

AGENDA

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD

August 14, 2026
Arkansas State Library - Bessie Moore Conference Room
900 W. Capitol Ave,
Little Rock, AR 72201
10:00 AM

I. Call to Order

II. Action Agenda

1. Minutes - May 8, 2026
2. State Aid / Scholarships
 - a. State Aid to Public Libraries: Distributions Approval
 - b. Draft Administrative Rules: State Aid to Public Libraries
 - c. New Scholarship Applications
 - d. Recommendations for Scholarship Assistance

III. Reports

1. Administrative and Agency Funding Report, SFY2027/FFY2026
2. Director and Staff Reports

IV. Public Comments

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The Arkansas State Library Board convened on May 8, 2026, in the Bessie Moore Conference Room at the Arkansas State Library. Board members present were Clay Goff, Jack Fortner, Sydney McKenzie, and Lynlee McMillan, with Emmaline Pilkington and Annette Bailey attending via Zoom. Staff members present were State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Deputy Director Kristen Cooke, and Brooke Crawford. Also present were Department of Education Deputy Chief of Staff Zach Jacobs and Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Shults.

Goff called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from the February 13, 2026, regular meeting, the March 2 working session, and the March 2 special meeting. Fortner moved that all three sets of minutes be approved. McKenzie seconded, and the motion carried.

Chilcoat presented the Fourth Quarter FY2026 State Aid Payment. Fortner made a motion to distribute the Payment, seconded by Bailey. The motion passed.

The Draft Administrative Rules: State Aid to Public Libraries was reviewed and discussed by the Board. Discussions included educational requirements for library directors; base levels for state aid; and book/material holdings, promotions, and accessibility. Chairman Goff invited librarians in attendance to speak about the materials discussion as well as the Arkansas State Library Staff's ability to comply with the new rules with additional workload that would be placed on them. The Board took a break for lunch, during which Shults and Jacobs made revisions to the draft Rules based on Board input from the morning. Upon return, the board reviewed the updated rules. A motion was made to approve the amended Draft Administrative Rules: State Aid to Public Libraries by Fortner, seconded by McMillan. The motion passed.

A scholarship application from Eliza Borné of the Central Arkansas Library System was presented. A motion was made by McKenzie, seconded by Fortner to approve the scholarship application.

The Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance was presented by Chilcoat, requesting reimbursement for seven recipients' coursework. A total of 33 hours were completed for a total cost of \$14,850. McMillan made a motion to approve the list. McKenzie seconded. The motion passed.

Chilcoat presented the State General Revenue and the Federal LSTA Revenue spreadsheets, in addition to the Fiscal Services Manager report, on behalf of Brooke Crawford, Administrative Services Manager. The agency is currently working on the switch from AASIS to S/4HANA. The executive team has begun meeting to decide how federal money will be best spent once it is available October 1, 2026.

Staff reports were presented. Chilcoat gave an update on the State Program Report which received final approval from IMLS on March 17. The Arkansas State Library's appropriation bill, House Bill 1060, has passed. The COSLA membership had the opportunity to meet with Second Lady Usha Vance to plan and promote her Summer Reading Challenge in their respective states. Staff from around the agency have been pitching in to promote resources and awareness about the Third-Grade Reading Promotion law in public libraries, with the goal of preparing librarians to assist parents and young readers throughout the state.

