranda of Understanding for both libraries was made by Peña de Martínez, seconded by Bales. The motion passed.

Chilcoat then reviewed Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid [E5], noting any changes during the past quarter. A motion was made by Peña de Martínez, seconded by Campbell, to approve the list. The motion passed.

The recommended FY2025 State Aid Third Quarter Payments [E6] were presented. A motion was made by Peña de Martínez to approve the list. Campbell seconded. The motion passed.

A scholarship application [E7] was presented from Sydney Furney of the Fort Smith Public Library. A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Peña de Martínez, to approve the application. The motion passed.

An MLS Scholarship 3-year Requirement Waiver Request [E8] was presented on behalf of Riley Taurone. Bales moved to approve the waiver request. Campbell seconded. The motion passed.

The Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance [E9] was presented, requesting reimbursement for 11 recipients' coursework. A total of 81 hours were completed for a total cost of \$36,450. Peña de Martínez moved to approve the list. Bales seconded. The motion passed.

State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat gave her report [F1]. Mike Rogers, Arkansas's Chief Workforce Officer, visited the agency on November 18 to learn more about the services provided to libraries in Arkansas. Work with the ADE legal team on contract terms with Candid continues. Chilcoat has agreed to serve on the board of COSLA as one of two directors-at-large.

Deputy Director Kristen Cooke gave her report [F2]. The Institute of Museum and Library Services held its 2025 annual meeting of State Data Coordinators to discuss proposals for future Public Library Surveys. All State Data Coordinators are divided into territories, with one Mentor supporting each of five territories. Mentors also serve on the Library Statistics Working Group. Cooke has been elected to this role. The 2024 Public Library Survey will open on February 24, 2025, and close on April 11, 2025.

Jenn Wann, Manager of Library Development, presented her report [F3]. An intensive ALL-In workshop was presented November 14, 2024, on incorporating the practice of creativity in leadership and daily work. Wann shared feedback from the workshop.

Wann covered [F4] on behalf of Karen O'Connell, Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book. The Center for the Book Affiliates Network is working toward implementing priorities identified in *The Library of Congress Center for the Book Affiliate Program: FY2024-2028*. The National Book Festival will be held on September 26, 2025. There are 34 new titles that have been added to the book club project for the



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2025 calendar year. Titles have been accumulated for 2025 Arkansas Gems consideration, and the committee will meet in February to select finalists.

Wann covered [F5] on behalf of Amber Gregory, Manager of E-Rate Services. The E-Rate application filing window opened January 15, 2025, and will close on March 26, 2025. Between October 16, 2024, and January 21, 2025, 21 virtual E-Rate consultations were held with 19 Arkansas public libraries.

Wann covered [F6] on behalf of Ruth Hyatt, Coordinator of Youth Services, with an update that the November 15 workshop was attended by 140 youth services library staff from public libraries throughout Arkansas. The 2025 Summer Reading Program theme was "Color Our World". There were 85 Arkansas public libraries that partnered with PBS for the Mr. Rogers Sweater Drive, with a total of 5,400 items collected.

Wann covered [F7] on behalf of Janine Jamison-Miller, Coordinator of Training and Development. During this quarter, there were 352 registrations for PCI Webinars, 142 live weekly participants, 1,429 views of recorded archived webinar content, and 35 evaluations. Jamison-Miller will be providing Friends of the Library Training several times throughout the state in 2025.

Cooke covered [F8] on behalf of Kristina Hancock, Manager of the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. Hancock has resigned from her position as Manager of the Arkansas Library for the Blind and her last day was on January 3, 2025. The library for the Blind finished its XESS cycle in early December and is now continuing the recycling process for approximately 30,000 volumes. Natalie Marlin, Senior Librarian for Machine Lending and Outreach, exhibited at the Parkway Village Wellness Fair on October 4, 2024.

Britni McGuire, Manager of Information Services, delivered her report [F9]. The Library Technician position that was filled in September is now vacant again. The Senior Reference Librarian has resigned, and her last day will be on February 13, 2025. On January 2, McGuire and Cooke visited the East Central Arkansas Regional Library System in Wynne, Arkansas. McGuire provided the library's staff with a reference training workshop, and Cooke provided them with an overview of the Arkansas State Library's programs and services.

Cooke covered [F10] on behalf of Taylor McKinney, the Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator. McKinney completed implementation and onboarding training for Ashley County Libraries. A virtual training session will be held in March for the most recently implemented Mockingbird libraries. McKinney will join ADE Summit Planning Committee as ASL's representative for this annual event.

Sarah Lipsey, Division Manager of Collection Management, delivered her report [F11]. Preservica, our digital repository platform, is releasing major new features over the next year, including the implementation of tools to automate digital preservation tasks. These features were the main motivation behind the switch from CONTENTdm to Preservica, and staff aim to develop ASL's internal framework for digital preservation this year as our staff explores the new tools.

Jennifer Razer, Manager of Digital Services, gave her report [F12]. Razer is reviewing the Arkansas Documents collection and updating the metadata fields primarily for serial records to reflect the correct data format. The manager of Digital Services has reviewed and updated a spreadsheet for Digital Services-State Documents staff to utilize when reviewing serial publications produced by state agencies. The State Documents staff continues to process physical and digital submissions to the program. Over 3,000 documents have been processed during the past quarter. Marcive, the vendor who supplied our

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federal document bibliographic and authority records, went out of business in December 2024. Wendy Etchison, Federal Depository Library Coordinator, has explored options that would allow us to continue to include digital records in our catalog. Over the last quarter, there have been 4,000 federal documents processed, some of those older documents that were donated.

Sarah Lipsey covered [F13] on behalf of Katie Walton, Manager of Acquisitions. Acquisitions staff are currently completing periodicals beginning with J and hope to begin weeding titles beginning with K-L at the beginning of February. Acquisitions staff have accepted a donation of periodicals from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Chilcoat briefly covered correspondence [F14], a sampling of current news clippings relating to the library community [F15], the map of Arkansas Public Library Systems [G1], and the list of Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts [G2].

Chilcoat then reviewed the contact information for the State Library Board [H1]; other contacts in ADE, the Governor's Office, and the Attorney General's Office [H2]; and the Arkansas State Library Board By-Laws [H3].

The ASL Board Standing Committee Assignments [H4] were announced by Knox. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Chilcoat will be on the Executive Committee, Bales and Peña de Martínez on the Nominating Committee, Campbell and McKenzie on the Policies and By-Laws Committee, Rapert and Meridith on the Government Liaison Committee, and Peña de Martínez and Bales on the Personnel Committee.

Chilcoat presented the State Library Board Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy [H5] for board approval. Peña de Martínez moved and Bales seconded. The motion passed. Rapert and Peña de Martínez both stipulated that they do not claim the reimbursements provided for by this policy. The section was completed with the staff directory [H6] and the calendar of meetings for 2025 [H7].

The public comment period was held, with five speakers making remarks.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bales, seconded by Rapert. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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Approval Date

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Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian

## **Administrative Services Manager – Brooke Crawford**

### Staff Information:

Authorized staff: 49 (+2 Shared Services positions = 51 total staff)

Budgeted staff: 43

Current staff: 37 @ 4/15/25: 35 Full-Time, 2 Shared Services positions, 1 Extra Help, 6 Vacant Positions.

### Session:

HB1127 – State Library Appropriation Bill for FY25-26 was filed on 1/15/25, signed by the Governor on 4/10/25, and is now Act 543 of 2025.

### Assets/Inventory:

Finalizing verifications for equipment on loan items. Completed verification on agency assets and entering information into AASIS. I am currently working on an M&R pickup request for items that are broken or no longer needed.

### SLAA:

The State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) Survey was completed and certified on 2/27/25. (Deadline was March 10, 2025). The agency was awarded the John H. Lorenz Award for timely and accurate completion of the FY 2024 SLAA Survey. See attachment.

### Performance Evaluations (PEs):

Evaluations for FY25 were due on May 2 for review by Director Chilcoat. The deadline for ADE review is May 9, and discussions with staff will be held May 22 and 23. PEs will be viewable by employees on May 27.

### Training:

4/4/25: Attended an OPM webinar on FY25 Performance Evaluations.



*Fiscal Year 2024*

# JOHN G. LORENZ AWARD

is proudly presented to

## Brooke Crawford

Key Holder—Arkansas

*for your role in the complete, quality, and timely submission of State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) data for fiscal year (FY) 2024. IMLS appreciates your hard work, dedication, and achievement in supporting this survey.*

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**MATT BIRNBAUM**  
*Director of Research  
and Evaluation, IMLS*

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**MARISA PELCZAR**  
*Program Analyst, IMLS*

STATE GENERAL REVENUE  
EPA0100 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2025  
BY COMMITMENT ITEM  
APR 15, 2025

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	FY Blocks	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$1,750,087	\$62,633	\$1,687,454	46.2%	\$1,210,077	\$477,377	28%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$9,000	0.2%	\$4,549	\$4,451	49%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$668,326	\$44,999	\$623,327	17.1%	\$471,390	\$151,937	24%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$2,428,413	\$108,632	\$2,319,781	63.6%	\$1,686,017	\$633,764	27%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$1,125,091	\$30,318	\$1,094,773	30.0%	\$784,670	\$310,103	28%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$10,000		\$10,000	0.3%	\$503	\$9,497	95%
506:00:10	Prof. Fees & Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
	Total M & O	\$1,135,091	\$30,318	\$1,104,773	30.3%	\$785,173	\$319,600	29%
509:00:46	Books/Subscriptions	\$230,000	\$5,000	\$225,000	6.2%	\$154,736	\$70,264	31%
	TOTALS	\$3,793,504	\$143,950	\$3,649,554	100.0%	\$2,625,926	\$1,023,628	28%
	M&R paid to ASL account						\$0	100%

FEDERAL LSTA REVENUE  
FEL0100 FEL0200 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2025  
BY COMMITMENT ITEM  
APR 15, 2025

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$502,646	\$502,646	15.3%	\$317,954	\$184,692	37%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$22,000	\$22,000	0.7%	\$15,014	\$6,986	32%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$208,221	\$208,221	6.4%	\$151,818	\$56,403	27%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$732,867	\$732,867	22.4%	\$484,786	\$248,081	34%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$2,357,700	\$2,357,700	72.0%	\$1,270,354	\$1,087,346	46%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$145,000	\$145,000	4.4%	\$93,607	\$51,393	35%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$40,000	\$40,000	1.2%	\$14,949	\$25,051	63%
	Total M & O	\$2,542,700	\$2,542,700	77.6%	\$1,378,910	\$1,163,790	46%
	TOTALS	\$3,275,567	\$3,275,567	100.0%	\$1,863,697	\$1,411,870	43%

**ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY  
900 WEST CAPITOL, STE 100  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3108**

**STANDARDS FOR STATE AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**Authorized by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979**

**1.0 ORGANIZATION**

- 1.1 All county libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 244 of 1927. All city libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 177 of 1931.**
- 1.2 County and city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation as a department of county or municipal government.**
- 1.3 Public library systems composed of county and/or city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation under the provisions of a formal interlocal agreement, as provided in Section 90, Act 742 of 1977.**

**2.0 GOVERNANCE**

- 2.1 Policies for city, county, and regional library systems shall be established by legally constituted administrative boards, comprised of trustees serving designated terms, conducting regularly scheduled meetings, preferably not less than quarterly, and functioning with recorded bylaws and policies which are on file with the State Library.**
- 2.2 The library shall comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and shall provide library service for all residents.**
- 2.3 The library director shall submit quarterly, annual, and special reports as required to the State Library and to local boards.**
- 2.4 City, county, and regional library systems shall provide the State Library with a copy of a current long range plan developed for the purpose of guiding the public library administration in the attainment of goals and future planning.**

### **3.0 FINANCE**

- 3.1 The State Library Board supports the concept that libraries or library systems serving populations greater than 50,000, with budgets in excess of \$250,000, can render more efficient, effective library service, and preference of support shall be given to the development of such systems.**
- 3.2 All libraries shall maintain the one mill county or city library tax on real and personal property as authorized in Amendments 30 and 38 of the Arkansas Constitution.**
- 3.3 All cities and counties should restore the library tax to the maximum permitted by law by not later than July 1, 1991.**
- 3.4 Libraries should receive additional local support.**
- 3.5 The annual budget for city, county, and regional libraries shall be filed with the State Library. The budget should reflect an amount equal to the previous annual budget, plus growth, with the allocation for materials reflecting comparable growth.**

### **4.0 PERSONNEL**

- 4.1 City, county, and regional library systems participating in the State Aid to Public Libraries program shall be administered by a qualified librarian. A Master's degree in Library Science awarded through a program accredited by the American Library Association is recognized as the minimum qualifying degree.**
- 4.2 Systems employing a new head librarian or director after September 1, 1988, must provide the State Library Board with evidence of a qualifying library degree in order to continue participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program.**
- 4.3 Public library staff members should be well trained and qualified for their position. They should be encouraged to participate in continuing education and training programs to improve library skills.**
- 4.4 All libraries should have adequate support staff, with no employee receiving less than the current minimum wage.**

### **5.0 FACILITIES**

- 5.1 The county or city government shall provide a suitable building for headquarters operation and adequate quarters for necessary branches.**



## **6.0 RESOURCES AND RESOURCE SHARING**

- 6.1 The library shall maintain a current collection of materials to serve all citizens.**
- 6.2 The library shall agree to provide interlibrary loan service to other libraries in Arkansas.**
- 6.3 The library shall coordinate services for the blind and physically handicapped with the sections of the Arkansas State Library which administer these services.**

## **7.0 NOTIFICATION**

- 7.1 If the State Library Board determines that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the State Librarian shall notify the board chairman and the library director via certified mail not later than fifteen working days following that determination.**

## **8.0 RIGHT OF APPEAL**

- 8.1 Upon determination by the State Library Board that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the library or system shall have the right to appeal that decision at the next scheduled meeting of the State Library Board. Intent to appeal must be filed in writing with the State Librarian not more than thirty days following receipt of a notice of failure to meet the standards.**
- 8.2 All appeals shall be presented to the State Library Board in an open hearing, with the final determination to be made by the State Library Board.**
- 8.3 The State Library Board may provisionally approve a city, county, or regional library or system for a period of time they deem sufficient to rectify deficiencies. The Board may grant additional waivers upon acceptance of satisfactory evidence of progress.**

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY  
RULES GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION OF  
SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE  
Effective May 29, 2023

1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as Arkansas State Library Rules Governing the Distribution of Scholarship Assistance.
- 1.02 These rules are enacted pursuant to the Arkansas State Library's authority under Act 489, Acts of Arkansas 1979, Arkansas Code Anno. 13-2-201 et seq.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.01 It is the purpose of these rules to formalize a process already in existence and set reasonable guidelines to make scholarship assistance available to every public library in the state of Arkansas to address the education needs of public library staff working toward the ultimate goal of obtaining a master's degree in library and information science as defined in 3.03. These rules are specifically for the purpose of establishing standards for distributing funds available through the state aid to public library fund administered by the Arkansas State Library.

3.00 DEFINITIONS

- 3.01 ASL refers to the Arkansas State Library.
- 3.02 ALA refers to the American Library Association.
- 3.03 A master's degree refers to the educational award given by a library school whose program is accredited by the ALA.
- 3.04 State Aid refers to State Aid to Public Libraries

4.0 FOCUS AREA

- 4.01 To aid Arkansas public libraries in employing master's degree librarians by providing educational opportunities for public library staff members through traditional, on-campus or distance learning.

5.0 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

- 5.01 Scholarship funds will be distributed to a public library that submits scholarship application to the ASL Board. Priority will be given as follows:
  - 1. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed as library directors.
  - 2. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed positions other than library director.
  - 3. Public libraries not eligible for State Aid but recognized by the ASL as public libraries.

- 5.02 The applying institution (or its governing body) must be able to accept and administer the scholarship on behalf of the employee. Applying institutions may neither add to nor subtract from the scholarship eligibility requirements imposed on the employee.
- 5.03 Individuals upon whose behalf the library is applying must meet the following standards:
1. Unless employed as a library director and granted a waiver from the ASL Board, show evidence of completion of 12 semester hours toward the master's degree as evidenced by submitting an official transcript.
  2. Provide a copy of the agreement with the public library concerning employment in a public library for at least one year after completion of the master's degree.
  3. After each semester, furnish proof of completion of coursework which shows the individual received a minimum course grade (based upon an "A-F" grading scale), of "B", or if applicable, a "Credit" for a credit/no credit course. "Incompletes" do not qualify for reimbursement.
  4. Show evidence of conferral of degree by submitting an official transcript which indicates the date of conferral.
  5. Agree to remain employed by a public library in the state of Arkansas for a duration of one year upon completion of degree.
  6. Complete all required coursework and obtain the master's degree within three (3) years of acceptance to the scholarship program. This requirement may be waived by written appeal to, and approval by, the ASL Board.

## 6.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 6.01 The scholarship will be administered by the ASL Board.

## 7.0 SCHOLARSHIP PROPOSALS

- 7.01 The proposals shall include an application from the applicant library. The ASL Board shall review the proposals for approval. Proposals shall be consistent with Arkansas Code and existing ASL rules regarding an ALA accredited library program.
- 7.02 Funding may include but is not limited to tuition, materials, travel, lodging, and other items associated with educational costs.
- 7.03. Funding shall not be provided for hours in excess of the required number for the degree, nor for required courses not completed within the set number of hours required for the degree.

## 8.0 DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- 8.01 The ASL Board will budget and distribute funds appropriated for each biennium from the Arkansas State Legislature according to the following:
1. The total amount of funds to be distributed will be determined by the ASL Board each year at a minimum of 1% of the appropriated State Aid to Public Libraries.
  2. Funds may provide as many scholarships as are requested each year. All monies not disbursed shall be returned to the State Aid fund for distribution.
  3. Funds may be disbursed to the applicant library at the completion of each semester.
  4. Funds will be distributed via scholarship for each individual as identified by the ASL Board in accordance with eligibility. Each scholarship will include a set of assurances and provisions required in the eligibility standards.
- 8.02 The ASL Board reserves the right to approve or deny any scholarship applications.

## Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

**Instructions:** Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

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### APPLICANT

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State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

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Applicant Library Name

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Mailing Address

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City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

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Email Address

---

Phone Number

---

Fax Number

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Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

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Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

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Date

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### AGREEMENT

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I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

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Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

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Participant's Signature

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Date

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### RECOMMENDATION

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I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.

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Signature of State Librarian

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Date

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### ACTION TAKEN

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In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on \_\_\_\_\_ the Board voted to ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.

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Signature of State Library Board Chairman

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Date

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, DIRECTOR, AND AREA SERVICED:	2022 Population Served	LIB. TAX UNITS *	QTRLY MLS AWARD
<b>LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 150,001 OR MORE :</b>			
Central Arkansas Library System Nate Coulter, MLS - U of Wisconsin-Madison (Perry and Pulaski Counties, excluding North Little Rock)	344,581	4	YES
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library Clare Graham, MLS - UNT (Saline, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, and Cleveland Counties)	192,378	5	YES
Washington County Library System Glenda B. Audrain, MLS - U of AL (Washington County)	156,769	2	YES
<b>SUBTOTAL SERVED</b>	<b>693,728</b>		
<b>LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 75,001 TO 150,000:</b>			
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library John McGraw, MLIS - U of AL (Faulkner and Van Buren Counties)	143,767	2	YES
Crowley Ridge Regional Library Vanessa Adams, MLS - U of Missouri (Craighead and Poinsett Counties)	134,512	4	YES
Garland County Library Adam Webb, MLS - UNT (Garland County)	100,089	1	YES
Fort Smith Public Library Jennifer Goodson, MLIS-U of OK (Fort Smith District of Sebastian County)	89,992	1	YES
Fayetteville Public Library David Johnson, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (Fayetteville)	99,285	1	YES
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library Misty Hawkins, MLS - U of OK (Franklin, Johnson, Logan, and Yell Counties)	84,654	4	YES
White River Regional Library Debra Sutterfield, MLS - U. of AL (Cleburne, Fulton, Izard, Sharp, and Stone Counties)	82,099	5	YES
White County Library Darla Ino, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (White County)	77,755	1	YES
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library Mike Rogers, MLS - UNT (Clay, Greene, and Randolph Counties)	79,550	3	YES
<b>SUBTOTAL SERVED</b>	<b>891,703</b>		
<b>LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 50,001 TO 75,000:</b>			
Lonoke County Library John McGraw, MLIS - U of AL (MLS of Record) (Lonoke County)	75,225	1	YES
Rogers Public Library Hannah Pearce, MLS - U of So. Florida (Rogers)	72,999	1	YES
Union County Library Michael O'Connell, MLIS - Catholic Univ of America (Union County and contracted with Ouachita County)	64,496	4	YES
Pine Bluff and Jefferson County Library Ricky Williams, MLS - U of So. Mississippi (Jefferson County)	64,246	2	YES
Texarkana Public Library (Total Population 65,974) Olivia Poulton (Arkansas only 29,657) (Texarkana, AR and TX)	29,306	1	YES
North Little Rock Public Library Crystal Gates, MLIS - LSU (North Little Rock)	64,627	1	YES
Mississippi-Crittenden Co. Regional Library Lowell Walters, MSLS - Clarion (Mississippi and Crittenden Counties)	62,162	2	YES
Pope County Library Judy Mays, MLS - UNC/Chapel Hill (MLS of record) (Pope County)	64,065	1	YES
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library John Paul Myrick, MLS - U of Alabama (MLS of record) (Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew and Lincoln Counties)	60,606	5	YES
Crawford County Library System Charlene McDonnough, MLS - U of So. Carolina (Crawford County)	61,075	1	YES

**Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid**

Scott-Sebastian Regional Library Rene Myers, MLIS - U of WI/Milwaukee (Scott County and Sebastian County, South District)	48,874	2	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	667,681		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 25,001 to 50,000:			
Carroll and Madison Library System Misty Hawkins, MLS - U of OK (MLS of Record) (Carroll and Madison Counties)	46,228	2	YES
Tri-County Library System Marilyn Archer, MLS - Emporia State U. (Howard, Little River and Sevier Counties)	40,064	3	YES
Baxter County Library Kim Crow-Shearer, MLS - UNT (Baxter County)	42,435	1	YES
Independence County Library Laura Rumans, MLS - U of Texas (MLS of record) (Independence County)	37,945	1	YES
Boone County Library Ginger Schoenenberger - MLS - Clarion Univ (Boone County)	38,284	1	YES
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library <b>VACANT 6/2002</b> (Phillips, Lee, and Monroe Counties)	30,232	3	<b>NO</b>
Columbia County Library Holli Howard - UNT (Columbia County and contract with Lafayette County)	28,317	2	YES
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library Traci Hostetler, MLS - U of Oklahoma (Montgomery and Polk Counties)	27,893	2	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	291,398		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX SERVING FEWER THAN 25,000:			
West Memphis Public Library Rebecca Bledsoe (West Memphis)	23,795	1	<b>NO</b>
East Central Arkansas Regional Library John Paul Myrick, MLS - U of Alabama (Cross and Woodruff Counties)	22,650	2	YES
Clark County Library Betsy Fisher, MLIS - Wayne State Univeristy (Clark County)	21,250	1	YES
Hempstead County Library Courtney McNeil, MLS - Florida State U. (Hempstead County)	19,453	1	YES
Conway County Library Jay Carter, MLIS - USF (Conway County)	21,046	1	YES
Ashley County Library David Anderson, MLS - TWU (Ashley County)	18,354	2	YES
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library Courtney McNeil, MLS - Florida State U. (Nevada and Pike Counties)	18,360	2	YES
Arkansas County Library Allie Stevens, MLIS - LSU (Interim) (Arkansas County)	16,512	2	YES
Jackson County Library Jennifer Ballard, MLIS - U of AL (MLS of Record) (Jackson County)	16,624	1	YES
Marion County Library (Marion County)	17,254	1	YES
Lawrence County Library Ashley Burris, MLIS - U of AL (Lawrence County)	16,205	1	YES
Forrest City Public Library Arlisa Price, MSLS - UNT (Forrest City)	12,676	1	YES
Newton County Library Kenya Windel, MLS - UNT (Newton County)	7,078	1	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	231,257		
TOTAL POPULATION SERVED	2,775,767		

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.52200240	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	16,512	25,131		18,000	43,131	10,783	10,783	10,783	10,782
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crossett	13,741	20,914							
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crossett (city) (Ashley Co.)	4,613	7,021							
<b>Ashley Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,354</b>	<b>27,935</b>		<b>18,000</b>	<b>45,935</b>	<b>11,484</b>	<b>11,484</b>	<b>11,484</b>	<b>11,483</b>
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	42,435	64,586		18,000	82,586	20,647	20,647	20,647	20,645
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	38,284	58,268		18,000	76,268	19,067	19,067	19,067	19,067
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	21,250	32,343		18,000	50,343	12,586	12,586	12,586	12,585
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	22,216	33,813							
Columbia Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co. (contract)	6,101	9,286							
<b>Columbia Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>28,317</b>	<b>43,099</b>		<b>18,000</b>	<b>61,099</b>	<b>15,275</b>	<b>15,275</b>	<b>15,275</b>	<b>15,274</b>
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	21,046	32,032		18,000	50,032	12,508	12,508	12,508	12,508
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	61,075	92,956		18,000	110,956	27,739	27,739	27,739	27,739
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	100,089	152,336		18,000	170,336	42,584	42,584	42,584	42,584
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	19,453	29,608		18,000	47,608	11,902	11,902	11,902	11,902
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	37,945	57,752		18,000	75,752	18,938	18,938	18,938	18,938
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	16,624	25,302		18,000	43,302	10,825	10,825	10,825	10,827
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	24,751	37,671							
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	39,495	60,111							
<b>Jefferson Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,246</b>	<b>97,783</b>		<b>18,000</b>	<b>115,783</b>	<b>28,946</b>	<b>28,946</b>	<b>28,946</b>	<b>28,945</b>
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,205	24,664		18,000	42,664	10,666	10,666	10,666	10,666
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	75,225	114,493		18,000	132,493	33,123	33,123	33,123	33,124
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	17,254	26,261		18,000	44,261	11,065	11,065	11,065	11,066
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,078	10,773		18,000	28,773	7,193	7,193	7,193	7,194
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	64,065	97,507		18,000	115,507	28,877	28,877	28,877	28,876
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	17,063	25,970							
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	20,689	31,489							
Union Co. Lib.	Calhoun County (contract)	4,695	7,146							
Union Co. Lib.	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	10,298	15,674							
Union Co. Lib.	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden (contract)	11,751	17,885							
<b>Union Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,496</b>	<b>98,163</b>		<b>18,000</b>	<b>116,163</b>	<b>29,041</b>	<b>29,041</b>	<b>29,041</b>	<b>29,040</b>
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	156,769	238,603		18,000	256,603	64,151	64,151	64,151	64,150
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	77,755	118,343		18,000	136,343	34,086	34,086	34,086	34,085
<b>Total Single County Libraries</b>		<b>964,477</b>	<b>1,467,936</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>378,000</b>	<b>1,845,936</b>	<b>461,484</b>	<b>461,484</b>	<b>461,484</b>	<b>461,480</b>
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,271	26,287	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,001	39,574	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,253	32,347	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	20,129	30,636	12,000						
<b>Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>84,654</b>	<b>128,844</b>	<b>48,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>194,844</b>	<b>48,711</b>	<b>48,711</b>	<b>48,711</b>	<b>48,711</b>
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	28,742	43,745	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	17,486	26,614	12,000						
<b>Carroll &amp; Madison Co. Lib. System Total</b>		<b>46,228</b>	<b>70,359</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>112,359</b>	<b>28,090</b>	<b>28,090</b>	<b>28,090</b>	<b>28,089</b>
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	202,864	308,759							
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,063	15,316	12,000						

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.52200240	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NLR	131,654	200,378	12,000						
<b>Central Arkansas Lib. System Total</b>		<b>344,581</b>	<b>524,453</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>566,453</b>	<b>141,613</b>	<b>141,613</b>	<b>141,613</b>	<b>141,614</b>
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jonesboro	33,141	50,441	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co.)	78,876	120,049							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumann	15,190	23,119	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Trumann (city) (Poinsett Co.)	7,305	11,118							
<b>Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>134,512</b>	<b>204,728</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>246,728</b>	<b>61,682</b>	<b>61,682</b>	<b>61,682</b>	<b>61,682</b>
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cross Co.	16,601	25,267	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Woodruff Co.	6,049	9,207	12,000						
<b>East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>22,650</b>	<b>34,473</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>76,473</b>	<b>19,118</b>	<b>19,118</b>	<b>19,118</b>	<b>19,119</b>
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	127,665	194,306	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Van Buren Co.	16,102	24,507	12,000						
<b>Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>143,767</b>	<b>218,814</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>260,814</b>	<b>65,203</b>	<b>65,203</b>	<b>65,203</b>	<b>65,205</b>
Mid Ark Regional County Library	Cleveland Co.	7,467	11,365	12,000						
Mid Ark Regional County Library	Dallas Co.	6,191	9,423	12,000						
Mid Ark Regional County Library	Grant Co.	18,160	27,640	12,000						
Mid Ark Regional County Library	Hot Spring Co.	33,203	50,535	12,000						
Mid Ark Regional County Library	Saline Co.	127,357	193,838	12,000						
<b>Mid Ark Regional County Library</b>		<b>192,378</b>	<b>292,800</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>370,800</b>	<b>92,700</b>	<b>92,700</b>	<b>92,700</b>	<b>92,700</b>
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co.)	12,706	19,339							
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West Memphis	23,266	35,411	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blytheville	26,190	39,861	12,000						
<b>Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>62,162</b>	<b>94,611</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>136,611</b>	<b>34,153</b>	<b>34,153</b>	<b>34,153</b>	<b>34,152</b>
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Clay Co.	14,265	21,711	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Greene Co.	46,448	70,694	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Randolph Co.	18,837	28,670	12,000						
<b>Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>79,550</b>	<b>121,075</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>175,075</b>	<b>43,769</b>	<b>43,769</b>	<b>43,769</b>	<b>43,768</b>
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Montgomery Co.	8,556	13,022	12,000						
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Polk Co.	19,337	29,431	12,000						
<b>Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib Total</b>		<b>27,893</b>	<b>42,453</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>84,453</b>	<b>21,113</b>	<b>21,113</b>	<b>21,113</b>	<b>21,114</b>
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Lee Co.	8,364	12,730	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Monroe Co.	6,564	9,990	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	15,304	23,293	12,000						
<b>Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>30,232</b>	<b>46,013</b>	<b>36,000</b>		<b>82,013</b>	<b>20,503</b>	<b>20,503</b>	<b>20,503</b>	<b>20,504</b>
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Scott Co.	9,805	14,923	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Sebastian Co. Total less Fort Smith	39,067	59,460	12,000						
<b>Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>48,872</b>	<b>74,383</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>116,383</b>	<b>29,096</b>	<b>29,096</b>	<b>29,096</b>	<b>29,095</b>
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	10,135	15,425	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	9,873	15,027	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	10,771	16,393	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	16,911	25,739	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	12,916	19,658	12,000						
<b>Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>60,606</b>	<b>92,242</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>170,242</b>	<b>42,561</b>	<b>42,561</b>	<b>42,561</b>	<b>42,559</b>
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,181	12,452	12,000						
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,179	15,492	12,000						



## FY2025 State Aid

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.52200240	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
<b>Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,360</b>	<b>27,944</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>69,944</b>	<b>17,486</b>	<b>17,486</b>	<b>17,486</b>	<b>17,486</b>
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	12,557	19,112	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	11,821	17,992	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	15,686	23,874	12,000						
<b>Tri-County Reg. Lib.</b>		<b>40,064</b>	<b>60,978</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>114,978</b>	<b>28,744</b>	<b>28,744</b>	<b>28,744</b>	<b>28,746</b>
White River Reg. Lib.	Cleburne Co.	25,284	38,482	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,382	18,845	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	14,048	21,381	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Sharp Co.	17,810	27,107	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,575	19,139	12,000						
<b>White River Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>82,099</b>	<b>124,955</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>202,955</b>	<b>50,739</b>	<b>50,739</b>	<b>50,739</b>	<b>50,738</b>
<b>Total Regional Libraries</b>		<b>1,418,608</b>	<b>2,159,125</b>	<b>552,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>2,981,125</b>	<b>745,281</b>	<b>745,281</b>	<b>745,281</b>	<b>745,282</b>
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville (city)	99,285	151,112		18,000	169,112	42,278	42,278	42,278	42,278
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City (city)	12,676	19,293		18,000	37,293	9,323	9,323	9,323	9,324
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith (city)	89,992	136,968		18,000	154,968	38,742	38,742	38,742	38,742
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock (city)	64,627	98,362		18,000	116,362	29,091	29,091	29,091	29,089
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers (city)	72,999	111,105		18,000	129,105	32,276	32,276	32,276	32,277
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana (city)	29,306	44,604	12,000	18,000	74,604	18,651	18,651	18,651	18,651
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis (city)	23,795	36,216			36,216	9,054	9,054	9,054	9,054
<b>Total City Libraries</b>		<b>392,680</b>	<b>597,660</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>	<b>717,660</b>	<b>179,415</b>	<b>179,415</b>	<b>179,415</b>	<b>179,415</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,775,765</b>	<b>4,224,721</b>	<b>564,000</b>	<b>756,000</b>	<b>5,544,721</b>	<b>1,386,180</b>	<b>1,386,180</b>	<b>1,386,180</b>	<b>1,386,177</b>

<u>Counties Not Qualifying</u>		Total Released for FY2025 State Aid	5,694,721	Fifth Payment (optional) is the distribution of the remainder of the reserves held for scholarships, multi-county regionals and MLS awards. (Director discretion).	
Prairie	Reserved for Scholarships	(150,000)			
Searcy	Multi-County Regionals	(564,000)			
Benton	MLS Awards, 42 headquarters libraries	(756,000)			
Miller	Total Designated	(1,470,000)			
St. Francis	Balance for Per Capita Distribution		4,224,721		
Source: <a href="https://arstatedatacenter.youraedi.com/scripts/subcountyestimates.php">https://arstatedatacenter.youraedi.com/scripts/subcountyestimates.php</a>		4,224,721/2,775,765=	1.52200240		
AR Data Center - 2022 estimates					
Multi-County Regionals & MLS Awards are based on July 1st status.					
Only positive changes to the payout amounts are permitted during the year due to recipient budget expectations.					
				As of:	4/15/2025
				ACTUAL:	
				State Aid:	4,158,546
				Scholarships:	72,000
				Amt Paid Out	4,230,546
				Adjustments	-
				Balance	1,464,175

Apr 15, 2025

State Aid Distribution FY25

## Draft for One-Time State Aid Payment

August 2025

Removes MLS Payments

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment	Projected Total
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	16,512	24,817		18,000	↓	42,817
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crossett	13,741	20,652				
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crossett (city) (Ashley Co.)	4,613	6,933				
<b>Ashley Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,354</b>	<b>27,586</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>45,586</b>
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	42,435	63,779		18,000		81,779
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	38,284	57,540		18,000		75,540
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	21,250	31,938		18,000		49,938
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	22,216	33,390				
Columbia Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co. (contract)	6,101	9,170				
<b>Columbia Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>28,317</b>	<b>42,560</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>60,560</b>
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	21,046	31,632		18,000		49,632
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	61,075	91,794		18,000		109,794
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	100,089	150,432		18,000		168,432
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	19,453	29,237		18,000		47,237
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	37,945	57,031		18,000		75,031
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	16,624	24,986		18,000		42,986
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	24,751	37,200				
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	39,495	59,360				
<b>Jefferson Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,246</b>	<b>96,560</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,560</b>
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,205	24,356		18,000		42,356
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	75,225	113,062		18,000		131,062
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	17,254	25,932		18,000		43,932
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,078	10,638		18,000		28,638
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	64,065	96,288		18,000		114,288
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	17,063	25,645				
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	20,689	31,095				
Union Co. Lib.	Calhoun County (contract)	4,695	7,056				
Union Co. Lib.	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	10,298	15,478				
Union Co. Lib.	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden	11,751	17,662				
<b>Union Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,496</b>	<b>96,936</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,936</b>
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	156,769	235,621		18,000		253,621

**Draft for One-Time State Aid Payment**

**August 2025**

**Removes MLS Payments**

<b>Headquarters Lib.</b>	<b>Tax Unit</b>	<b>2022 Est Population</b>	<b>Per Capita @ 1.50297990</b>	<b>\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region</b>	<b>MLS</b>	<b>Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment</b>	<b>Projected Total</b>
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	77,755	116,864		18,000		134,864
<b>Total Single County Libraries</b>		<b>964,477</b>	<b>1,449,590</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>378,000</b>		<b>1,827,590</b>
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,271	25,958	12,000			
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,001	39,079	12,000			
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,253	31,943	12,000			
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	20,129	30,253	12,000			
<b>Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>84,654</b>	<b>127,233</b>	<b>48,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>193,233</b>
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	28,742	43,199	12,000			
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	17,486	26,281	12,000			
<b>Carroll &amp; Madison Co. Lib. System Total</b>		<b>46,228</b>	<b>69,480</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>111,480</b>
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	202,864	304,901				
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,063	15,124	12,000			
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NL	131,654	197,873	12,000			
<b>Central Arkansas Lib. System Total</b>		<b>344,581</b>	<b>517,898</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>559,898</b>
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jone	33,141	49,810	12,000			
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co	78,876	118,549				
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumar	15,190	22,830	12,000			
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Trumann (city) (Poinsett Co.)	7,305	10,979				
<b>Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>134,512</b>	<b>202,169</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>244,169</b>
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cross Co.	16,601	24,951	12,000			
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Woodruff Co.	6,049	9,092	12,000			
<b>East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>22,650</b>	<b>34,042</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>76,042</b>
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	127,665	191,878	12,000			
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Van Buren Co.	16,102	24,201	12,000			
<b>Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>143,767</b>	<b>216,079</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>258,079</b>
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Cleveland Co.	7,467	11,223	12,000			
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Dallas Co.	6,191	9,305	12,000			
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Grant Co.	18,160	27,294	12,000			
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Hot Spring Co.	33,203	49,903	12,000			
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Saline Co.	127,357	191,415	12,000			
<b>Malvern-Hot Spring County Library</b>		<b>192,378</b>	<b>289,140</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>367,140</b>
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co	12,706	19,097				