From the Deputy Director's Office, Cooke reported attending the Chief Offices of State Libraries legislative briefing day. She served as the Arkansas agency delegation to Arkansas' Members of Congress to provide updates on the use and impact of federal LSTA funding in Arkansas. Staff are currently preparing for the five-year plan evaluation, which is a mandatory evaluation. The 2025 Public Library Survey closed on March 24. Cooke covered the Statewide Sharing and Engagement report on behalf of Taylor McKinney. Cooke shared the outreach work of McKinney and gave updates on the Mockingbird Lending Platform. Wann covered the reports for Library Development, updating the board on consulting services, summer reading workshops held, training sessions for public library staff, weekly webinars, reading programs for public libraries, and consulting for the federal E-Rate program. Wann highlighted the upcoming If All Arkansas Read the Same Book program featuring Rick Atkinson, author of the Revolutionary War History *Fate of the Day*. Marlin gave her report for the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, including a site visit from NLS consultant, MaryBeth Wise, the LBPD quarterly newsletter, outreach events, and circulation. McGuire presented the work of information services. Staff are currently working on establishing LibGuides pathfinders or research guides targeted at state agencies to provide them with subject-specific points for any research they may be conducting.

From the Collection Management Office, Lipsey gave her report for the Collection Management Division. Lipsey has corrected accessibility issues on our webpages and is researching a "widget" to further enhance the website's accessibility. Razer gave an update on the work of Digital Services. Digital Services currently has a vacancy. Therefore, staff from other departments have stepped up to maintain continuity of operations. Staff members Hirrel and Etchison are being cross trained to help process newly cataloged digital content. Record maintenance is an ongoing activity, currently focused on closing the end dates of serials that are no longer being published. Walton reported on the addition of the Prairie County Library to the Arkansas Digital Library Consortium. Acquisitions staff have been processing new purchases and expect to spend the remainder of their budget FY2026 in early May. ADLC expenditures are currently being evenly distributed between eBooks and audiobooks, indicating the increased popularity of the latter.

Chilcoat covered the remainder of the items in the board packet, which did not include any action items. The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Approval Date

Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2024 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.22301848	Multi-co. region	Base Amount	Total FY2027	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	16,050	19,629		18,000	37,629	9,407	9,407	9,407	9,408
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crossett	13,478	16,484							
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crossett (city) (Ashley Co.)	4,506	5,511							
Ashley Co. Lib. Total		17,984	21,995		18,000	39,995	9,999	9,999	9,999	9,998
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	43,007	52,598		18,000	70,598	17,650	17,650	17,650	17,648
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	38,636	47,253		18,000	65,253	16,313	16,313	16,313	16,314
Calhoun County Library	Calhoun Co.	4,690	5,736		15,000	20,736	5,184	5,184	5,184	5,184
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	20,920	25,586		18,000	43,586	10,896	10,896	10,896	10,898
Cleburne County Library	Cleburne Co.	25,646	31,366		18,000	49,366	12,341	12,341	12,341	12,343
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	22,024	26,936		18,000	44,936	11,234	11,234	11,234	11,234
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	21,422	26,200		18,000	44,200	11,050	11,050	11,050	11,050
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	62,258	76,143		18,000	94,143	23,536	23,536	23,536	23,535
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	99,902	122,182		18,000	140,182	35,045	35,045	35,045	35,047
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	19,105	23,366		18,000	41,366	10,341	10,341	10,341	10,343
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	38,345	46,897		18,000	64,897	16,224	16,224	16,224	16,225
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	16,673	20,391		18,000	38,391	9,598	9,598	9,598	9,597
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	24,887	30,437							
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	38,785	47,435							
Jefferson Co. Lib. Total		63,672	77,872		18,000	95,872	23,968	23,968	23,968	23,968
Lafayette Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co.	6,015	7,356		15,000	22,356	5,589	5,589	5,589	5,589
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,305	19,941		18,000	37,941	9,485	9,485	9,485	9,486
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	76,389	93,425		18,000	111,425	27,856	27,856	27,856	27,857
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	17,593	21,517		18,000	39,517	9,879	9,879	9,879	9,880
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,026	8,593		15,000	23,593	5,898	5,898	5,898	5,899
Ouachita County	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	10,116	12,372							
Ouachita County	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden	11,568	14,148							
PL of Camden and Ouachita Co.		21,684	26,520		18,000	44,520	11,130	11,130	11,130	11,130
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	64,829	79,287		18,000	97,287	24,322	24,322	24,322	24,321
Prairie County Library	Prairie County	7,935	9,705		15,000	24,705	6,176	6,176	6,176	6,177
Searcy County Library	Searcy County	7,836	9,584		15,000	24,584	6,146	6,146	6,146	6,146
Sharp County Library	Sharp Co.	18,130	22,173		18,000	40,173	10,043	10,043	10,043	10,044
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	16,657	20,372							
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	20,351	24,890							
Union Co. Lib. Total		37,008	45,261		18,000	63,261	15,815	15,815	15,815	15,816
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	163,050	199,413		18,000	217,413	54,353	54,353	54,353	54,354
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	79,091	96,730		18,000	114,730	28,682	28,682	28,682	28,684
Total Single County Libraries		1,033,225	1,263,653	-	489,000	1,752,653	438,163	438,163	438,163	438,175
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,586	21,508	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,172	32,009	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,457	26,242	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	20,134	24,624	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total		85,349	104,383	48,000	18,000	170,383	42,596	42,596	42,596	42,595
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	28,968	35,428	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	17,865	21,849	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System Total		46,833	57,278	24,000	18,000	99,278	24,819	24,819	24,819	24,821
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	204,774	250,442							
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,251	12,537	12,000						

Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NLR	131,937	161,361	12,000						
Central Arkansas Lib. System Total		346,962	424,341	24,000	18,000	466,341	116,585	116,585	116,585	116,586
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jonesboro	33,468	40,932	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co.)	82,384	100,757							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumann	14,875	18,192	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total		130,727	159,882	24,000	18,000	201,882	50,470	50,470	50,470	50,472
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cross Co.	16,194	19,806	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Woodruff Co.	5,808	7,103	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		22,002	26,909	24,000	18,000	68,909	17,227	17,227	17,227	17,228
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	131,611	160,963	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Van Buren Co.	16,152	19,754	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib. Total		147,763	180,717	24,000	18,000	222,717	55,679	55,679	55,679	55,680
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.	Cleveland Co.	7,367	9,010	12,000						
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.	Dallas Co.	6,076	7,431	12,000						
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.	Grant Co.	18,546	22,682	12,000						
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.	Hot Spring Co.	33,313	40,742	12,000						
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.	Saline Co.	131,252	160,524	12,000						
Mid-Ark Regional Library Sys.		196,554	240,389	60,000	18,000	318,389	79,597	79,597	79,597	79,598
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co.)	12,359	15,115							
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West Memphis	23,095	28,246	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blytheville	25,736	31,476	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib. Total		61,190	74,837	24,000	18,000	116,837	29,209	29,209	29,209	29,210
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Clay Co.	14,112	17,259	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Greene Co.	46,928	57,394	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Randolph Co.	19,040	23,286	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		80,080	97,939	36,000	18,000	151,939	37,985	37,985	37,985	37,984
Quachita Mountains Reg Lib	Montgomery Co.	8,510	10,408	12,000						
Quachita Mountains Reg Lib	Polk Co.	19,434	23,768	12,000						
Quachita Mountains Reg Lib Total		27,944	34,176	24,000	18,000	76,176	19,044	19,044	19,044	19,044
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Lee Co.	8,104	9,911	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Monroe Co.	6,415	7,846	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	14,661	17,931	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib. Total		29,180	35,688	36,000	18,000	89,688	22,422	22,422	22,422	22,422
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Scott Co.	9,837	12,031	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Sebastian Co. Total less Fort Smith	39,528	48,343	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib. Total		49,365	60,374	24,000	18,000	102,374	25,594	25,594	25,594	25,592
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	9,935	12,151	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	9,272	11,340	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	10,321	12,623	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	16,935	20,712	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	12,868	15,738	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		59,331	72,563	60,000	18,000	150,563	37,641	37,641	37,641	37,640
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,004	9,789	12,000						
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,027	12,263	12,000						
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		18,031	22,052	24,000	18,000	64,052	16,013	16,013	16,013	16,013
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	12,387	15,150	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	11,626	14,219	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	15,735	19,244	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.		39,748	48,613	36,000	18,000	102,613	25,653	25,653	25,653	25,654
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,546	15,344	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	14,291	17,478	12,000						