**Draft for One-Time State Aid Payment**

**August 2025**

**Removes MLS Payments**

<b>Headquarters Lib.</b>	<b>Tax Unit</b>	<b>2022 Est Population</b>	<b>Per Capita @ 1.50297990</b>	<b>\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region</b>	<b>MLS</b>	<b>Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment</b>	<b>Projected Total</b>
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West	23,266	34,968	12,000			
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blyth	26,190	39,363	12,000			
<b>Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>62,162</b>	<b>93,428</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>135,428</b>
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Clay Co.	14,265	21,440	12,000			
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Greene Co.	46,448	69,810	12,000			
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Randolph Co.	18,837	28,312	12,000			
<b>Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>79,550</b>	<b>119,562</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>173,562</b>
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Montgomery Co.	8,556	12,859	12,000			
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Polk Co.	19,337	29,063	12,000			
<b>Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib Total</b>		<b>27,893</b>	<b>41,923</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>83,923</b>
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Lee Co.	8,364	12,571	12,000			
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Monroe Co.	6,564	9,866	12,000			
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	15,304	23,002	12,000			
<b>Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>30,232</b>	<b>45,438</b>	<b>36,000</b>			<b>81,438</b>
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Scott Co.	9,805	14,737	12,000			
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Sebastian Co. Total less Fort S	39,067	58,717	12,000			
<b>Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>48,872</b>	<b>73,454</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>115,454</b>
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	10,135	15,233	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	9,873	14,839	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	10,771	16,189	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	16,911	25,417	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	12,916	19,412	12,000			
<b>Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>60,606</b>	<b>91,090</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>169,090</b>
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,181	12,296	12,000			
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,179	15,299	12,000			
<b>Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,360</b>	<b>27,595</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>69,595</b>
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	12,557	18,873	12,000			
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	11,821	17,767	12,000			
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	15,686	23,576	12,000			
<b>Tri-County Reg. Lib.</b>		<b>40,064</b>	<b>60,215</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,215</b>
White River Reg. Lib.	Cleburne Co.	25,284	38,001	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,382	18,610	12,000			

**Draft for One-Time State Aid Payment**

**August 2025**

**Removes MLS Payments**

<b>Headquarters Lib.</b>	<b>Tax Unit</b>	<b>2022 Est Population</b>	<b>Per Capita @ 1.50297990</b>	<b>\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region</b>	<b>MLS</b>	<b>Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment</b>	<b>Projected Total</b>
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	14,048	21,114	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Sharp Co.	17,810	26,768	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,575	18,900	12,000			
<b>White River Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>82,099</b>	<b>123,393</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>201,393</b>
<b>Total Regional Libraries</b>		<b>1,418,608</b>	<b>2,132,139</b>	<b>552,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>		<b>2,954,139</b>
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville (city)	99,285	149,223		18,000		167,223
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City (city)	12,676	19,052		18,000		37,052
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith (city)	89,992	135,256		18,000		153,256
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock (city)	64,627	97,133		18,000		115,133
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers (city)	72,999	109,716		18,000		127,716
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana (city)	29,306	44,046	12,000	18,000		74,046
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis (city)	23,795	35,763				35,763
Bella Vista Public Library	Bella Vista	31,733	47,694		18,000		65,694
Bentonville Public Library	Bentonville	57,868	86,974		18,000		104,974
Centerton Public Library	Centerton	21,525	32,352				32,352
Gentry Public Library	Gentry	4,209	6,326		18,000		24,326
Gravette Public Library	Gravette	3,706	5,570				5,570
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	Decatur	1,743	2,620				2,620
Lowell Public Library	Lowell	11,050	16,608				16,608
Pea Ridge Community Library	Pea Ridge	7,852	11,801				11,801
Rogers Public LibLibrary	Rogers	72,999	109,716		18,000		127,716
Siloam Springs Public Library	Siloam Springs	18,654	28,037		18,000		46,037
Sulphur Springs Public Library	Sulphur Springs	477	717				717
Ash Flat Public Library	Ash Flat	1,168	1,755				1,755
Calhoun County Library	Hampton and Thornton	4,695	7,056		18,000		25,056
Fairfield Bay Public Library	Fairfield Bay (Cleburne County)	2,152	3,234				3,234
Arkansas City Public Library	Arkansas City (Desha) <i>not part of SE</i>	360	541				541
Watson Public Library	Watson (Desha) <i>not part of SE</i>	174	262				262
Trumann Public Library	Trumann (Poinsett County)	7,305	10,979				10,979
Prairie County Library	Hazen	8,069	12,128				12,128
Searcy County Library	Marshall	7,918	11,901				11,901

**Draft for One-Time State Aid Payment**

**August 2025**

**Removes MLS Payments**

<b>Headquarters Lib.</b>	<b>Tax Unit</b>	<b>2022 Est Population</b>	<b>Per Capita @ 1.50297990</b>	<b>\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region</b>	<b>MLS</b>	<b>Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment</b>	<b>Projected Total</b>
Springdale Public Library	Springdale	87,672	131,769		18,000		149,769
			-				-
<b>Total City Libraries</b>		<b>392,680</b>	<b>1,118,231</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>		<b>1,364,231</b>
<b>Previous Grand Total</b>		<b>2,775,765</b>	<b>4,699,959</b>	<b>564,000</b>	<b>756,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>6,295,959</b>
<b>Minus MLS Payments of \$756,000</b>							<b>5,539,959</b>
<b>Target Total</b>							<b>\$5,641,919</b>

**Draft One-Time State Aid Payment**  
**August 2025**  
**Based on 10.39% Across-the-Board Decrease**

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Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment	Total FY2024
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	16,512	24,817		18,000	↓	42,817
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crossett	13,741	20,652				
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crossett (city) (Ashley Co.)	4,613	6,933				
<b>Ashley Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,354</b>	<b>27,586</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>45,586</b>
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	42,435	63,779		18,000		81,779
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	38,284	57,540		18,000		75,540
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	21,250	31,938		18,000		49,938
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	22,216	33,390				
Columbia Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co. (contract)	6,101	9,170				
<b>Columbia Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>28,317</b>	<b>42,560</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>60,560</b>
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	21,046	31,632		18,000		49,632
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	61,075	91,794		18,000		109,794
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	100,089	150,432		18,000		168,432
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	19,453	29,237		18,000		47,237
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	37,945	57,031		18,000		75,031
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	16,624	24,986		18,000		42,986
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	24,751	37,200				
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	39,495	59,360				
<b>Jefferson Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,246</b>	<b>96,560</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,560</b>
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,205	24,356		18,000		42,356
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	75,225	113,062		18,000		131,062
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	17,254	25,932		18,000		43,932
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,078	10,638		18,000		28,638
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	64,065	96,288		18,000		114,288
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	17,063	25,645				
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	20,689	31,095				
Union Co. Lib.	Calhoun County (contract)	4,695	7,056				
Union Co. Lib.	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	10,298	15,478				
Union Co. Lib.	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden (co	11,751	17,662				
<b>Union Co. Lib. Total</b>		<b>64,496</b>	<b>96,936</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,936</b>
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	156,769	235,621		18,000		253,621
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	77,755	116,864		18,000		134,864
<b>Total Single County Libraries</b>		<b>964,477</b>	<b>1,449,590</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>378,000</b>		<b>1,827,590</b>
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,271	25,958	12,000			

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Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment	Total FY2024
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,001	39,079	12,000			
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,253	31,943	12,000			
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	20,129	30,253	12,000			
<b>Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>84,654</b>	<b>127,233</b>	<b>48,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>193,233</b>
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	28,742	43,199	12,000			
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	17,486	26,281	12,000			
<b>Carroll &amp; Madison Co. Lib. System Total</b>		<b>46,228</b>	<b>69,480</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>111,480</b>
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	202,864	304,901				
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,063	15,124	12,000			



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Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NLR	131,654	197,873	12,000			
<b>Central Arkansas Lib. System Total</b>		<b>344,581</b>	<b>517,898</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>559,898</b>
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jonesboro	33,141	49,810	12,000			
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co.)	78,876	118,549				
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumann	15,190	22,830	12,000			
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Trumann (city) (Poinsett Co.)	7,305	10,979				
<b>Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>134,512</b>	<b>202,169</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>244,169</b>
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Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	127,665	191,878	12,000			
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Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co.)	12,706	19,097				
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West Memphis	23,266	34,968	12,000			
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blytheville	26,190	39,363	12,000			
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Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	15,304	23,002	12,000			
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Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	10,135	15,233	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	9,873	14,839	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	10,771	16,189	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	16,911	25,417	12,000			
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	12,916	19,412	12,000			
<b>Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>60,606</b>	<b>91,090</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>169,090</b>
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,181	12,296	12,000			
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,179	15,299	12,000			

**Draft One-Time State Aid Payment**  
**August 2025**  
**Based on 10.39% Across-the-Board Decrease**

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment	Total FY2024
<b>Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>18,360</b>	<b>27,595</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>69,595</b>
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	12,557	18,873	12,000			
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	11,821	17,767	12,000			
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	15,686	23,576	12,000			
<b>Tri-County Reg. Lib.</b>		<b>40,064</b>	<b>60,215</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>114,215</b>
White River Reg. Lib.	Cleburne Co.	25,284	38,001	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,382	18,610	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	14,048	21,114	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Sharp Co.	17,810	26,768	12,000			
White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,575	18,900	12,000			
<b>White River Reg. Lib. Total</b>		<b>82,099</b>	<b>123,393</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>		<b>201,393</b>
<b>Total Regional Libraries</b>		<b>1,418,608</b>	<b>2,132,139</b>	<b>552,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>		<b>2,954,139</b>
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville (city)	99,285	149,223		18,000		167,223
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City (city)	12,676	19,052		18,000		37,052
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith (city)	89,992	135,256		18,000		153,256
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock (city)	64,627	97,133		18,000		115,133
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers (city)	72,999	109,716		18,000		127,716
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana (city)	29,306	44,046	12,000	18,000		74,046
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis (city)	23,795	35,763				35,763
Bella Vista Public Library	Bella Vista	31,733	47,694		18,000		65,694
Bentonville Public Library	Bentonville	57,868	86,974		18,000		104,974
Centerton Public Library	Centerton	21,525	32,352				32,352
Gentry Public Library	Gentry	4,209	6,326		18,000		24,326
Gravette Public Library	Gravette	3,706	5,570				5,570
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	Decatur	1,743	2,620				2,620
Lowell Public Library	Lowell	11,050	16,608				16,608
Pea Ridge Community Library	Pea Ridge	7,852	11,801				11,801
Rogers Public LibLibrary	Rogers	72,999	109,716		18,000		127,716
Siloam Springs Public Library	Siloam Springs	18,654	28,037		18,000		46,037
Sulphur Springs Public Library	Sulphur Springs	477	717				717
Ash Flat Public Library	Ash Flat	1,168	1,755				1,755
Calhoun County Library	Hampton and Thornton	4,695	7,056		18,000		25,056
Fairfield Bay Public Library	Fairfield Bay (Cleburne County)	2,152	3,234				3,234
Arkansas City Public Library	Arkansas City (Desha) <i>not part of SE</i>	360	541				541

**Draft One-Time State Aid Payment**  
**August 2025**  
**Based on 10.39% Across-the-Board Decrease**

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Scholarsh ip Fund Allotment	Total FY2024
Watson Public Library	Watson (Desha) <i>not part of SEARL</i>	174	262				262
Trumann Public Library	Trumann (Poinsett County)	7,305	10,979				10,979
Prairie County Library	Hazen	8,069	12,128				12,128
Searcy County Library	Marshall	7,918	11,901				11,901
Springdale Public Library	Springdale	87,672	131,769		18,000		149,769
			-				-
			-				-
<b>Total City Libraries</b>		<b>392,680</b>	<b>1,118,231</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>		<b>1,364,231</b>
<b>Previous Grand Total</b>		<b>2,775,765</b>	<b>4,699,959</b>	<b>564,000</b>	<b>756,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>6,295,959</b>
<b>Minus 10.39%</b>							<b>5,641,180</b>
<b>Target Total</b>							<b>\$5,641,919</b>

## Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

**Instructions:** Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT	
<p>State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.</p>	
<p><b>Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System</b></p>	
<p>Applicant Library Name 114 W. Jefferson Street, Monticello, AR 71655</p>	
<p>Mailing Address Monticello, AR 71655-4150</p>	
<p>City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension director@searlibrary.org</p>	
<p>Email Address 870-367-8584</p>	
<p>Phone Number Ruth O'Loughlin</p>	
<p>870-367-8584</p>	
<p>870-367-8584</p>	
<p>Fax Number</p>	
<p>Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT) <i>Ruth O'Loughlin</i></p>	
<p>Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee</p>	
<p>12-9-24</p>	
<p>Date</p>	
AGREEMENT	
<p>I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.</p>	
<p><b>Hunter Bennett</b></p>	
<p>Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)</p>	
<p><i>Hunter Bennett</i></p>	
<p>Participant's Signature</p>	
<p>12/9/24</p>	
<p>Date</p>	
RECOMMENDATION	
<p>I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> approve ( ) deny this application.</p>	
<p><i>J. F. C. T.</i></p>	
<p>Signature of State Librarian</p>	
<p>4/22/25</p>	
<p>Date</p>	
ACTION TAKEN	
<p>In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.</p>	
<p>Signature of State Library Board Chairman</p>	
<p>Date</p>	

Jennifer Chilcoat, Director  
Arkansas State Library  
900 W. Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Recommendation Letter for Hunter Bennett

To the Arkansas State Library Board.

I am pleased to offer my highest recommendation for Ms. Hunter Bennett as a candidate for the Arkansas State Library's Scholarship Assistance Program, which will support her pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library Science. This fall, Ms. Bennett will begin her graduate studies at the University of Oklahoma.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Hunter since childhood, when she regularly attended summer reading programs at our library. During her college years, she worked part-time with us, demonstrating a strong work ethic and a genuine passion for library services. After graduating and spending some time working in Little Rock, she returned to our community and took on the role of Branch Manager at the Dumas Library, a position she held with distinction for five years.

Ms. Bennett is an exceptional leader with a clear vision for community engagement and library development. During her tenure as Branch Manager, she significantly expanded programming and revitalized the Friends of the Library group. Her dedication extended beyond the library walls; she was an active member of the Dumas Chamber of Commerce and the Desha County Museum, consistently demonstrating a deep commitment to public service and community enrichment.

Hunter's passion for libraries, coupled with her leadership experience and community involvement, make her an outstanding candidate for this scholarship. I am confident she will continue to make meaningful contributions to the field of library science and to the communities she serves.

Sincerely,

Judy Calhoun, retired Regional Library Director



February 28, 2025

Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian  
900 W. Capital Avenue, Suite 100  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Jennifer Chilcoat and the Arkansas State Library Board,

This letter expresses my intent to pursue a Master's in Library and Information Studies (MLIS) at the University of Oklahoma online. I have been accepted into the program, and I will begin my studies in the Fall of 2025.

Prior to pursuing the MLIS, I received two Bachelor of Arts degrees in History and English at the University of Arkansas at Monticello in 2016; I also received a Master of Arts in Public History from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2018. While completing my undergraduate studies, I became a substitute librarian at the Star City Branch Library. I loved my job, especially during the summer when I helped with the annual Summer Reading Program, and I was sad to end my substitute position once beginning graduate school. After receiving my first Master's degree, an opportunity opened for me to become the branch manager at the Dumas Branch Library. I was the branch manager for five years before being asked and subsequently hired as the new Regional Director for the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library (SEARL) system. All of these positions have taught me how to interact and support my community, while also understanding each position at the branch level within the Region.

My goal while completing my MLIS at the University of Oklahoma is to bolster the knowledge I already have, while also taking courses with unfamiliar/new concepts, so that our communities in Southeast Arkansas have the best access and support from their public libraries. Many of our communities are struggling, and I want the knowledge learned from this MLIS to be passed down to our branch managers to help our patrons be their best selves.

As I am currently employed as the Regional Director, I am also asking the Arkansas State Library Board for a waiver for the evidence of 12 semester hours of completion before the scholarship is administered should my application be approved.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my application for the Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance program.

Sincerely,



Hunter Bennett  
SEARL Regional Director

**Arkansas State Library  
Scholarship Assistance Application**

**Instructions:** Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

**APPLICANT**

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

**Grant County Library**

Applicant Library Name

210 N. Oak St.

Mailing Address

Sheridan/ AR/ 72150

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

jreeves@grantcountylibrary.org

Email Address

870-942-4436

Phone Number

870-942-7500

Fax Number

Carolyn Ashcraft

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

CAROLYN ASHCRAFT Carolyn Ashcraft 3/25/2025

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

Date

**AGREEMENT**

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Jessica G. Reeves

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Jessica G. Reeves

Participant's Signature

3-25-2025

Date

**RECOMMENDATION**

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ☒ approve ( ) deny this application.

J. F. Cut

Signature of State Librarian

4/15/25

Date

**ACTION TAKEN**

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on \_\_\_\_\_ the Board voted to ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date



Carolyn Ashcraft  
PO Box 876  
Sheridan, AR 72150-0876

April 24, 2025

Jennifer Chilcoat, Director  
Arkansas State Library  
900 West Capitol Ave., Ste. 100  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Jennifer:

I am writing on behalf of the Grant County Library Board of Trustees to request the approval of the application for scholarship assistance for Jessica Reeves,

Jessica has worked in libraries for the past 11 years and has held various positions. In 2018 she was hired for the Librarian position here in Sheridan. Since that time we have seen a major increase in library usage (both in person and remotely). Programs have been expanded to include something for all ages.

Jessica is enrolled in the MLS program at the University of Oklahoma (a transcript has been provided). The courses she is taking and the information she is acquiring is already helpful to her as she directs the library today and prepares for the future. She will be overseeing the remodel of a former bank building downtown and the relocation of our library into this 'new' facility in 2026.

The GCL board is committed to supporting Jessica in her efforts and will assuredly meet all the requirements outlined in the rules for scholarship assistance. We appreciate the attention of the State Library Board to our application for scholarship assistance for Jessica.

Best regards,



Carolyn Ashcraft  
Chair, Grant County Library Board of Trustees



Jessica Reeves  
750 Heritage Dr.  
Apt. 46  
Sheridan, AR 72150

**March 25, 2025**

**Arkansas State Library  
Attn: Jennifer Chilcoat  
900 W Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201**

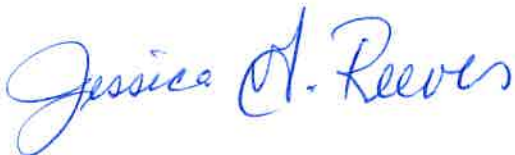
Dear Ms. Chilcoat,

The purpose of this letter is to establish an agreement with the **Grant County Library** and **Jessica G. Reeves** concerning the requirements for fulfilling the employment standards of the Arkansas State Library's Master of Library Science Scholarship. I, *Jessica G. Reeves*, agree to work no less than one year in an Arkansas public library, from completion of my degree, in accordance with standard 5.03.5 of the *Arkansas State Library Rules Governing Distribution of Scholarship Assistance*

I began the Master of Library and Information Science degree in Spring 2023 at the University of Oklahoma. The degree will be completed in December 2025. Proof of completion will be provided upon graduation.

Thank you for this opportunity,

Sincerely,



Jessica G. Reeves  
Grant County Library  
Director

Cc: Carolyn Ashcraft  
Chairman of Grant County Library Board of Trustees

## Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

**Instructions:** Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

### APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Bentonville Public Library  
Applicant Library Name  
405 S. Main Street  
Mailing Address  
Bentonville, AR 72712-5904  
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension  
(479) 271-3192  
Phone Number  
(479) 271-6775  
Fax Number  
Hadi Dudley  
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)  
[Signature]  
Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee  
4/22/2025  
Date

### AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

SARAH ELIZABETH HANST  
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)  
[Signature]  
Participant's Signature  
4-14-2025  
Date

### RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.

[Signature]  
Signature of State Librarian  
4/23/25  
Date

### ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on \_\_\_\_\_ the Board voted to ( ) approve ( ) deny this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of State Library Board Chairman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Our mission is to engage our community, to encourage discovery and promote literacy by offering lifelong learning opportunities.

April 22, 2025

Dear Arkansas State Library Board of Directors,

I support Sarah Hanst's application to participate in the Arkansas State Library's Scholarship Assistance Program, as she has met the minimum 12-hour completion of coursework and is currently employed at Bentonville Public Library (BPL). She is enrolled in the ALA-accredited Library and Information Science program at Louisiana State University.

Sarah began as a part-time clerk at Bentonville Public Library (BPL) in September 2022. Sarah had completed a practicum at Fayetteville Public Library, brought solid transferable skills from the pharmaceutical field, plus an educational background and academic pursuits that made her an ideal candidate for our Library. In that role, she was reliable, hardworking, and engaging with teammates and library patrons. In January 2025, Sarah was promoted to a full-time specialist II position at BPL and her contributions continue to make a positive impact.

Since joining BPL, Sarah has served our library in many ways, working in Children's Services:

- Front-line desk support in youth services
- Reader's advisory and reference help for young patrons
- Sorting, shelving and processing materials
- Receiving and cataloging new library materials
- Implementation of basic library science principals
- Program development for youth, specifically "tween" readers and families
  - Leads the Cover to Cover Book Discussion Group for 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade readers
  - Leads the Tween Activity Group for patrons in the 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, providing an outlet for young patrons to contribute to the Library
  - Develops passive learning activities, Chess Club, LEGO® and other family-friendly events.

Sarah's positive attitude and eagerness to serve others are shining qualities. She has excellent rapport with peers and patrons; she is smart, driven and excited to make a difference. Sarah has a passion for personal growth, which is a valuable attribute in our organization. She wants to "inspire a lifelong love of reading and learning for others." She is already accomplishing this important goal, and more. I look forward to watching her grow in the field of librarianship.

I am proud to say that Sarah Hanst is an asset to Bentonville Public Library, and to the Arkansas library community. I trust the scholarship assistance made in her education will be exponentially repaid by the contributions she makes to our profession.

Sincerely,

Hadi S. Dudley, MSIS, MA  
Library Director, Bentonville Public Library  
479-271-3194 | [hdudley@bentonvillear.com](mailto:hdudley@bentonvillear.com)

1 Bewcastle Lane  
Bella Vista, Arkansas 72714

April 22, 2025

Arkansas State Library  
900 W Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Distinguished Members of the Arkansas State Library Board:

Thank you for considering my application for the MLS Scholarship Assistance Program.

Libraries have always been a big part of my life. One of my earliest memories is of going to the library with my mother, walking down the stairs to get to the children's section. For me, it was a place that was always infused with wonder. I could pick up a book and go anywhere I wanted to go or be anyone or anything I wanted to be. As a kid from suburban Chicago, the library was my window to a wider world, with the kind librarians as my guides.

In my current position as a full-time staff member in the children's department of the Bentonville Public Library, my goal is to help instill that same sense of wonder and possibility I experienced as a child into the young people I see every day, sharing opportunities to expand their knowledge of the world around them through our collection, resources, programs, and personal connections.

Through my undergraduate course of study at the University of Nebraska at Omaha to the classes I've taken so far as a graduate student at LSU, I've been able to expand my knowledge, share ideas, and gain practical experience in the library world. Earning a master's degree in library and information studies will allow me to reach not only my own potential, but the ability to aid others in reaching theirs as well. The past few years of study and real-world experience have shown me without a doubt that this is the work I was meant to do.

Thank you once again for extending this opportunity, and for your time in considering my application.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hanst

## Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance

D6

Library Name	Individual Name	Library School	# of Hours --Summer 2025	Recommend Award in the amount of
Independence County Library	Sloane Lott	LSU	6	\$2,700
Rogers Public Library	Taylor Genser	UNT	6	\$2,700
Arkansas River Valley	Tyler Gale	Emporia State	6	\$2,700
Pope County	Riley Taurone	Emporia State	0	\$0
Ashley County Library	Mary Clatworthy	LSU	3	\$1,350
Saline County Library	Chelsea Simon	UNT	6	\$2,700
Jackson County Library	Lisa May	LSU	6	\$2,700
Grant County Library	Jessica Reeves	U of OK	15	\$6,750
Bentonville Public Library	Sarah Hanst	LSU	3	\$1,350
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$22,950</b>

## **State Librarian – Jennifer Chilcoat**

### **Legislative Session**

A number of bills affecting libraries were introduced in Arkansas's 2025 legislative session. ASL's appropriation bill, HB 1127, was signed by the Governor on April 10 and is now Act 543 of 2025.

SB 181 allows for work experience to be substituted for a master's degree from a graduate school of library science accredited by the American Library Association, with approval by the appropriate board of directors, for both the State Librarian and directors of regional library systems. That bill was signed by the Governor on March 4 and is now Act 242 of 2025.

SB 640 requires the termination of board appointments for the current members of the Arkansas State Library Board, and requires that the Governor appoint seven new members with staggered terms. That bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and is now Act 903.

### **Grant to Provide Candid Access**

Work is underway with the Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation to provide access to the Candid Foundation Center and GuideStar products for all public libraries in Arkansas. The Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation Board approved a grant of up to \$75,000 over three years to provide this resource. We will be rolling out access to these products later this month (May), using the Forrest City Public Library, the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library, and the East Central Arkansas Regional Library as our pilot libraries.

### **IMLS and LSTA Funding**

On March 14, President Trump issued an executive order titled "Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy," naming IMLS as one of seven federal entities required to "reduce the performance of their statutory functions and associated personnel to the minimum presence and function as required by law." The EO allowed 7 days for entities to comply. On March 19, Keith Sonderling, Deputy Secretary of Labor, was named Acting Director of IMLS, replacing former IMLS Acting Director Cyndee Landrum.

On March 31, all IMLS staff were placed on paid administrative leave for a period of up to 90 days. Approximately 12 of the original 70 staff have been recalled to continue the work of the agency.

On April 2, three state libraries—those of California, Washington, and Connecticut—received notification that their LSTA awards were terminated effective April 1 due to their grant projects being "inconsistent with IMLS priorities." No further LSTA grant terminations have been issued as of this writing, but many discretionary grants from IMLS have been terminated. On April 4, a coalition of 21 state attorneys general filed a joint lawsuit to stop the elimination of IMLS as well as the Minority Business Development Agency and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. The U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island set a hearing date of April 18.

### **Library Statistics Working Group**

Discussions are underway to set a course for future surveys and data sharing in the possible absence of IMLS involvement. Nearly every state is interested in continuing efforts at the state and national levels,

but funding challenges at both levels are leading to concerns about having the resources to continue at previous levels.

**Additional Activities** *(All meetings are online unless otherwise indicated)*

- COSLA Collaborative for Strategic Plan, daily input and monitoring, February 17-21
- Arkansas LAUNCH Press Conference and Workshop, Benton, February 25
- COSLA Member Update, February 27, March 20, April 3, April 10, April 24
- ADE HR re: HR Business Partner for State Library, February 28
- ASL Managers Meeting, March 5, April 2, May 7
- COSLA Board Strategic Planning, March 7
- COSLA - SLA Library Construction Admin Toolkit, March 11
- ASL Board Special Meeting, March 13
- ASL Youth Services Virtual Workshop, March 14
- rootEd Capitol Day Roundtable Lunch, March 19
- COSLA Board Meeting, March 27
- Secretary Oliva re: LSTA funding, April 1
- PCI Neurodivergent Staff workshop, April 2
- LSWG Spring Meeting, April 11
- ADE America 250 Committee, April 15
- COSLA National Library Service Conversation, April 17
- Potential rootEd Collaborations, April 24
- Retirement Celebration for Debbie Hall, April 30
- King Foundation/Candid Grant, May 1

**Acronyms:** AAAL - Advocates for All Arkansas Libraries; ADE - Arkansas Department of Education; ALA - American Library Association; ArLA - Arkansas Library Association; ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act; ARSL - Association for Rural and Small Libraries; CCPF - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund; COSLA - Chief Officers of State Library Agencies; DESE - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; FDLP - Federal Depository Library Program; GPO - Government Publishing Office; IDHI - Institute for Digital Health and Innovation (UAMS); IMLS - Institute of Museum and Library Services; LDD - Library Development District; LSWG - Library Statistics Working Group; MEAC - Measurement, Evaluation, and Assessment Committee (PLA); PLA - Public Library Association; SDC - State Data Coordinator; SHLB - Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition





*Fiscal Year 2024*

# JOHN G. LORENZ AWARD

is proudly presented to

Jennifer Chilcoat

Chief Officer—Arkansas

*for your role in the complete, quality, and timely submission of State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) data for fiscal year (FY) 2024. IMLS appreciates your hard work, dedication, and achievement in supporting this survey.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Birnbaum", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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**MATT BIRNBAUM**  
*Director of Research  
and Evaluation, IMLS*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marisa Pelczar", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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**MARISA PELCZAR**  
*Program Analyst, IMLS*

## **Deputy Director – Kristen Cooke**

### Ongoing Projects

#### **Congressional Visits**

I served as the Arkansas delegation for the funding of the Grants to States program under the Library Services and Technology Act ahead of the federal budget season. A copy of the 2025 report to legislators that provides overviews of programs and key performance indicators follows this report. The meetings provided an opportunity to receive updates on the funding atmosphere, the continuing resolution, and report on the impact and return on the investment of federal funding under the Library Services and Technology Act in Arkansas. The meetings also provided the opportunity to discuss the work the agency is doing to support broadband access, the development of digital skills, and the workforce development support that is provided through the administration of the block grant.

#### **2025 Meetings Held:**

Grace Vander Grift on behalf of Congressman Steve Womack

James Hodges on behalf of Congressman Rick Crawford

MacKenzie King on behalf of Senator Tom Cotton

Isabel David on behalf of Congressman Bruce Westerman

Ryan Dalbec on behalf of Congressman French Hill

#### **BEAD and Digital Literacy Initiatives**

Conversations continue as new information arises. However, until Phase II funding is announced, there are no recurring meetings scheduled at this time. ASL staff will continue our relationship with the University of Arkansas Extension Service and continue to explore opportunities for additional projects.

#### **State Data Coordinator Mentors**

In January 2025, I was elected to serve as an SDC Mentor. Mentors facilitate the efficient implementation of the Public Library Survey through the provision of training to their mentee states, meetings, and survey development. Mentors also serve on the Library Statistics Working Group.

With the Reduction in Force at the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, the SDC Mentors have played an increased role in maintaining the functions not currently administered by IMLS staff. SDC Mentors have focused on data preservation, website and portal archiving, continued support and training for SDCs, vendor communication, verification of other states'/territories' data, and supporting portal submission. Mentors have also developed updated agendas and meetings to keep other members of the Library Statistics Working Group informed.

Going forward, work will continue in the areas of information collection that will support the ongoing facilitation of the survey as required under the Library Services and Technology Act, and serving as the point of contact between the states and territories and researchers.

#### **2024 Arkansas Public Library Survey**

The 2024 Public Library Survey will close on May 9, 2025. The viability of verified submission through the federal portal is still ambiguous. However, a state-level data report will still be generated.

## **PLS Survey Development Subcommittee**

The PLS Survey Development Subcommittee is on hiatus with the Mentor group poised to continue this work as appropriate. Contracts that supported cognitive testing of data elements have been terminated.

## **BEAD Project Group**

Work has continued with the ASL Bead Project Group. At this stage in the process, ASL staff will continue to monitor federal funding developments and their implications for this project.

## **Outreach**

Outreach staff are working to identify areas of potential engagement with State of Arkansas employees. A description of available outreach services is being developed for the ASL website.

## **Southeast Arkansas Library Association - Speaker**

The Southeast Arkansas Library Association held its annual meeting March 21-23. I was invited to participate in a panel discussion about the skills and characteristics needed to be a successful library director. The panel was comprised of directors from a variety of library types and faculty members from Louisiana State University Master of Library & Information Science program. The event was an excellent opportunity to highlight working as a professional librarian in Arkansas.

## **Site Visit – Ash Flat Library**

I, along with Jenn Wann, had the pleasure of visiting Ash Flat Library to provide consultative services on capital funds, fundraising, and services available to them from the State of Arkansas. We visited the library shortly after a tornado impacted the area and are pleased to report there was no damage to the Ash Flat Library, though there was significant damage within the community.

## **Meetings and Events**

February 6	Meeting, IMLS and State Data Coordinators
February 6	Meeting, IMLS and State Data Coordinators Mentors
February 10	Policy Call, SHLB Members
February 12	Meeting, Grant Partners, Broadband Equity and Access Deployment
February 19,26	Meeting, Broadband Digital Skills Grant Partner Meeting
February 21	Meeting, Arkansas Gems Selection Committee
February 26	Meeting, Counting Opinions User Group
March 3	Meeting, E-rate Discussion
Mar. 12, 19, 26	Meeting, Broadband Partner Meeting
March 21-23	Southeast Library Association Conference
March 24	Meeting, SDC Mentors, Territory allocation
March 31	Stakeholder Training, Marion County Library
March 31	Harwood Public Innovators Lab – Orientation

April 1	Hardwood Public Innovators Lab – Session
April 2	Meeting, University of Arkansas Extension Service
April 3	Meeting, Contract Termination Notice, American Institutes for Research
April 4, 9	Meeting, State Data Coordinator Mentors

### **Upcoming Events**

Apr 4-16	US Patent and Trademarks Resource Center Annual Meeting
April 25	ARK-LINK Briefing
May 1	Meeting, State Data Coordinator Mentor
May 9	Public Library Survey Closing Data
July 28-Aug 1	Community Development Institute

March 2025

# **LIBRARY SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA)**

## **AND ARKANSAS PUBLIC LIBRARIES**



📞 501-682-2053

🌐 [library.arkansas.gov](http://library.arkansas.gov)

# Arkansas Libraries Quick Facts

Results from the 2023 Public Library Survey



**6,392,111**

In-Person  
Library Visits



**1,460,743**

Library Card  
Holders



**7**

Bookmobiles



**219**

Public Library  
Locations



**8,035,530**

Physical Items  
Borrowed



**8,712,824**

Ebooks



**1,770,927**

Downloadable  
Audio & Video  
Units



**67,927**

Interlibrary Loans



**764,519**

Uses of Public  
Computers



**1,980,821**

Wireless  
Sessions\*



**561**

Lending Hotspots



**941,698**

Total Attendees  
to All Programs



**344**

Computer Coding  
Programs for  
Ages 0-18



**464**

Workforce  
Readiness &  
Employment  
Programs



**4,352**

Kindergarten  
Readiness  
Programs



**707**

GED Prep, Tech  
School & College  
Readiness Programs

# LSTA: Enhancing Library Services for All Arkansans

## Highlights

- **Literacy.** Statewide programs such as Summer Reading support, book club kit lending, and the Arkansas Digital Library Consortium (ADLC) help small and rural libraries provide literacy activities in their local communities.
- **Training & Development.** Programs such as the Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (ALL-In), weekly webinars, and technical training for library staff increase knowledge, confidence, and expertise in the library workforce.
- **Technology Support.** Public libraries received commitments totaling \$984,700 to support highspeed internet access and WiFi through the E-Rate program. ASL provides direct assistance to public libraries in the administration and filing of E-Rate applications.



### Literacy

Summer Reading  
ADLC  
Library for the Blind  
Book Clubs  
Preschool Storytime



### Training

ALL-In  
Directors Summit  
Webinars  
Youth Services Workshop  
Board Training



### Technology

E-Rate Support  
Hot Spot Lending  
WiFi  
Digital Skills Training  
Cybersecurity

The Arkansas State Library uses Library Services and Technology Act funding to provide enhancements to library services that are available to all Arkansans.

# Literacy

Consortial programs such as ADLC, the statewide summer library program, interlibrary loan, and rotating book club kits, pool the buying power of Arkansas public libraries to provide value added library services that meet the needs and demands of local communities. Federal funds ensure that every Arkansan has access to quality reading programs and materials.



## ADLC

# 1,731,555

**eBooks borrowed from 143  
participating libraries**

## Summer Reading

Through the Summer Reading project and its activities, the Arkansas State Library supports the vital efforts of public librarians and educators to prevent grade level loss in reading that occurs during the summer months. The State Library provides four fully developed programs for libraries to customize to local needs.

"The number of total hours of reading reported for independent readers 5 and up was over 10,000."

-- Berryville Public Library

# 13,000+

**Arkansas children participated in  
their local Summer Reading  
Program in 2024.**

Arkansas River Valley Library,  
Dardanelle, AR





# Training & Development

Training and development programs such as continuing education, the youth services project, and consulting services build staff capacity and expertise in the library workforce throughout the state of Arkansas.

## Continuing Education



- Public Library Directors Summit
- Arkansas Library Leadership Institute
- Library Board of Trustees Training
- Friends of the Library Training
- Youth Services Workshop
- Library Foundations Training
- Customer Service Training

# 2,310



**Viewings of continuing education webinars by Arkansas library workers.**



# Technology

Technology in public libraries improves the economic health of rural communities by providing access to essential tools required for job search and career development, rural entrepreneurship, and online education. Programs such as Traveler and Mockingbird leverage collective buying to reduce duplication of resources and increase access to quality resources in rural communities throughout the state.

**Traveler**



## \$53 Million

**Saved by Arkansas schools and public libraries annually by the statewide Traveler subscription.**

Traveler provides statewide access to a collection of subscription digital resources for all Arkansas residents. ASL's subscription to Traveler resources saves Arkansas schools and public libraries about \$50 million annually. Traveler

**E-Rate Support**



## \$1,154,490

**Requested in E-Rate funding year 2023 by Arkansas public libraries.**

Arkansas public libraries consistently request approximately \$1 Million per year to afford robust broadband connections and up-to-date internal connections equipment to provide internet access and Wi-Fi to library patrons. Without these valuable E-Rate funds, libraries may not be able to afford adequate internet access to support entrepreneurship, digital skills training, education, and civic engagement in their communities.