White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,785	15,636	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib. Total		39,622	48,458	36,000	18,000	102,458	25,615	25,615	25,615	25,613
Total Regional Libraries		1,380,681	1,688,598	528,000	288,000	2,504,598	626,150	626,150	626,150	626,152
Ash Flat Public Library	Ash Flat	1,172	1,433		5,000	6,433	1,608	1,608	1,608	1,609
Bella Vista Public Library	Bella Vista	33,274	40,695		12,000	52,695	13,174	13,174	13,174	13,173
Bentonville Public Library	Bentonville	61,791	75,572		12,000	87,572	21,893	21,893	21,893	21,893
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville	103,134	126,135		12,000	138,135	34,534	34,534	34,534	34,533
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City	12,340	15,092		18,000	33,092	8,273	8,273	8,273	8,273
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith	90,507	110,692		12,000	122,692	30,673	30,673	30,673	30,673
Gentry Public Library	Gentry	4,672	5,714		5,000	10,714	2,678	2,678	2,678	2,680
Gravette Public Library	Gravette	3,826	4,679		5,000	9,679	2,420	2,420	2,420	2,419
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	Decatur	1,723	2,107		5,000	7,107	1,777	1,777	1,777	1,776
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock	64,498	78,882		12,000	90,882	22,721	22,721	22,721	22,719
Pea Ridge Community Library	Pea Ridge	10,190	12,463		12,000	24,463	6,116	6,116	6,116	6,115
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers	75,639	92,508		12,000	104,508	26,127	26,127	26,127	26,127
Siloam Springs Public Library	Siloam Springs	20,075	24,552		12,000	36,552	9,138	9,138	9,138	9,138
Trumann Public Library	Trumann	7,425	9,081		12,000	21,081	5,270	5,270	5,270	5,271
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana	28,897	35,342		18,000	53,342	13,335	13,335	13,335	13,337
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis	23,538	28,787		12,000	40,787	10,197	10,197	10,197	10,196
Total City Libraries		542,701	663,733	-	176,000	839,733	209,933	209,933	209,933	209,932
Grand Total		2,956,607	3,615,985	528,000	953,000	5,096,985	1,274,246	1,274,246	1,274,246	1,274,259

Does Not Qualify:
Sulphur Springs

Total Released for FY2027 State Aid
Reserved for Scholarships
Multi-County Regionals
Base Amount
Total Designated
Balance for Per Capita Distribution

(150,000)
(528,000)
(953,000)
(1,631,000)

5,246,985

3,615,985

Source: 3,615,985/2,956,607=
<https://arstatedatacenter.youraedi.com/scripts/subcountvestimates.php>
AR Data Center - 2024 estimates

1.22301848

Multi-County Regionals are based on July 1st status.
Only positive changes to the payout amounts are permitted during the year due to recipient budget expectations.

Fifth Payment (optional) is the distribution of the remainder of the reserves held for scholarships, multi-county regionals and Base awards. (Director discretion).

ACTUAL:

As of: 7/15/2026

State Aid:
Scholarships:
Amt Paid Out -
Adjustments -
Balance 5,246,985

**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.

Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library
Applicant Library Name
194 Spring Street
Mailing Address
Eureka Springs, AR 72632-3150
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension
cdanos@eureka.library.org
Email Address
[REDACTED] 479-253-7807
Phone Number Fax Number
Lucilla Garrett
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)
[Signature] 5/11/26
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.

Christina M. Danos
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)
[Signature] 4-28-2026
Participant's Signature Date

RECOMMENDATION

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

[Signature] 8/14/2026
Signature of State Librarian 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

June 30, 2026

Dear Members of the Arkansas State Library Board,

I want to extend my strongest recommendation for supporting Christina Danos in her pursuit of a scholarship to continue her studies towards obtaining her Masters of Library and Information Science degree.

I have known and worked with Mrs. Danos for the past 14 years during my tenure as a librarian within the Carroll and Madison Library System (CAMALS), though her experience working in Arkansas libraries extends well beyond this timeline. As a colleague, I can attest that Christina is hardworking, fastidious, detail-oriented and as a leader she is kind, thoughtful, and fair. For many years, as a new librarian, I turned to Christina for guidance when I had questions about procedures and library operations, and when I served as the Director of the Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library, Christina went above and beyond to support me as a team member and shared her keen insights and wisdom to help shape the processes our library developed to continue safely serving our patrons during the COVID-19 pandemic. When I became the Library System Administrator at CAMALS in 2023, Christina stepped into the role of Library Director, and I was heartened to know that as I departed, a stellar librarian and community-oriented individual was stepping into the position. Christina has truly been an ideal candidate for leadership for many years, but admirably, her commitment to her family meant she chose to wait until her children were in college before prioritizing the extra time and focus required for serving in an administrative capacity.

It is therefore impressive that in addition to her nearly two decades of experience working in a public library and her current responsibilities as a Library Director, that Christina's dedication to excellence and commitment to informed professionalism has motivated her endeavor to further her formal education by obtaining her Master's Degree. An investment in her knowledge of librarianship will undoubtedly pay dividends in the form of well-served communities of Arkansans for many years to come.

Sincerely,



April Griffith
Regional Library Administrator
Carroll and Madison Library System

Christina Danos
839 Pivot Rock Rd.
Eureka Springs, AR 72632
danosfamily@gmail.com
479-981-3886

April 28, 2026

Arkansas State Library Board
900 W. Capitol Ave.
Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

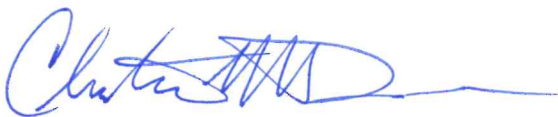
Dear Board Members:

I am writing to express my interest in completing a Master of Arts Degree in Library and Information Science at the University of South Florida. With nineteen years of dedicated service in the field of public librarianship, including a leadership role as library director since January 2023, I am eager to further enhance my knowledge and skills in this dynamic and evolving field through their esteemed program.

My journey in the realm of libraries began as a part-time employee looking to occupy myself while my young children attended school. I have grown to love the field and truly feel it is my life's calling. I have gained a deep passion for fostering knowledge accessibility and promoting lifelong learning within my rural community. Over the years, I have had the privilege of witnessing the transformative power of libraries firsthand, as they serve as vital hubs of education, innovation, and cultural enrichment. My tenure as a library director has provided me with invaluable insights into the multifaceted nature of library operations, strategic planning, and community partnerships.

Upon completion of the MLIS program, I aspire to leverage my enhanced knowledge and skills to lead initiatives that promote digital literacy, cultivate information access, and bridge the digital divide in underserved communities. Whether through the implementation of innovative programming, the integration of cutting-edge technologies, or the establishment of strategic partnerships, I am committed to making a meaningful and lasting impact in the lives of those I serve. Thank you for considering my application for the Scholarship Assistance Program for public library employees in Arkansas.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christina M. Danos', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christina M. Danos

**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.

Faulkner County Library
Applicant Library Name
1900 Tyler
Mailing Address
Conway, AR 72032-3240
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension
fcl@fcl.org FCL@FCL.org
Email Address
501-327-7482 501-327-9098
Phone Number Fax Number
Dr. Jeff Whittingham
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)
[Signature] 6-15-26
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.