**Mockingbird**

## 57

**Libraries participate in catalog sharing through Mockingbird.**



The Mockingbird project, launched in 2022, allows participating libraries throughout the state to share their catalogs with other libraries and library users for one stop searching.

## Manager of Library Development – Jennifer Wann

### On-Going Projects:

#### **Library Consulting Services**

Consulting topics included, but were not limited to: municipal library withdrawing from a county library; appropriateness of using natural language instead of professional jargon when classifying material (e.g. using “Teen” instead of “Young Adult”); automating library catalogs; starting a seed library; budgeting for professional development; canvassing on library property; what constitutes a “meeting” between two board members; best practices for taking minutes; writing board bylaws; virtual reality programming in libraries; concealed carrying on library property; establishment of a new library.

#### **Field Questions:**

- February 24: Notary Services Provided
- April 3: Number of Hours Open Per Week
- April 8: Public Access Computer Management

Libraries Visited: Monticello Branch Library; Ash Flat Library; Clark County Library (Arkadelphia); Cabe Public Library (Gurdon); Laman Public Library (North Little Rock); Pope County Library (Russellville)

The Manager, with significant contributions from several colleagues, recently created two publications describing ASL’s service and the impact of federal LSTA funds. Thanks go to Kristen Cooke, Ruth Hyatt, Amber Gregory, Karen O’Connell, Janine Miller, Britni McGuire, Taylor McKinney, Natalie Marlin, Jennifer Razer, and Katie Walton for their assistance. (Any typos and mistakes are solely the Manager’s.)

- [Arkansas State Library Explainer](#)
- [Library Services & Technology Act \(LSTA\) and Arkansas Public Libraries](#)

#### **Public Library Staff/Board Training**

- Board Training – Columbia County Library – February 24
- Circulating Library Kits – Youth Services Virtual Workshop – March 14
- Foundations of Librarianship – North Little Rock Library System – March 31
- Introduction to Myers-Briggs Personality Type – Pope County Library – April 11

#### **Professional Development & Service**

The Manager submitted, and had accepted, a chapter on building and sustaining communities of practice based on the experience of leading the third cohort of the Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (ALL-In). The chapter will appear in the forthcoming book *Cultivating Collaboration: Communities of Practice in Librarianship*.

### Upcoming Events:

April 30	Conduct Customer Service Training, Fayetteville Public Library
May 20	Tri-County Regional Library System Board of Trustee Training (De Queen)
May 29	East Central Arkansas Library Board of Trustee Training (Virtual)



# Arkansas State Library Explainer

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## What is the Arkansas State Library?

The Arkansas State Library (ASL) is both a library and a division of state government. As a library, ASL delivers specialized information services to public employees, patent and trademark researchers, individuals conducting research on both the state and federal governments, Arkansans with a print disability, and librarians across the state.

Director of the Arkansas State Library, also known as the “State Librarian” reports to both the Secretary of Education and to a seven member board appointed by the Governor.

## What does ASL do?

The work of ASL falls under three broad categories: 1) Serve as the reference and research library for Arkansas’ public employees; 2) Provide statewide library services to blind and print disabled Arkansans; and 3) Provide guidance and support for the development of local public libraries throughout the state of Arkansas.

## What library services does ASL provide to public employees?

ASL serves as the reference and research library for state government, and provides specialized information resources that are not available at other libraries. Unique collections at ASL that support the work of public employees include state and federal documents, Arkansas history resources, and proprietary databases. Proprietary databases provide public employees with access to news reports, articles, studies, and data that is not freely available elsewhere. Subject matter includes: agriculture, health and medicine, business and finance, industry, fisheries and wildlife, law, science and technology, and more.

## How does ASL support patent and trademark researchers?

ASL is the state’s only Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC). PTRC assists entrepreneurs, inventors, attorneys, and historians with research related to patent and trademark information, and supports their information needs related to intellectual property. Services include assisting users with searching for registered patents, providing directories of local patent attorneys, pro bono programs, and demonstrations of how to use the complex search tools that are used to complete a patent and trademark search.

## Why does ASL collect state and federal government documents?

The government documents collections at ASL provide transparency and accountability of both state and government institutions by collecting government publications and making them freely searchable and browsable by the public. Government documents include regulations, policies, reports, and studies. The collection assists educators, students, journalists, lawmakers, public employees, and the general public with research in the areas of civics, political science, law, history, and public administration.

## What does the Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled do?

The Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (BPD) provides audiobooks, magazines, and braille to Arkansans with a print disability. These services are provided free to individuals with a print disability. Print disabilities include blindness, low vision, and physical or reading disabilities that make it difficult to read standard print materials.

Materials are available in both physical formats that are mailed to users' homes, and in digital formats available for instant download. BPD librarians help users find books that match their interests and reading preferences from a collection of thousands of audio and braille books. Users can also access magazines, electronic braille, and music scores through BPD.

### Does ASL oversee public libraries?

No. In the state of Arkansas public libraries are units of local government. Public libraries can be departments of municipal government or county government. Multiple counties and / or cities can also work together to pool and share resources through regional library systems. Public libraries have local boards made up of qualifying electors of the county, municipality, or region served by

the library. Board members are appointed by the county judge, mayor, or, in the case of regional libraries, some combination thereof.

### How does ASL support public libraries?

ASL provides support to public libraries in two ways: 1) through direct grants, known as "State Aid" that provide broad flexibility for local libraries to use funds in the ways that most benefit the local community; and 2) through statewide services that reduce duplication of local efforts and reduce costs statewide.

Statewide services are designed to help local libraries reach their full potential and to meet the needs of the local community. Statewide services benefit local libraries in a wide variety of ways, and libraries can pick and choose which programs to participate in.

#### EXAMPLES OF STATEWIDE SERVICES

- Continuing education (CE) programs that help librarians improve skills and knowledge. CE webinars are offered weekly. A variety of in-person workshops are offered throughout the year across the state.
- The statewide summer reading program provides every library with a ready to implement program that includes art, activities, reading lists, and promotional materials. There are four summer reading program levels to ensure that Arkansans in every age group can participate: early literacy, children, teen, and adult.
- The Arkansas Digital Library Consortium allows libraries to pool resources to build a robust collection of e-books and audio e-books from 143 libraries statewide.

VISIT THE  
ARKANSAS  
STATE LIBRARY  
ON THE WEB



LEARN ABOUT  
THE LIBRARY  
SERVICES &  
TECHNOLOGY  
ACT AND  
ARKANSAS  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES

**Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book – Karen O’Connell**

On-Going Projects:

**Library of Congress Center for the Book Updates**

The Coordinator is facilitating the Center for the Book (CFB) Affiliates Network working group on the “Expand Great Reads” strategy. The group will submit a proposal to the Library of Congress in May to create a virtual reading passport for annual Great Reads selections. In addition, six Great Reads authors will be invited to be on the main National Book Festival stages this year, one author from each of the six CFB regions. Our Arkansas Great Reads selections for 2025 are: *Up Periscope! How Engineer Raye Montague Revolutionized Shipbuilding* by Jennifer Swanson and illustrated by Veronica Miller Jamison (New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2024); and *Mississippi Blue 42* by Eli Cranor (New York: Soho Crime, 2025).

**Book Club Project**

Attendance reports indicate 996 book club readers from January through April (to date), with April statistics still being submitted to the Center. From January through April (to date), 174 book club kits went out, with 2,088 books provided. A library book club coordinators meeting is scheduled for April 22 to discuss Readers’ Advisory tools as applied to book club title selections as well as consideration of new titles to add to the program for 2026.

**Arkansas Gems**

The Arkansas Gems committee met in February to select finalists. The finalists have been reviewed, and the design and permissions processes have commenced. The project is on schedule for 2025.

**If All Arkansas Read the Same Book**

As reported, the committee met on 12/16/24 and selected a novel for our 2025 program. A contract process-related question that was posed to ADE legal on 1/30/25 – with follow-ups on 2/7/25 and 2/24/25 – remains unanswered. Director Chilcoat is unable to definitively answer how we should move forward without input from ADE legal. Therefore, a draft contract was submitted to the ADE contract portal on 3/27/25. It has not moved beyond the ADE Legal assignment status in the portal as of April 15, 2025. Until contract guidance or further direction is provided, the agency has been unable to proceed with an author negotiation.

Upcoming Events:

April 22	Library Book Club Lending Program Meeting – Little Rock
T.B.D.	If All Arkansas Read the Same Book author tour
September 6	National Book Festival, Washington, D. C.
September 24	Basic Conservation Workshop for Public Libraries – Little Rock



## Manager of E-Rate Services – Amber Gregory

### On-Going Projects:

#### **E-Rate Updates**

- The Funding Year 2025 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026) E-Rate application filing window opened January 15, 2025, and closed on March 26, 2025. During the filing window, libraries filed E-Rate Forms 470 and 471 to request funding for internet access (Category 1) and/or internal connections equipment (Category 2).
- FY 2025 E-Rate AR library data:
  - Amount requested: \$1,163,260.11
    - Category 1: \$716,196.29
    - Category 2: \$447,063.82
  - Participation: 120 of 222 (55%) of Arkansas public library locations
  - Hotspots for patron checkout were added as eligible services FY 2025.
    - Amount requested: \$25,019.32
    - Participation: 5 library systems

#### **Virtual E-Rate Consultations with Arkansas Public Libraries**

Between January 22 and April 16, 2025, 86 virtual E-Rate consultations were held with 38 Arkansas public libraries. Assistance was given with E-Rate Forms 470, 471, 472, 486 and 498, bid evaluation, Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review questions, form modifications, service substitutions, and out-of-window waiver requests with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC).

Arkansas County Library	Elkins Public Library	Prescott/Nevada County Library
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library	Forrest City Public Library	Public Library of Camden and Ouachita County
Ashley County Library	Fort Smith Public Library	Saline County Library
Baxter County Library	Garland County Library	Sevier County Library
Boone County Library	Grant County Library	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
Bradley County Library	Gravette Public Library	Springdale Public Library
Chicot County Library	Lonoke County Library	Star City Branch Library
Clark County Library	Malvern/Hot Spring County Library	Trumann Public Library
Columbia County Library	Marion County Library	Van Buren County Public Library
Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library	Mississippi County Library	White County Regional Library
Crittenden County Library	Newton County Library	
Dallas County Library	Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library	
Desha County Library	Pope County Library	
East Central Arkansas Regional Library	Prairie County Library	

#### **Broadband and Digital Skills**

The Arkansas State Library (ASL) along with other Arkansas digital skills stakeholders, including the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research & Extension (Extension), are working together in preparation for the Arkansas State Broadband Office (ARSBO) release of two Digital Opportunity RFPs to move forward with implementation of the Arkansas Digital Skills and Opportunity Plan.

#### **Professional Development & Service**

January 27 - 28      USAC Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC

#### Upcoming Events:

April 28 - 29      USAC Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC

## Coordinator of Youth Services – Ruth Hyatt

### On-Going Projects:

#### **Youth Services Spring Virtual Workshop**

Ninety public library staff attended the Youth Services Spring Virtual workshop. Six sessions were offered by public library staff and staff from Library Development. Sessions for librarians serving youth from ages birth to teen were held including sessions on successful Toddler Time programs and popular teen genre fiction. ASL staff highlighted programs available to assist youth librarians provide enhanced services to patrons and to facilitate outreach efforts. To support the 2025 Summer Reading theme, *Color Our World*, a short creative challenge was demonstrated between each session. Challenges were chosen to encourage creativity and increase confidence for library staff who might find themselves with a need for an instant program requiring a minimum of supplies.

#### **Arkansas Choice Book Awards**

The nominees for the 2025-2026 Arkansas Diamond Primary Award and the Charlie May Simon Award have been announced. Lists are available on the ASL website:

- [Arkansas Diamond Primary Award](#)
- [Charlie May Simon Award](#)

2024-2025 Winners for both awards will be announced in May.

The committee for the Arkansas Teen Book Award will announce the next round of nominees by the end of April.

Promotional posters/flyers and bookmark files will be created for all three awards for print on demand at schools and public libraries in Arkansas.

#### **Summer Reading Program**

The Coordinator is preparing the evaluation instrument of the 2025 Summer Reading Program to be administered in August.

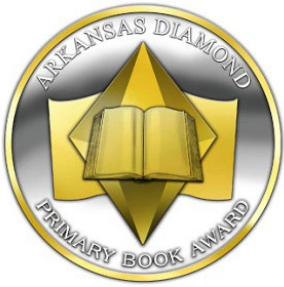
#### **Professional Development & Service**

The Coordinator attended the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss. The decades-old Festival celebrates both Children's Literature and public library programming for youth and families. Sessions included using a decommissioned trolley for community outreach, story walks, programming on the fly (referred to as Programs in Your Pocket in Arkansas professional development), working with the families of the incarcerated, passive programming, storytelling, community engagement, Canva for librarians, and ways to develop literacy skills.

### Upcoming events:

T.B.D.                      Youth Services Fall Workshop





# Arkansas Diamond Primary Award

## Nominations List 2025-2026

Voting for this list will take place in May 2026.

For more information contact Cassandra Barnett [cassandra.barnett@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:cassandra.barnett@ade.arkansas.gov)



### **Little Rosetta and the Talking Guitar**

By Charnelle Pinkney Barlow;

Published February 28, 2023 by Doubleday Books for Young Readers

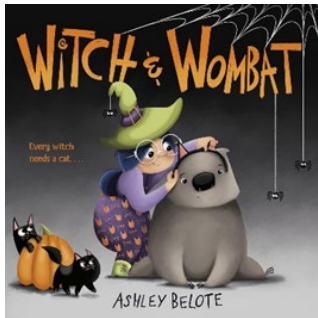


### **Pepita Meets Bebita**

By Ruth Behar & Gabriel Frye-Behar

Illustrated by Maribel Lechuga

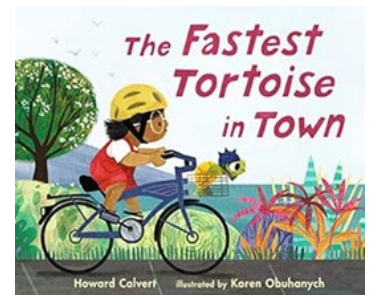
Published September 12, 2023 by Knopf Books for Young Readers



### **Witch and Wombat**

By Ashley Belote;

Published July 4, 2023 by Random House Books for Young Readers

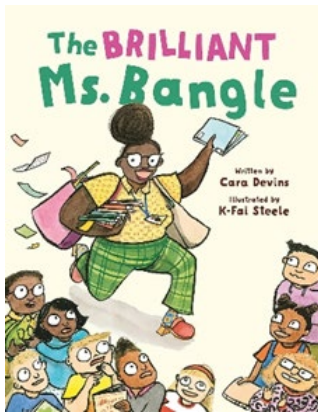


### **The Fastest Tortoise in Town**

By Howard Calvert

Illustrated by Karen Obuhanyich

Published April 11, 2023 by Candlewick

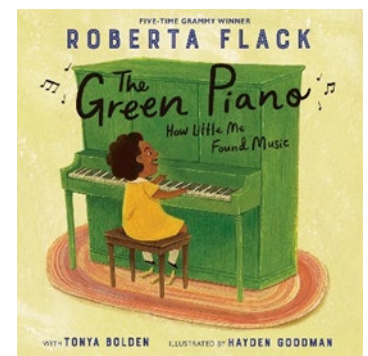


### **The Brilliant Ms. Bangle**

By Cara Devins

Illustrated by K-Fai Steele

Published June 20, 2023 by Feiwel & Friends

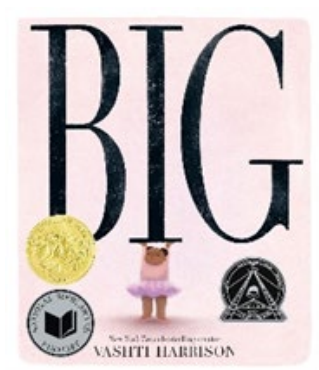


### **The Green Piano: How Little Me Found Music**

By Roberta Flack & Tonya Bolden

Illustrated by Hayden Goodman

Published January 10, 2023 by Anne Schwartz Books



## **Big**

By Vashti Harrison

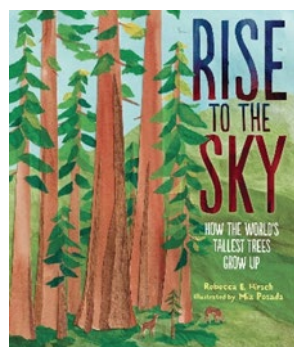
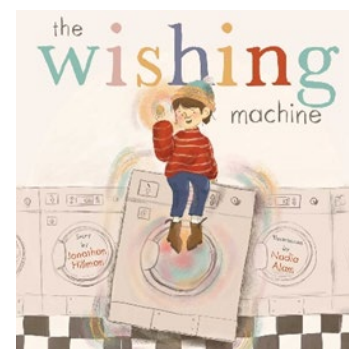
Published May 2, 2023 by Little Brown Books  
for Young Readers

## **The Wishing Machine**

By Johnathan Hillman

Illustrated by Nadia Alam

Published October 17, 2023  
By Simon & Schuster Books for  
Young Readers



## **Rise to the Sky**

By Rebecca E. Hirsch

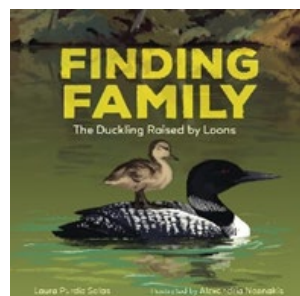
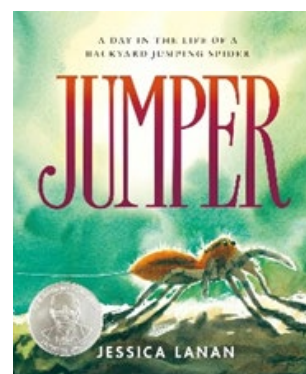
Illustrated by Mia Posada

Published April 4, 2023 by Millbrook Press

## **Jumper: a Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider**

By Jessica Lanan

Published April 11, 2023 by Roaring Brook Press



## **Finding Family: The Duckling Raised by Loons**

By Laura Pudie Salas

Illustrated by Alexandria Neonakis

Published March 7, 2023 by Millbrook Press

## **Simon and the Better Bone**

By Corey R. Tabor

Published May 9, 2023 by Greenwillow Books



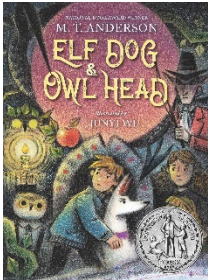


# The Charlie May Simon Award

## Nominations List 2025-2026

Voting for this list will take place in May 2026.

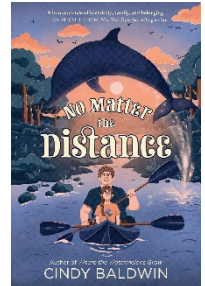
For more information contact Cassandra Barnett [cassandra.barnett@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:cassandra.barnett@ade.arkansas.gov)



### Elf Dog and Owl Head

M.T. Anderson

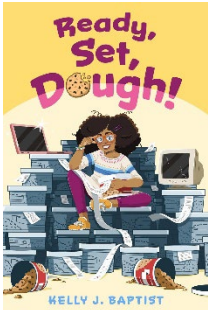
Published April 11, 2023, by Candlewick



### No Matter the Distance

Cindy Baldwin

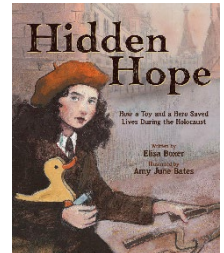
Published February 21, 2023, by Quill Tree Books



### Ready, Set, Dough

Kelly J. Baptiste

Published October 17, 2023 by Crown Books for Young Readers



### Hidden Hope: How a Toy and a Hero Saved Lives During the Holocaust

Elisa Boxer, Illustrated by Amy June Bates

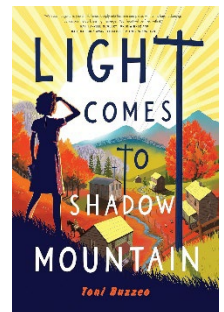
Published March 14, 2023, by Harry N. Abrams



### Finch House

Ciera Burch

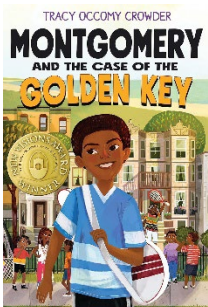
Published September 5, 2023 by Margaret K. McElderry Books



### Light Comes to Shadow Mountain

Toni Buzzeo

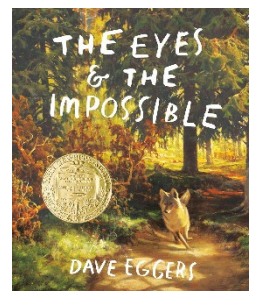
Published September 3, 2023, by Holiday House



### Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key

Tracy Ocomy Crowder, illustrated by Kristin Sorra

Published October 10, 2023 by Lee & Low Books

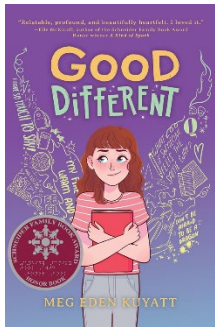


### The Eyes and the Impossible

David Eggers, illustrated by Shawn Harris

Published May 9, 2023, by Knopf Books for Young Readers





### **Good Different**

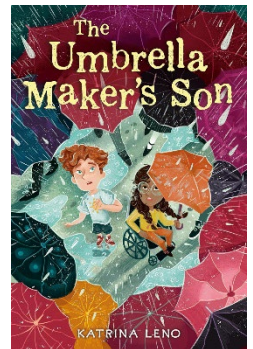
Meg Eden Kuyatt

Published April 4 2023, by Scholastic Press

### **The Umbrella Makers Son**

Katrina Leno

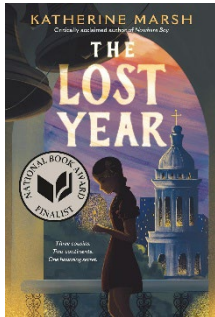
Published June 27, 2023, By HarperCollins



### **The Lost Year: A Survival Story of the Ukrainian Famine**

Katherine Marsh

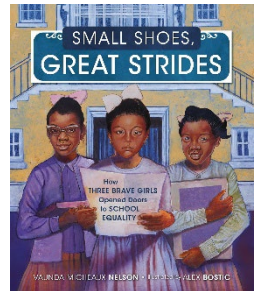
Published January 17, 2023, by Square Fish



### **Small Shoes, Great Strides: How Three Brave Girls Opened Doors to School Equality**

Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, illustrated by Alex Bostic

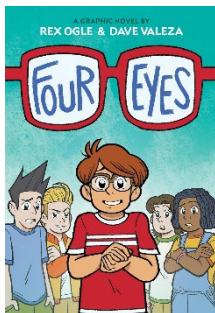
Published November 7, 2023, by Carolrhoda Books



### **Four Eyes: A Graphic Novel**

Rex Ogle, illustrated by Dave Valeza

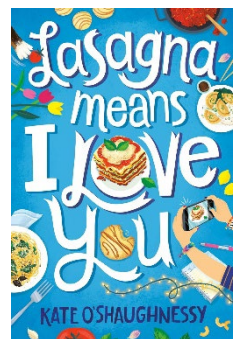
Published May 2, 2023, by Graphix



### **Lasagna Means I Love You**

Kate O'Shaughnessy

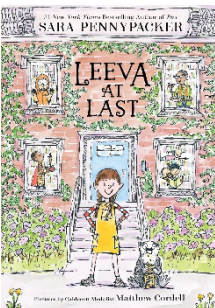
Published Feb 21, 2023, by Knopf Books for Young Readers



### **Leeva At Last**

Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Matthew Cordell

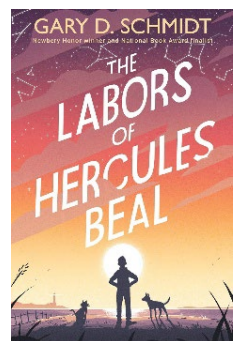
Published April 12, 2022 by Candlewick



### **The Labors of Hercules Beal**

Gary D. Schmidt

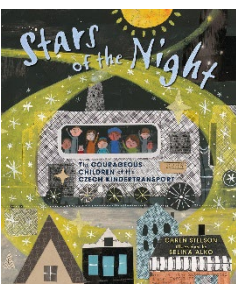
Published March 7, 2023, by Clarion Books



### **Stars of the Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kinderstransport**

Caren Stelson, illustrated by Selina Alko

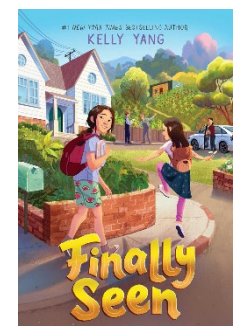
Published February 7, 2023, by Carolrhoda Books



### **Finally Seen**

Kelly Yang

Published February 28, 2023, by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers



## **Coordinator of Training and Development – Janine Jamison-Miller**

### On Going Projects

#### **Library Consulting Services**

Consulting topics included, but were not limited to: Professional Development opportunities, Memorandum of Understanding Review, Friends of the Library Bylaws Review, Roles and Responsibilities

Libraries Visited: Bentonville Public Library

#### **Continuing Education**

Since the last board meeting, PCI Webinars has offered 12 live weekly webinars. There were 377 registrations received, 167 live weekly participants, 1,610 views of recorded archived webinar content, and 47 evaluations were received.

#### **Friends of the Library**

The Coordinator of Training and Development facilitated a Friends of the Library workshop at the Bentonville Public Library. Training is designed to bring Friends groups, Foundations, library directors, and library staff together to work collaboratively to support the library. There were 41 registrations received from various groups in the area, and 21 attendees. The half-day training allowed participants to collaborate, network, share ideas, and learn new information in an interactive and cooperative way.

Three Arkansas Friends of Library groups received grants from Penguin Random House and United for Libraries in a new program serving rural and small libraries. Grant funds assist Friends of Library groups with priority projects including summer reading programs, outreach to seniors, bookmobile improvements, technology upgrades, Friends group development, and more. Nearly 300 applications were received. Congratulations to the Friends of the West Fork Library, the Friends of the Gentry Public Library, and the Newton County Friends of the Library.

#### **Professional Development & Service**

Since the last board meeting, the Coordinator of Training and Development provided training at the Youth Services Virtual Workshop about the State Library's PCI Webinars professional development platform. Participants were shown strategies to leverage PCI Webinars for use with the summer reading program, and throughout the year to help serve children, youth, and families in their respective communities.

The Coordinator of Training and Development has been selected to be a part of the NASA Solar System Ambassador Program. The program is designed to increase awareness about current space exploration programs. Through the Ambassador program, the Coordinator will provide training and materials to public libraries on NASA initiatives and STEM activities.

### Upcoming Events:

May 5-8	Assoc. for Rural & Small Libraries Executive Board Retreat
May 16	ALPS Infobits
June 6	Friends of the Library Workshop – Arkansas State Library

## **Arkansas Library for the Blind – Natalie Marlin**

Natalie Marlin accepted the position of Manager of the Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (LBPD). Prior to accepting this position, she served for five years in LBPD as Senior Librarian in charge of Machine Lending and Outreach.

Arkansas LBPD has been selected by NLS as a pilot library for "intelligent barcodes" for our patron cartridges. This means that they will be trackable while they are sent through the postal system, which would be helpful for when patrons report to us that they haven't received materials that were mailed out. This update went live on March 25 and so far, has seamlessly integrated into the current workflow. The hope is that this results in improved customer service for our patrons.

The Library for the Blind will complete its final XESS cycle at the end of April and once that is done, the rest of the collection can be recycled and what will remain is a small Juvenile collection of Braille.

Natalie attended outreach events in March and April with the assistance of Taylor McKinney, the Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator and Thomas Sepe, the Children's Programmer and Library Technician. These outreach events include:

- March 12-14 - 2025 Annual Conference for the Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers in Little Rock, AR. This was a new outreach audience and as a profession that is authorized to certify our patron's applications, it was decided to target this audience in hopes of spreading the word about our services. With both Taylor and Thomas assisting with the exhibit table, staff spoke with 106 participants.
- April 4-5 - 2025 Annual Conference for the Arkansas Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind in Bentonville, AR. While exhibiting at this event both days, Natalie also presented to the attendees about LBPD services. Approximately 42 people attended this program.
- April 10 - DSB Transition Fair in Little Rock, AR. The purpose of this event is to provide students that are blind or severely visually impaired resources to help them navigate throughout life after high school. Natalie had an exhibit table and gave a short presentation about LBPD services to the group. Taylor McKinney helped with this outreach and approximately 48 people attended the event.

## **CIRCULATION**

In the second quarter (Q2) of the Federal fiscal year (FY25), from January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025, the Arkansas State Library's Library for the Blind program circulated a total of 39,375 titles. Of this figure, 30,203 were by direct mail circulation of Audio titles, 24 were direct mail circulation of Braille titles, and 9,148 were patron downloads from the Braille and Audio Reading program (BARD). Patron downloads accounted for around 23 percent of total circulation.

## **READER INTERACTION STATISTICS**

For Q2 of FY25 (January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025) our Reader Advisors had a total of 6,919 patron interactions. 2,091 of those interactions were phone calls received. 564 emails were received and

responded to. 640 voicemails were received and responded to. 493 were new patron outreach calls and 3,131 were work follow up tasks. Work follow up includes curating a book order for a patron or searching for and providing reference information. Total patron interactions for Q1 and Q2 combined were 13,709.

## **BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) READERSHIP**

There are 1,162 Library for the Blind readers registered with the National Library Service for the Blind (NLS) BARD program. Of those patrons, 462 actively download digital audio and braille books and magazines. For Q2 of the FY25 (January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025) the total number of downloaded BARD items was 9,148. Total downloads for Q1 and Q2 of FY25 combined was 20,109. Patrons read these items on 2,103 total registered mobile devices.

## **OUTSOURCING BRAILLE**

On July 1 of 2018 the Library entered into a contract with the Utah State Library for the Blind in Salt Lake City Utah to provide circulation of Braille books to Arkansas patrons. ASL continues to provide limited Braille service directly from its holdings as available, but with declining circulation, only 21 Braille books circulated in Q2 and a total of 90 Braille books circulated since FY 25 began.

## **OUTREACH/TRAINING/MEETINGS**

January 8	Monthly Meeting	NLS Equipment Repair Meeting
January 15	Training	Cognito: Mastering Workflow Part 1: Workflow 101
January 28	Monthly Meeting	NLS Equipment Association Meeting
January 29	Monthly Meeting	NLS Open Forum
January 31	Outreach/Program	AR LBPDP Adult Book Club Meeting
February 5	Monthly Meeting	NLS Equipment Repair Meeting
February 12	Quarterly Meeting	NLS Southern Conference Meeting
February 13	Quarterly Meeting	FAIRS Meeting
February 25	Monthly Meeting	NLS Equipment Association Meeting
February 26	Monthly Meeting	NLS Open Forum
February 28	Outreach/Program	AR LBPDP Adult Book Club Meeting
March 4	Training	Arkansas Government Basics, OPM
March 12-14	Outreach	AR Social Workers Conference
March 14	Quarterly Meeting	DSB Quarterly Meeting
March 25	Monthly Meeting	NLS Equipment Association Meeting

March 26	Monthly Meeting	NLS Open Forum
March 31	Outreach/Program	AR LBPD Adult Book Club Meeting
April 4-5	Outreach	NFB Arkansas Chapter Annual Convention
April 10	Outreach	DSB Transition Fair

**Acronyms:** **AR LBPD** – Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled; **DSB** – Division of Services for the Blind; **FAIRS** – Friends of Arkansas Information Reading Services; **NFB** – National Federation of the Blind; **NLS** – National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled



## Information Services Manager – Britni McGuire

### Patent and Trademark Resource Center

April 14-17, the Information Services Manager, Britni McGuire, attended the Virtual Annual Patent and Trademark Resource Center Seminar. The seminar dedicated one day to patent training, one day to trademark training, and one day to patent and trademark best practices. The information gained in these sessions will be used to improve our Patent and Trademark Resource Center services.

Over the last couple months, we have been working with the Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center to organize a One-Day Patent and Trademark Intensive Bootcamp. This event is designed for Arkansas-based entrepreneurs, small business owners, and inventors to understand the value of their intellectual property and how to protect it through patent and trademark registration.

### Professional Development

At the end of July, the IS Manager will be attending the Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Central Arkansas. CDI is a 3-year program, with one week of training per year, that teaches participants how to connect community assets with opportunities, build consensus with local and regional leaders, and sustain economic development over time.

### 2025 Usage Statistics

<b>CIRCULATION</b>	Jan	Feb	Mar
In-Person Attendance	110	85	122
Public Computer Use	27	16	30
Circulation Phone Calls	71	65	78
Reference Referrals Phone Calls	0	0	5
Walk-In Reference	0	0	2
<b>REFERENCE / RESEARCH</b>			
Total Reference Research Requests	9	8	11
<b>REFERENCE REQUEST RECEIVED VIA</b>			
Online form (Wufoo)	5	3	3
Phone	3	1	5
Email	1	4	2
In Person	0	0	1
Mail	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
<b>PATRON LOCATION</b>			
In-state	7	7	7
Out-of-state	2	1	3

<b>PATRON TYPE</b>			
Public Library	0	0	1
State Agency	2	2	2
Higher Education	0	3	0
K-12	0	0	0
General Public	7	3	8
Other	0	0	0
<b>CATEGORY/MATERIALS USED</b>			
Arkansas Rules & Regulations	0	1	1
Other State Documents	0	1	1
Federal Documents	0	0	0
Library catalog / Other physical library materials	2	2	1
State Digital Library Collections	2	1	0
Genealogy / Obituary	0	0	0
USPTO Resources (Federal Patents and Trademarks)	3	1	1
Copyright (Library of Congress)	0	0	0
Arkansas Secretary of State (State Trademark and Business Resources)	0	1	1
Other Government website	1	1	1
Database	0	4	3
Referral	2	2	5
Internet	3	0	1
Other	0	0	0
<b>AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER REQUEST</b>	44.4	59.4	29
<b>INTERLIBRARY LENDING</b>			
ILL requests for state employees	46	21	8
ILL requests for public libraries	42	20	20

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

June 11 – One-Day Patent and Trademark Intensive at Arkansas State Library

July 28 – August 1 – Community Development Institute at University of Central Arkansas

## Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator – Taylor McKinney

### On-Going Projects:

#### **Mockingbird Virtual Union Catalog (Statewide Resource Sharing)**

The Sharing and Engagement Coordinator conducted a successful meeting with the Mid Arkansas Library System at the end of January and communicated her findings to Auto-Graphics. She is now coordinating a follow-up meeting with the Mid Arkansas Library System to facilitate a discussion with the librarians and Auto-Graphics product representatives to find the configuration that best suits their needs. She was invited to participate in the Arkansas Gems selection process and completed three books to contribute to the discussion. The Sharing and Engagement coordinator met with the Manager of the Library for the Blind and Print disabled to prepare to assist with outreach events and become familiar with the devices and services offered by the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. She surveyed the interest and availabilities of Mockingbird libraries and has secured dates and three locations to hold in-person training for Mockingbird libraries this September 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The Sharing and Engagement Coordinator is also coordinating a virtual meeting between relevant Mockingbird libraries to discuss the logistical requirements of circulating Book Club Kits through Mockingbird and is attending the Book Club Coordinators Meeting in April to become familiar with the program.

	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Quarter Total*
Vendor Tickets	0	1	1	2
Questions	4	4	1	9
Consults	1	0	0	1
Unique ILL Requests	250	291	148	689
Loans Made	218	236	101	555

\* as of 4/16/2025

### **Outreach & Engagement**

The Sharing and Engagement Coordinator assisted the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled with two outreach events, the Arkansas Chapter of National Association of Social Workers where staff spoke with 106 participants, and the College and Career Ready Transition Fair, hosted by the Division of Services for the Blind which had 48 attendees. Additionally, she has created a template document for use in the Project Explainers.

### Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 19	Sharing about SHAREit Virtual Training
February 21	Arkansas Gems Preliminary Selections Meeting
February 26	Broadband Digital Skills Initiative Project meeting
March 7	ADE Summit Planning Committee Meeting
March 12-14	Arkansas Chapter of National Association of Social Workers Outreach
March 13	Mockingbird monthly Vendor meeting with Auto-Graphics
March 18	SHAREit User Group Virtual Meeting

March 19	Broadband Digital Skills Initiative Project meeting
April 4	ADE Summit Planning Committee Meeting
April 10	College and Career Ready Transition Fair, Division of Services for the Blind
April 11	Mockingbird monthly Vendor meeting with Auto-Graphics
April 22	Library Book Club Lending Program – Book Club Coordinators Meeting
May 5	ADE Summit Planning Committee Meeting
May 8	Mockingbird monthly Vendor meeting with Auto-Graphics

## **Division Manager of Collection Management – Sarah Lipsey**

### On-Going Projects:

#### **Collection Maintenance**

Some Collection Maintenance activities were put on hold pending the outcome of legislation affecting our federal and state documents collections. Moving forward, we are regrouping and resuming special projects involving the affected collections.

There was also an increase in questions from clients and vendors concerning programs funded by LSTA, which we have answered to the best of our ability and knowledge.

#### **SirsiDynix ILS Administration**

I decided to delay upgrading our instance of Symphony until version 4.2 is released later in Q3, as 4.1.1 has no major new features of advantage to us. Since completing an upgrade to 4.2 is unlikely to happen until early 2026, I will upgrade our online catalog Enterprise and background Web Services in the meantime.

I am taking courses from SirsiDynix to understand BlueCloud administration. BlueCloud is the browser-based application of the desktop client Workflows for Symphony. While SirsiDynix has no immediate plans to decommission Workflows, most of their development efforts are focused on the BlueCloud platform.

### Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 5, 12, 19 & 26 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

February 28 ADE HR Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Meeting between the Executive Committee and staff from ADE to discuss HR processes and workflows for the ASL division. Participants: State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Deputy Director Kristen Cooke, Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Administrative Services Manager Brooke Crawford.