Mary M. Spears
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)
Mary M. Spears 4/15/26
Participant's Signature Date

RECOMMENDATION

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

[Signature] 8/14/2026
Signature of State Librarian 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



Faulkner County Library

1900 Tyler • Conway, AR 72032 • (501) 327-7482

July 8, 2026

Arkansas State Library Board
c/o Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian
900 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

Esteemed board members:

Thank you for your continued support of the scholarship program. Arkansas deserves professional librarians to address the vast needs of Arkansans visiting our libraries every day. I was a scholarship recipient once upon a time, and this library system has benefitted from staff receiving scholarships in the past.

I come to you today with another candidate for your support: Mary Spears Polk. Mary is the beloved manager of our Children's Services department. She is an overworked and underpaid advocate for early literacy skills to her peers across the state of Arkansas, as well as to the schoolteachers in our service area. She is constantly raising the bar for the services we offer to our patrons. Some years ago I was delighted to write a similar letter to get her in to the most recent All-In cohort (another outstanding program I want to thank you for supporting), and the growth that the state library's All-In team fosters has benefitted the team she leads here, as well as the waves of children showing up for programs each day.

Now Mary is enrolled in graduate school to further better herself, and with your assistance we would have her pursue this degree. I thank you again for your support of a more professional level of librarianship in Arkansas.

Sincerely yours,

John McGraw
Director, Faulkner County Libraries

July 6, 2026

Mary M. Spears Scholarship Statement of Intent

I have always wanted to be a librarian. From the hours I spent checking out my books to myself as a child, organizing them, and coming up with a notation system for checkouts (my grownup were not thrilled that I wrote patron names & due dates inside my books), librarianship was important to me before I had any conscious notion that librarianship was a career that I would pursue. Sadly, being an Arkansas resident stopped me from pursuing librarianship as a young adult. When I graduated from college in 1998, one of the career paths I was interested in pursuing was librarianship. However, at that time there was no MLIS degree offered in the state of Arkansas, and long-distance learning had yet not been developed for post-secondary education. We chose to stay in Arkansas, and I pursued non-profit management and early childhood education.

Luckily, a little over eight years ago, I found myself employed at the Faulkner County Library System. I have been the Youth Services Manager for approximately half of that time. I know that to operate as the best librarian that I can be and to be an effective library leader, I need to consistently keep abreast of the latest developments in my field and keep growing my management skills. Luckily, our library system has had the resources to allow me to attend conferences, the incredibly Arkansas State Library ALL-In program, and other professional development. Events over the past 3-4 years have led me to pursue an MLIS degree at the University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa. To be a good library leader, I need to be certain I am strong in the foundations of my profession. Having already completed two semesters of classes, I still feel that the degree is worth completing.

The MLIS classes are teaching me how to navigate the world as a knowledgeable librarian, connecting patrons with the information, resources, and programs they need and want. More specifically for youth services, MLIS classes are helping me face the challenges I encounter daily at my job, from programming to collection development to personnel management, to government relations, and to financial responsibility. My professional goals include helping Arkansas library staff understand the basics of reading development so that they can communicate effectively with families looking for literacy resources, assess their collection for materials that support learning to read, and incorporate best practices in literacy programs (storytimes). In addition, I am passionate about ensuring that Arkansas libraries are taking practical steps to keep patrons and staff safe. I always want to share what I have learned and experienced with other librarians, and I often present at ArLA and other professional conferences. This scholarship would help support my growth and work in all of these areas.