March 5, 12 & 19 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Manager of Digital Services – Jennifer Razer

Ongoing Projects

Digital Services

Preservica launched their New Generation Interface (NGI), which was guided by feedback from their user community, with the goal of making digital preservation simpler and more automated. It includes Active Digital Preservation technology that mitigates the risk of long-term data loss by ensuring that high-value content can always be read and trusted over decades regardless of the file format it was created in. Razer attended live training sessions virtually and took courses through Preservica Academy to learn more. Preservica is still in the process of rolling out new features and one that we’re looking forward to is the ability to bulk upload metadata using custom metadata. Staff will continue to use the current workflow to ingest new content into the digital collection until this new feature is released.

A water leak on the first floor affected several physical documents in the Arkansas Rules collection. Staff worked to alleviate the risk of mold and mildew to the affected documents. Documents that are unable to be reshelfed into the collection due to water damage will be scanned and uploaded into the digital collection to provide public access to these materials.

Staff monitored the legislative session to ensure that any bills that proposed changes that affected State Documents organization were monitored. Some approved legislation required changes to be made to the Arkansas Documents Classification Scheme.

State Documents Depository and Clearinghouse

The State Documents staff continues to process physical and digital submissions to the program. One project that has greatly increased our statistics for digital titles added to the collection is the Court of Appeals Opinions. Staff are working to add all the Court Opinions to the digital collection dating back to 1979.

Statistics for this reporting period are as follows:

Arkansas Documents Publications				Arkansas Rules Digital Publications	
New digital titles	Total digital titles	New print titles	Total print titles	New titles processed	Total titles processed
169	8,106	28	77	58	511

Digital Services staff continue to be available to external state agency staff who have questions regarding their document submissions, and we provide liaison training upon request. Staff also reach out to agencies to request that our gov-docs email account be subscribed to distribution lists for news releases and other applicable documents for inclusion into the State Documents collection.

[Shipping list 420](#) was sent out to depository libraries. Staff highlighted documents submitted by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing which falls under the Arkansas Department of Health. Their mission is to “protect the public and act as their advocate by effectively regulating the practice of nursing. A selection of documents that were added to the digital collection are included below:

OCLC#: 225101077 [ASBN Update / Arkansas State Board of Nursing.](#)

OCLC#: 1101178837 [Board meeting minutes / Arkansas State Board of Nursing.](#)

OCLC#: 1257034285 [Annual report / Arkansas State Board of Nursing.](#)

### **Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)**

Federal Depository Library Coordinator, Wendy Etchison, continues to retrieve electronic bibliographic and authority records using FDLP Data Manager. Etchison has been troubleshooting different methods to import digital records successfully into the library catalog. One helpful tool that was recommended for Etchison to work with was MarcEdit. MarcEdit is free software that can be used to create and manipulate MARC records. This software has already been utilized within the State Documents unit, and it was determined that a similar approach could be beneficial for importing Federal Documents into the library catalog. During this quarter, Etchison successfully completed a Library Juice Academy course for using MarcEdit.

Federal documents staff continue to process and catalog older documents that were donated to the library for inclusion into the federal documents collection.

Statistics for this reporting period are as follows:

Federal Documents	
Retrospective Cataloging	New digital titles
837	2,801

### Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

Feb 6                      Federal Documents Office Hours, Arkansas State Library, Virtual.  
Standing meeting for federal documents depository library staff around the state to meet and discuss issues and share information. Participants: Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison and Digital Services Library Technician Emm Coats.

Feb 7, 13                State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various unit projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Senior Librarian Lanette Meyer.

Feb 7                      Agency Liaison Training, Arkansas State Library, Virtual.  
Agency liaison training conducted for the Economic Development Commission. Participants: Digital Services Senior Librarian, Lanette Meyer.

Feb 26                    Digital Services Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Mar 1-31                Using MarcEdit, Virtual.  
Online course presented by Natalie Hall of Library Juice Academy. This course provided hands-on instruction to build, edit, and manipulate library data using MarcEdit. Participants: Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison

Mar 6                Federal Documents Office Hours, Arkansas State Library, Virtual.  
Standing meeting for federal documents depository library staff around the state to meet and discuss issues and share information. Participants: Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison and Digital Services Library Technician Emm Coats.

Mar 6, 12, 21      Digital Services Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Mar 6, 13, 27      State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various unit projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Senior Librarian Lanette Meyer.

Mar 11-25          Cataloging & Classification Basics, Virtual.  
Online course presented by Amanda Sprochi of Amigos Library Services. Learning objectives included discussing the function of Integrated Library Systems (ILS); discovering basic tools, both print and online, for cataloging; interpreting Library of Congress and Dewey Decimal Call numbers to enable shelf discovery; recognizing a MARC bibliographic record; applying correct MARC code to a monograph bibliographic record; and defining copy cataloging, including basic cataloging principles & terminology. Participants: Digital Services Librarian Evelyn Uptigrove-Sartin.

Mar 28              Know & Go: Mold Mitigation and Prevention, Virtual.  
Webinar presented by Gina Minks of Amigos Library Services. Learning objectives included understanding the health and safety concerns associated with mold exposure, learning about treatment and mitigation of mildew in libraries, and developing staff training for proper identification, handling, and storage of affected materials. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Apr 2                Cultivating an Inclusive Workplace for Neurodivergent Staff  
Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer, Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison, and Digital Services Senior Librarian Lanette Meyer.

Apr 3, 10, 24      State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various unit projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Senior Librarian Lanette Meyer.

Apr 11              Collection Management Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Meeting to discuss various projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton, and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Apr 16, 23          Digital Services Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

Apr 25              State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various unit projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Librarian Eleanor Beard.

Apr 25              State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.  
Standing meeting to discuss various unit projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Librarian Evelyn Uptigrove-Sartin.



## Manager of Acquisitions – Katie Walton

### On-Going Projects:

#### **Acquisitions**

Much of this quarter was spent monitoring pending legislation in both the state and federal courts, but Acquisitions Staff still continued their ongoing projects such as processing new donations of Arkansas books and periodicals from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and weeding the General Periodicals. Purchasing was temporarily paused while we monitored pending legislation that could have altered the future of the non-depository collections, but we have resumed book orders and feel confident we'll successfully close out the State Fiscal year.

Acquisitions Staff made a notable addition to the collection of digital resources for State Employees. In April, we upgraded our NewsBank subscription to include over 14,000 newspapers from around the world. This new subscription also includes an image edition of several local Arkansas papers such as the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, *Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, *Pine Bluff Commercial*, *Saline Courier*, *Sentinel-Record* (Hot Springs), and *Times Record* (Fort Smith).

#### **Arkansas Digital Library Consortium**

There are currently 108,030 titles in the shared collection- 74,720 eBooks, 27,449 audiobooks, and 5,861 magazine titles. As of April 15, there have been 372,672 checkouts during the last quarter by 36,355 users.

New annual funds were added to the Shared Pool at the beginning of April. The Selection Committee will have \$150,000 in their budget for the year. This amount does not include any content that individual libraries add through Advantage purchases- titles individual libraries own but share with the rest of the group. Last year, member libraries contributed \$525,000 worth of Advantage content to the collection.

This year the Selection Committee decided to set aside \$10,000 to possibly use toward subscription packages such as Duke classics, All-Access genre packages, and Tantor audiobooks. Subscription Packages have been a great way to provide access to popular titles without a wait. If we do not decide to use this money for subscription packages, the money will be distributed to the Selection Committee members to purchase for their respective areas. Below are the 2025 Selection Committee Members:

- Tier 1- Allie Stevens Gosselink, Calhoun County Library
- Tier 2- Ashley Burris, Lawrence County Library
- Tier 3- Ashley Malone, Union County Public Library
- Tier 4- Megan James, Garland County Public Library
- Tier 5- Hope Rider, Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library System
- Tier 6- Leigh Espey, Saline County/Mid-Ark

#### **Arkansas Traveler Statewide Resources**

The State Library provided three more professional development opportunities this quarter and will continue to offer monthly trainings from ProQuest. The uncertainty surrounding IMLS funding has put a pause on many of the summer training sessions we'd normally have scheduled at this point in the year.

While we hope to announce dates for Professional Development opportunities soon, it doesn't seem prudent to offer trainings for a collection that is only guaranteed funding through July 31, 2025.

Due to uncertainty regarding IMLS funding, I have received many questions from teachers and librarians around the state about the future of the Traveler program. The Traveler Statewide Digital Resources offer an incredible return on investment to the state. When the new subscription period started, I asked each of the Traveler vendors to give me the cost of their resources if every public library, school, and university in the state were to individually pay for the same level of access. The State Library pays \$770,00 for the current subscriptions, but it would cost Arkansas libraries over \$48 million for the same content. Therefore, this program literally saves the state **47 million dollars a year**. While this collection of online resources serves as the foundation from which many libraries build their own digital collections, for many libraries in the state, these are the only databases they're able to offer their students or patrons. One group that may be particularly impacted would be smaller colleges and universities who depend on the Traveler collection for their accreditation. Many of the academic libraries have already submitted their budgets for the 2025-2026 school year and would not have the money in their budget to subscribe to these resources themselves. The continuation of the program is vital to the educational and informational needs of the state.

#### Presentations Given

February 25                      Hosted ProQuest Webinar  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton hosted "Discovering Your Traveler Statewide Resources: eBook Central," a webinar presented by ProQuest's Trainer, Lori Hetrick.

March 25                         Hosted ProQuest Webinar  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton hosted "Discovering Your Traveler Statewide Resources: One Literature," a webinar presented by ProQuest's Trainer, Lori Hetrick.

April 22                         Hosted ProQuest Webinar  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton hosted "Unlocking the Power of Research Assistant in ProQuest Central," a webinar presented by ProQuest's Trainer, Lori Hetrick.

#### Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 4                      NewsBank Vendor Meeting  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton spoke with NewsBank's Brendan Petz about new digital newspaper collections.

February 21                     Arkansas Gems Selection Meeting  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton attended a meeting with Library Development staff to discuss the preliminary selections for the Arkansas Gems poster.

February 21                     ProQuest Vendor Meeting  
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with ProQuest's Kelly Manuelidis to discuss current Traveler collection offerings and updates to eBook purchasing in ProQuest.

February 26                     OverDrive Conference Call  
Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher, Saliha Muttalib, and Tori Casper of OverDrive and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

February 26                      Infobase Conference Call  
 Scheduled vendor consultation to discuss usage statistics and upcoming training opportunities.  
 Participants: Carter Cook of Infobase and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

March 4                          HeinOnline Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended HeinOnline's webinar, "Altmetric Integrations: New Updates."

March 4                          Booklist Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Booklist's webinar, "Magnificent Middle Grade."

March 6                          Attended School Library Journal Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended School Library Journal's webinar, "Middle Grade Magic."

March 12                        Booklist Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Booklist's webinar, "Readers' Advisory: Ideas & Practices 2025."

March 12                        Penguin Random House Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Penguin Random House's webinar, "Morning Book Buzz March 2025: Fascinating True Stories, Mysteries & Thrillers, Romantasy, and More!"

March 18                        ABC-Clio Conference Call  
 Scheduled vendor consultation to discuss usage statistics and upcoming training opportunities.  
 Participants: Pamela Renfrow of ABC-Clio and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

March 18                        AAIM Conference Meeting, Conway AR  
 Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with fellow AAIM Board members and UCA staff to tour UCA's Brewer Hegeman Conference Center in preparation for the 2025 AAIM Annual Conference.

March 18                        Booklist Webinar  
 Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Booklist's webinar, "Promising Picture Books."

March 19                        Attended OverDrive Webinar  
 Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton attended OverDrive's webinar "Marketing Made Easy: Top Tips to Engage Your Community."

March 24                        ADLC Selection Committee Training  
 Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with Ashley Malone from Union County Library and Megan James from Garland County Library to discuss the basics of purchasing for the ADLC shared pool in preparation for the larger Selection Committee meeting.

March 26                        OverDrive Conference Call  
 Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher, Saliha Muttalib, and Tori Casper of OverDrive and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

March 26                        ADLC Selection Committee Meeting  
 Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton hosted a meeting for ADLC Selection Committee Members to assign purchasing responsibilities, create a purchasing schedule, and discuss procedural changes.

March 26                        Attended PCI Webinar

Acquisitions Librarian Reba Driver attended PCI's webinar, "Back to Basics: Reference Skills."

March 12 Penguin Random House Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Penguin Random House's webinar, "Summer 2025 Preview."

March 24 Attended Booklist Webinar

Acquisitions Librarian Reba Driver attended Booklist's webinar, "Random House Children's Books Summer 2025 Preview."

April 2 ProQuest Vendor Meeting

Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with ProQuest's Kelly Manuelidis to discuss current Traveler funding sources for the Traveler collection.

April 7 Attended Library Journal Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Library Journal's webinar, "Patron Engagement Tools."

April 8 Attended Booklist Webinar

Acquisitions Librarian Reba Driver attended Booklist's webinar, "Summer Reading & Series Nonfiction."

April 8 Attended School Library Journal Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended School Library Journal's webinar, "New Stories to Inspire, Comfort and Enjoy!"

April 9 Attended Library Journal Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Library Journal's webinar, "Ensuring Fair Access to Resources While Navigating Budget Challenges."

April 15 Booklist Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Booklist's webinar, "Library Love for Library Reads."

April 16 Attended ALA Webinar

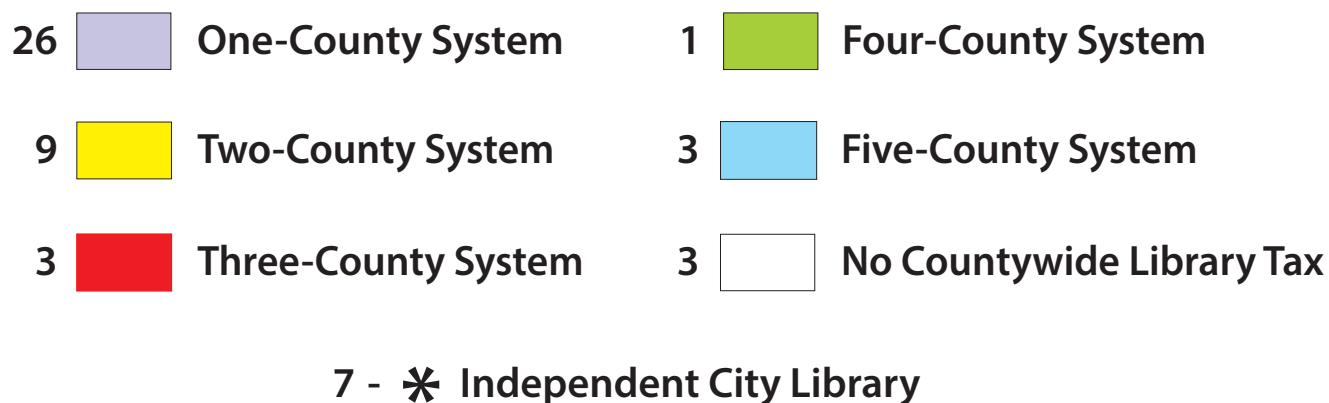
Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended ALA's webinar, "Edi and Neal's Book Club Discussion: School Libraries and Youth Services Roundtable."

April 17 Attended Library Journal Webinar

Acquisitions Senior Librarian Toshona Carter attended Library Journal's webinar, "Day of Dialog."

April 23 OverDrive Conference Call

Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher, Saliha Muttalib, and Tori Casper of OverDrive and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.



Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
<b>LDD I</b>			
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library	501 North Front Street	Dardanelle	72834-3507
Donald W. Reynolds Library	300 Library Hill	Mountain Home	72653
Bella Vista Public Library	11 Dickens Place	Bella Vista	72714-4603
Bentonville Public Library	405 South Main Street	Bentonville	72712-5298
Boone County Library	221 West Stephenson Avenue	Harrison	72601-4225
Carroll & Madison Library System	44 Kingshighway A-3	Eureka Springs	72632
Crawford County Library	1409 Main Street	Van Buren	72956-4503
Fayetteville Public Library	401 West Mountain Street	Fayetteville	72701-5819
Fort Smith Public Library	3201 Rogers Avenue	Fort Smith	72903-2953
Gentry Public Library	105 East Main Street	Gentry	72734-0803
Gravette Public Library	119 Main Street NE	Gravette	72736-9363
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	P. O. Box 247	Decatur	72722-0247
Marion County Library	P. O.Box 554	Yellville	72687-0554
Newton County Library	HCR 31, Box 8	Jasper	72641-9401
Pea Ridge Library	P. O. Box 9	Pea Ridge	72751-0009
Pope County Library	116 East Third Street	Russellville	72801-5198
Rogers Public Library	711 South Dixieland Road	Rogers	72758-4513
Scott-Sebastian Regional Library	P. O. Box 400	Greenwood	72936-0400
Searcy County Library	202 East Main	Marshall	72950-9502
Siloam Springs Public Library	205 East Jefferson Street	Siloam Springs	72761-2677
Sulphur Springs Public Library	P. O. Box 275	Sulphur Springs	72768-0275
Washington County Library System	1080 West Clydesdale Drive	Fayetteville	72701-8211
<b>LDD II</b>			
Ash Flat Library	11 Arnhart Drive	Ash Flat	72513
East Central Arkansas Regional Library	410 East Merriman	Wynne	72396-2947
Independence County Library	267 East Main Street	Batesville	72501-5605
Lawrence County Library	115 West Walnut Street	Walnut Ridge	72476
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library	120 North Twelfth Street	Paragould	72450-4103
West Memphis Public Library	500 East Broadway	West Memphis	72301
Woolfolk Library	100 North Currie Street	Marion	72364-1858
Crowley Ridge Regional Library	315 West Oak Avenue	Jonesboro	72401-3594
Forrest City Public Library	421 South Washington	Forrest City	72335-3839
Jackson County Library	P. O. Box 748	Newport	72112-0748
Mississippi/Crittenden County Library	200 North Fifth Street	Blytheville	72315-2712
Trumann Public Library	P. O. Box 73	Trumann	72472-0073
White River Regional Library	P. O. Box 1107	Mountain View	72560

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
<b>LDD III</b>			
Central Arkansas Library System	100 Rock Street	Little Rock	72201-1624
Conway County Library	101 West Church	Morrilton	72110-3399
Fairfield Bay Library	369 Dave Creek Pkwy.	Fairfield Bay	72088-1183
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library	1900 Tyler	Conway	72032-3240
Lonoke County Library	204 East 2nd Street	Lonoke	72086-2858
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library	202 East Third Street	Malvern	72104-3910
North Little Rock Library Public System	2801 Orange	North Little Rock	72114-2296
Saline County Library	1800 Smithers Drive	Benton	72015-3108
White County Library System	1609 West Beebe Capps Expy.	Searcy	72143-5168
<b>LDD IV</b>			
Calhoun County Library	P. O. Box 1162	Hampton	71744-1162
Clark County Library	609 Caddo Street	Arkadelphia	71923-0609
Columbia County Library	2057 North Jackson Street	Magnolia	71753
Garland County Library	1427 Malvern Avenue	Hot Springs	71901-6316
Hempstead County Library	500 South Elm Street	Hope	71801-5222
Lafayette County Library	219 East 3rd Street	Lewisville	71845-8075
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library	P. O. Box 189	Mount Ida	71957-0189
Polk County Library	410 8th Street	Mena	71953
Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County	120 Harrison Avenue	Camden	71701-3968
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library	129 Meadow Ridge Lane	Hope	71801
Texarkana Public Library	600 West Third Street	Texarkana, TX	75501-5054
Tri-County Regional Library System	200 W. Stillwell	DeQueen	71832
Union County Library System	200 East Fifth	El Dorado	71730-3897
<b>LDD V</b>			
Arkansas County Library	2002 South Buerkle Street	Stuttgart	72160-6508
Ashley County Library	211 East Lincoln	Hamburg	71646-3217
Crossett Public Library	1700 Main Street	Crossett	71635-2962
DeWitt Public Library	205 West Maxwell Street	DeWitt	72042-1942
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library	702 Porter	Helena	72342-3142
Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County	600 S. Main St.	Pine Bluff	71601
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System	114 West Jefferson	Monticello	71655-4933

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
				<b>LDD I</b>
479-229-4418	479-229-2595	arvls.director@gmail.com	Misty Hawkins	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
870-580-0987	870-580-0935	kim.c@baxtercountylibrary.org	Kim Crow Sheaner	Donald W. Reynolds Library
479-855-1753	479-855-4475	sadams@bellavistaar.gov	Suzanne Adams	Bella Vista Public Library
479-271-3192	479-271-9051	Hdudley@bentonvillear.com	Hadi Dudley	Bentonville Public Library
870-741-5913	870-741-5913	ginger@boonecountylibrary.org	Ginger Schoenenberger	Boone County Library
870-423-5300	870-423-7117	kburks@camals.org	Kris Burks	Carroll & Madison Library System
479-471-3226	479-471-3226	cmcdonnough@crawfordcountylib.org	Charlene McDonnough	Crawford County Library
479-856-7000	479-571-0222	djohnson@faylib.org	David Johnson	Fayetteville Public Library
479-783-0229	479-782-8571	jgoodson@fortsmithlibrary.org	Jennifer Goodson	Fort Smith Public Library
479-736-2054	479-736-8567	jboston@gentrylibrary.us	Jaymey Boston	Gentry Public Library
479-787-6955	479-787-6955	lcarrier@gravettear.com	Lamarise Carrier	Gravette Public Library
479-752-7323	479-752-8366	ijppublib121@yahoo.com	Karen Taylor	Iva Jane Peek Public Library
870-449-6015	870-449-5808	contact.librarystaff@gmail.com	VACANT	Marion County Library
870-446-2983	870-446-2983	director@newtoncountylibrary.org	Kenya Windel	Newton County Library
479-451-8442		pearidgecommunitylibrary@gmail.com	Wendy Martin	Pea Ridge Library
479-968-4368	479-968-3222	rtaurone@popelibrary.org	Riley Taurone	Pope County Library
479-621-1152	479-621-1165	hpearce@rogersar.gov	Hannah Pearce	Rogers Public Library
479-996-2856	479-996-2236	rmyers@co.sebastian.ar.us	Rene Myers	Scott-Sebastian Regional Library
870-448-2420	870-448-5453	tammiebridwell0920@gmail.com	Tammie Bridwell	Jim G. Ferguson/Searcy County Library
479-524-4236	479-524-3908	sfreedle@siloamsprings.com	Stephanie Freedle	Siloam Springs Public Library
479-298-3753	479-298-3515	sulphurspringslibrary2021@gmail.com	Melinda Griffin	Sulphur Springs Public Library
479-442-6253	479-442-6812	glendaa@wcls.lib.ar.us	Glenda Audrain	Washington County Library System
				<b>LDD II</b>
870-994-2658	870-994-2857	ashflatlibrary@gmail.com	Susan Funnell	Ash Flat Library
870-238-3850	870-238-5434	jpaul@ecarls.org	John Paul Myrick	East Central Arkansas Regional Library
870-793-8814	870-793-8896	carlene@indcolib.com	Carlene Morrison	Independence County Library
870-886-3222	870-886-9520	akburris@hotmail.com	Ashley Burris	Lawrence County Library
870-236-8711	870-236-1442	pdpcomposing@yahoo.com	Mike Rogers	Northeast Arkansas Regional Library
870-732-7590	870-732-7636	osfrank1969@gmail.com	Rebecca Bledsoe	West Memphis Public Library
870-739-3238	870-739-4624	casseywoolfolklib@gmail.com	Cassey Clayman	Woolfolk Library
870-935-5133	870-935-7987	vanessa@libraryinjonesboro.org	Vanessa Adams	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
870-633-5646	870-633-5647	fcpl@forrestcitylibrary.org	Arlisa Price Harris	Forrest City Public Library
870-523-2952	870-523-5218	director@jacksoncolibrary.net	Lisa May	Jackson County Library
870-762-2431	870-762-2442	lwalters@mclibrary.net	Lowell Walters	Mississippi/Crittenden County Library
870-483-7744	870-483-6833	trumannpubliclibrary@gmail.com	Janie Teague	Trumann Public Library
870-269-4682		wrrlibrary@yahoo.com	Debra Sutterfield	White River Regional Library



Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
<b>LDD III</b>				
501-918-3000	501-375-7451	ncoulter@cals.org	Nate Coulter	Central Arkansas Library System
501-354-5204	501-354-5206	jay.carter@conwaycountylibrary.org	Jay Carter	Conway County Library
501-884-4930		ffblibrary@live.com	Karen Tangen	Fairfield Bay Library
501-327-7482	501-327-9098	john@fcl.org	John McGraw	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
501-676-6635	501-676-0557	sbarker@lonokecountylibrary.org	Stacy Barker	Lonoke County Library
501-332-5441	501-332-6679	clare.graham@arkansas.gov	Clare Graham	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
501-758-1720	501-753-0524	crystal.gates@lamanlibrary.org	Crystal Gates	North Little Rock Library Public System
501-778-4766	501-778-0536	leighe@salinecountylibrary.org	Leigh Espey	Saline County Library
501-279-2870	501-268-5682	darla.ino@arkansas.gov	Darla Ino	White County Library System
<b>LDD IV</b>				
870-798-4492	870-798-4492	calcolib@gmail.com	Allie Stevens	Calhoun County Library
870-246-2271	870-246-4189	Clarkcountylibrary@gmail.com	Betsy Fisher	Clark County Library
870-234-1991	870-234-5077	holli@cocolib.org	Holli Howard	Columbia County Library
501-623-4161	501-623-5647	gcl@gclibrary.com	Adam Webb	Garland County Library
870-777-4564	870-777-2915	hempscolib@gmail.com	Courtney McNiel	Hempstead County Library
870-921-4757	870-921-4756	lafcolibrary@gmail.com	Michael Strange	Lafayette County Library
479-394-2314	479-394-2314	tracihostetler.polklibrary@gmail.com	Traci Hostetler	Ouachita Mountains Regional Library
479-394-2314	479-394-2314	polkcountylibrary@yahoo.com	Mary Renick	Polk County Library
870-836-5083	870-836-0163	lrpickett@hotmail.com	Lisa Pickett	Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County
		swarlib@gmail.com	Courtney McNiel	Southwest Arkansas Regional Library
903-794-2149	903-794-2139	director@txklibrary.org	Olivia Poulton	Texarkana Public Library
870-584-4364	870-642-8319	tri-countyreglibsystem@hotmail.com	Marilyn Archer	Tri-County Regional Library System
870-863-5447	870-862-3944	moconnell@bartonlibrary.org	Michael O'Connell	Union County Library System
<b>LDD V</b>				
870-673-1966	870-673-4295	asst.director.arco@gmail.com	Clara Jane Timmerman	Arkansas County Library
870-853-2078	870-853-2079	ashcolib@gmail.com	Holly Gillum	Ashley County Library
870-364-2230	870-364-2231	david@crossett.lib.ar.us	David Anderson	Crossett Public Library
870-946-1151	870-946-1151	dewittpl@yahoo.com	Sarah Beth Cole	DeWitt Public Library
870-338-7732	870-338-8855	ral72342@yahoo.com	Linda Bennett	Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library
870-534-4802	870-534-8707	rwilliams@pineblufflibrary.org	Ricky Williams	Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County
870-367-8584	870-367-5166	director@searlibrary.org	Hunter Bennett	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System
updated April 2025				

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## Arkansas State Library Board

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Term: 10/18/2030  
Congressional District: 4

**Jason Rapert**

Email: Jason.Rapert@ade.arkansas.gov  
Term: 10/18/2029  
Congressional District: 2

**Jo Ann Campbell\*\***

Email: Joann.Campbell@ade.arkansas.gov  
Term: 10/18/2025  
Congressional District: 3

**Lupe Peña de Martínez**

Term: 10/18/2028  
Congressional District: 2

**Deborah Knox\***

Email: Deborah.Knox@ade.arkansas.gov  
Term: 10/18/2027  
Congressional District: 1

**Sydney McKenzie**

Email: Sydney.Mckenzie@ade.arkansas.gov  
Term: 10/18/2031  
Congressional District: 3

**Pamela Meridith**

Email: Pamela.Meridith@ade.arkansas.gov  
Term: 10/18/2026  
Congressional District: 1

\* Chairman 11/2024 - 11/2025

\*\*Vice Chairman 11/2024 -11/2025

Rev April 21, 2025

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**ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD  
BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD as created by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979.

**Section 2.** The organization shall hereinafter be referred to as the “Board.”

**ARTICLE II**

**PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** The Board shall name the State Librarian.

**Section 2.** The Board shall act as the policy-making and responsible body for the Arkansas State Library and its functions as defined by Act 489 of 1979.

**ARTICLE III**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** The Board shall be composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate, for their interest in libraries and statewide library development.

**Section 2.** Appointments made from congressional districts and at-large shall be made in accordance with Ark. Code Ann §13-2-205 (3) or other controlling statutes. \*\*

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** Officers of the Board shall consist of a Chairman and Vice Chairman. The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary.

**Section 2.** Nomination and election of officers, with the exception of executive secretary, shall take place at the annual meeting.

**Section 2a.** Officers shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee of members named by the Chairman. Opportunity shall be given for additional nominations to be made from the floor.

**Section 2b.** Consent of all nominees shall be procured prior to nomination.

**Section 2c.** Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. No officer shall serve for more than two consecutive terms.

**Section 2d.** Election of officers shall be by written ballot, show of hands, voice vote, or acclamation and counted by the executive secretary. \*\*

**Section 3.** Duties of the officers shall be defined by members as need arises.

**Section 3a.** The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and perform the duties generally assigned to this office.

**Section 3b.** The Vice Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, shall preside over meetings and perform other duties as assigned.

**Section 3c.** The State Librarian, serving as executive secretary, shall keep the minutes of the Board meetings, attend all committee meetings, and perform duties generally assigned to this office. The executive secretary shall serve without vote in meetings of the Board or committees.

**Section 4.** Absences of officers or vacancies of office shall be filled by members as need arises.

**Section 4a.** In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall preside over the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

**Section 4b.** In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, when a quorum is present, the members shall elect a temporary chairman to preside at the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

**Section 4c.** When the office of Chairman is vacated during the year, the Vice Chairman shall serve as Chairman for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Section 4d.** When the office of Vice Chairman is vacated during the year, the Nominating Committee shall nominate a replacement who shall be duly elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** The Chairman shall name members of the following STANDING COMMITTEES at the annual meeting.

**Section 1a.** The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall consist of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, and the executive secretary. This committee shall prepare the agenda for all meetings, call special meetings when deemed necessary, and perform interim duties as assigned by the Board.

**Section 1b.** The NOMINATING COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members appointed by the Chairman by September 1 each year. (The Chairman shall be excluded from membership.) The Committee shall prepare a slate of officers who have consented to serve if elected. \*\*

**\*Section 1c.** the POLICIES AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Vice Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. This Committee shall review all policies and bylaws each year and recommend changes or additions where needed.

**Section 1d.** The GOVERNMENTAL LIASON COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. The duty of this Committee shall be to work with the State Librarian on all matters concerning local, state, and federal legislation and funding.

**Section 1e.** The PERSONNEL COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members named by the Chairman to serve with the Chairman to solicit and review applications and make recommendations to the Board for consideration for the position of State Librarian when a vacancy exists and to serve with the State Librarian to solicit and review applications and make

recommendations to the Board for consideration for the managerial positions of associate or deputy directors when a vacancy exists.

**Section 2.** The Chairman shall name such AD HOC COMMITTEES as needed to carry out the functions of the Board.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** Regular meetings of the Arkansas State Library Board shall be held on the second Friday of February, May, August, and November.

**Section 2.** The annual meeting of the Board for organizational purposes shall be held at the time of the regular meeting in November.

**Section 3.** Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Executive Committee. Upon written request from three members of the Board, the Executive Committee shall be required to call a special meeting. The notices of such special meetings shall state the specific business to be transacted and no business shall be transacted except that stated in the call.

**Section 4.** Notices of all regular meetings and special meetings, when possible, shall be mailed by the State Librarian at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

**Section 5.** The order of business for regular meetings shall be:

1. Call to order
2. Reading of the minutes
3. Unfinished business
4. New business
5. Reports
6. Adjournment

**Section 6.** In order to be considered as new business that the Board will take action on, an item must be listed on the proposed agenda and any corresponding document must be provided to the membership of the Board. Any member may cause an item to be added to the new business portion of the proposed agenda by notifying the State Librarian and providing any corresponding documents to the



State Librarian no less than ten (10) business days prior to the meeting in which the items are to be considered. A Board member may satisfy this requirement by proposing at a meeting that an item be added to the next meeting's agenda. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the discussion of topics raised by a Board member or addressing questions raised by a Board member.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **QUORUM, VOTE**

**Section 1.** A majority (four) of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chairman shall count as a member for quorum.

**Section 2.** All business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members. The Chairman shall vote to confirm unanimity, in case of tie vote or when needed for quorum.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members at any regular meeting of the Board provided the amendment was stated in the call for the meeting or had been presented in writing at the previous regular meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **POLICIES, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS**

**Section 1.** The Board shall establish by majority vote such policies as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the state library agency and to promote statewide library development.

**Section 2.** Proposed policies or policy changes must be submitted in writing to the members and discussed at a meeting prior to the regular meeting when the vote on the question is to be recorded.

**Section 3.** The Arkansas State Library through majority vote of the Board shall enter into such contracts and agreements with other libraries, institutions, and agencies as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of Act 489 of 1979.

## **ARTICLE X STATE LIBRARIAN**

The State Librarian shall be responsible to the Arkansas State Library Board for the proper management of the Arkansas State Library, for the administration of the policies to carry out the functions of the agency, for the preservation and care of its properties, and for the efficiency of its services.

## **ARTICLE XI PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND AUTHORITY**

**Section 1.** Except when in conflict with the provisions of Act 489 of 1979 or these Bylaws, Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the proceedings of this Board.

**Section 2.** Act 489 of 1979, is the authority for these bylaws.

“**Section 1.** ... The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary of the State Library Board, but without vote thereon, and shall attend all of the Board meetings and keep records thereof. The State Librarian shall have charge of the work of the State Library, and shall perform such other duties as the State Library Board may prescribe...”

“**Section 2. (a)** There is hereby created the State Library Board, hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, to consist of seven (7.) members to be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate ...

**(b)** The members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor for reason of their interest in libraries and statewide library development.”

“**Section 3.** ... The Board shall meet at such place or places and shall keep such records as it may deem to be appropriate. The Board shall select

annually a Chairman and such other officers as it deems necessary and shall adopt policies and bylaws governing its meetings, the conduct of its business, and the business of the State Library. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members.”

## Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

4/15/2025

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
<b>Office of the State Librarian</b>			<b>501-682-1526 / 501-682-1533 FAX</b>	
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JAYNIE	BROWNE	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III		<a href="mailto:jaynie.browne@ade.arkansas.gov">jaynie.browne@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
		MANAGER OF GRANTS & SPECIAL PROJECTS	VACANT	
		PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	VACANT	
<b>Deputy Director/Statewide Sharing &amp; Engagement/Virtual Union Catalog</b>			<b>501-682-2863 / 501-682-1531 FAX</b>	
KRISTEN	COOKE	DEPUTY DIRECTOR		<a href="mailto:kristen.cooke@ade.arkansas.gov">kristen.cooke@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
TAYLOR	MCKINNEY	LIBRARY COORDINATOR - VIRTUAL UNION CATALOG		<a href="mailto:taylor.mckinney@ade.arkansas.gov">taylor.mckinney@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
<b>Library for the Blind &amp; Print Disabled</b>			<b>501-682-1155 / 501-682-1529 FAX</b>	
NATALIE	MARLIN	MANAGER OF LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND & PRINT DISABLED	<b>1-866-660-0885 Toll Free/ Vacant</b>	<a href="mailto:natalie.marlin@ade.arkansas.gov">natalie.marlin@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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		SENIOR LIBRARIAN	VACANT	
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		LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		MAIL CLERK	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
<b>Library Development</b>			<b>501-682-1693 FAX</b>	
JENNIFER	WANN	MANAGER OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT	<b>501-682-5288</b>	<a href="mailto:jenn.wann@ade.arkansas.gov">jenn.wann@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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KAREN	O'CONNELL	COORDINATOR OF THE ARKANSAS CENTER FOR THE BOOK	<b>501-682-2874</b>	<a href="mailto:karen.oconnell@ade.arkansas.gov">karen.oconnell@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN	VACANT	
<b>Collection Management</b>			<b>501-682-1899 FAX</b>	

# Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

4/15/2025

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
SARAH	LIPSEY	DIVISION MANAGER OF COLLECTION MANAGEMENT	501-682-2862	<a href="mailto:sarah.lipsey@ade.arkansas.gov">sarah.lipsey@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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EMM	COATS	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES		<a href="mailto:emm.coats@ade.arkansas.gov">emm.coats@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - ACQUISITIONS	VACANT	
		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		LIBRARY COORDINATOR - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		STATE LIBRARY MANAGER	VACANT	
<b>Administration</b>			501-682-1527/ 501-682-1533 FAX	
BROOKE	CRAWFORD	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER		<a href="mailto:brooke.crawford@ade.arkansas.gov">brooke.crawford@ade.arkansas.gov</a>
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		FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	VACANT	
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KEN	GIESBRECHT	INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR		<a href="mailto:ken.giesbrecht@ade.arkansas.gov">ken.giesbrecht@ade.arkansas.gov</a>



# 2025

## JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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## FEBRUARY

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

## MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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## APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
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## MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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## JUNE

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## JULY

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## AUGUST

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## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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## NOVEMBER

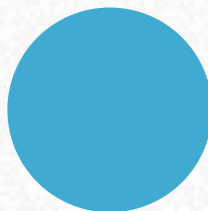
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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## DECEMBER

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28	29	30	31			



STATE LIBRIARY BOARD MEETINGS , AS SCHEDULED



STATE OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

JAN 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY (OBSERVED); JAN 20- DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY (OBSERVED); FEB 17 - GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY AND DAISY GATSON BATES DAY (OBSERVED); MAY 26 - MEMORIAL DAY (OBSERVED); JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY; SEPT 1 - LABOR DAY; NOV 11- VETERANS DAY (OBSERVED); NOV 27 - THANKSGIVING DAY; DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE (OBSERVED); DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY (OBSERVED)