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

Year Awarded	Total Paid	Name	Library
1977	3,000.00	Allen, Debra	White River Regional Library
1977	3,000.00	Shaver, Lolly	Cross County Library
1979	750.00	Williams, Wynelle	Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library
1980	3,465.00	Buffaloe, Anne	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
1980	3,840.00	Clements, Anne	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
1985	4,500.00	Boyett, Harriett (Susie)	White County Library
1985	4,500.00	Drew, K. C. (Chris)	Chicot County Library
1986	6,000.00	Beets, Cathy	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
1990	6,000.00	Ashcraft, Carolyn	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
1990	5,000.00	Khayat, Gwen	North Arkansas Regional Library
1990	6,000.00	Thomas, Sharon	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
1990	6,000.00	Warren, Mary M.	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
1991	6,000.00	Voss, Ruth	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
1991	3,000.00	Witt, John	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
1993	6,000.00	Hunt, Mary Kathleen	Fort Smith Public Library
1994	6,000.00	Butler, Zoe	Conway County Library
1998	6,000.00	Burris, Ashley	Lawrence County Library
1998	6,000.00	McDonald, Donna	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
1999	6,000.00	Griggs, Mary Ann	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2001	3,000.00	Kopper, Virginia (Ginny)	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
2001	3,000.00	Lott, Diana	Jefferson County Library
2002	3,000.00	Kopper, Virginia (Ginny)	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
2002	2,250.00	Lott, Diana	Jefferson County Library
2006	4,236.00	Bates, Anna	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2006	3,177.00	Calhoun, Judy	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2006	7,413.00	Cortez, Regina	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2006	2,118.00	Dudley, Hadi	Bentonville Public Library
2006	4,236.00	Mahon, Renee	Fayetteville Public Library
2006	4,236.00	Rogers, Michael	Northeast AR Regional Library
2007	2,118.00	Calhoun, Judy	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2007	2,471.00	Eskridge, Randi	Saline County Library
2007	1,059.00	Hancock, Willow	Fayetteville Public Library
2007	2,118.00	Heaney, Paula	Fayetteville Public Library
2007	4,236.00	Rogers, Michael	Northeast AR Regional Library
2008	2,160.00	Calhoun, Judy	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2008	2,160.00	Eskridge, Randi	Saline County Library
2008	8,640.00	Hancock, Willow	Fayetteville Public Library
2008	8,640.00	Heaney, Paula	Fayetteville Public Library
2008	1,080.00	McGraw, John	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2008	2,160.00	Parker, Ashley	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2008	4,320.00	Pekel, Sue Ann	Bentonville Public Library
2008	3,240.00	Young, Audra	Farmington Public Library
2009	2,400.00	Bailey, Robert	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2009	2,400.00	Donovan, Lisa	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2009	2,400.00	Hamlin, Kelly	Fort Smith Public Library
2009	4,800.00	John Clark "Hotspur" Closser	Fayetteville Public Library
2009	2,400.00	Price, Arlisa	Forrest City Public Library
2009	4,800.00	Walsh, Caitlyn Spaulding	Fayetteville Public Library
2009	3,600.00	Young, Audra	Farmington Public Library
2010	2,700.00	Bailey, Robert	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2010	1,350.00	Donovan, Lisa	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2010	4,050.00	Hamlin, Kelly	Fort Smith Public Library
2010	5,400.00	John Clark "Hotspur" Closser	Fayetteville Public Library
2010	4,050.00	McCleod, Tara	Crawford County Library
2010	9,450.00	Wallace, Darby	Jackson County Library
2010	5,400.00	Walsh, Caitlyn Spaulding	Fayetteville Public Library
2011	2,700.00	Bailey, Robert	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2011	2,700.00	Bell, Audra	Farmington Public Library
2011	9,450.00	Carnahan, Sarah Razer	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2011	4,050.00	Donovan, Lisa	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2011	5,400.00	Drittler, Lauren	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2011	6,750.00	Ino, Darla	White County Regional Library
2011	4,050.00	Kramer, Kelly Hamlin	Fort Smith Public Library
2011	6,750.00	McCleod, Tara	Crawford County Library
2011	8,550.00	Rugger, Haley	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2011	2,700.00	Sheaner, Kim Crow	Baxter County Library
2011	2,700.00	Wallace, Darby	Jackson County Library
2011	5,400.00	Webb, Adam	Garland County Library
2012	5,400.00	Allen, Katie Elbe	Garland County Library
2012	6,750.00	Anderson, David	Crossett Public Library
2012	2,700.00	Bailey, Robert	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	1,350.00	Bell, Audra	Farmington Public Library
2012	10,800.00	Carpenter, Ronica	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	5,400.00	Chavez, Brittany Hennessee	Garland County Library
2012	4,050.00	Cruise, Kristen	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	2,700.00	Donovan, Lisa	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	6,750.00	Drittler, Lauren	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2012	10,800.00	Garrison, Amanda	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	2,700.00	Gowdy, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2012	6,750.00	Ino, Darla	White County Regional Library
2012	1,350.00	Kramer, Kelly Hamlin	Fort Smith Public Library
2012	8,100.00	Miller, Kristen	Pope County Regional Library System
2012	10,800.00	Owen, Sarah	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	2,700.00	Rugger, Haley	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2012	6,300.00	Schuster, Mark	Carroll & Madison Library System
2012	6,750.00	Sheaner, Kim Crow	Baxter County Library
2012	5,400.00	Webb, Adam	Garland County Library

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2012	4,050.00	Zchiegner-Bleich, Fallon	Bentonville Public Library
2013	5,400.00	Allen, Katie Elbe	Garland County Library
2013	4,050.00	Anderson, David	Crossett Public Library
2013	1,350.00	Blakeney, Jeannie	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2013	5,400.00	Chavez, Brittany Hennessee	Garland County Library
2013	2,700.00	Crenshaw, Loretta	Carroll & Madison Library System
2013	1,350.00	Crow-Sheaner, Kim	Baxter County Library
2013	6,750.00	Cruise, Kristen	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2013	1,350.00	Gowdy, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2013	5,400.00	Gowdy, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2013	10,800.00	McNiel, Courtney	Hempstead County Library
2013	2,700.00	Miller, Kristen	Pope County Regional Library System
2013	12,600.00	Rasnic, Rebecca	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2013	8,100.00	Zchiegner-Bleich, Fallon	Bentonville Public Library
2014	5,400.00	Bailey, Kena	Fayetteville Public Library
2014	6,750.00	Bennett, Adrienne	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2014	5,400.00	Blakeney, Jeannie	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2014	4,050.00	Cook, Connie	Jackson County Library
2014	2,700.00	Crenshaw, Loretta	Carroll & Madison Library System
2014	5,400.00	Hancock, Kristina	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2014	2,700.00	Price-Harris, Arlisa	Forrest City Public Library
2014	6,750.00	Wright, Roxie	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2015	5,400.00	Bailey, Kena	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	4,050.00	Bennett, Adrienne	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2015	4,050.00	Blakeney, Jeannie	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2015	6,750.00	Chase, Victoria	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2015	5,400.00	Christy, Wendy	Saline County Library
2015	1,350.00	Cook, Connie	Jackson County Library
2015	(5,400.00)	Cook, Connie	Jackson County Library - Repayment
2015	2,700.00	Cothren, Zac	Cleburne County Library
2015	2,700.00	Crenshaw, Loretta	Carroll & Madison Library System
2015	5,400.00	Dedmon, Laquita	Texarkana Public Library
2015	5,400.00	Dennis, Carlye	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	10,800.00	Fell, Devin	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	8,100.00	Friedan, Leah	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	10,350.00	Green, Linda	Conway County Library
2015	4,050.00	Jelinek, Gwyneth	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	5,400.00	Nelson-Lamont, Amy	Fayetteville Public Library
2015	9,450.00	Price-Harris, Arlisa	Forrest City Public Library
2015	4,050.00	Rawls, Maria Tess	Cross County Library
2015	(4,050.00)	Rawls, Maria Tess	Cross County Library - Repayment
2015	5,400.00	Vanlandingham, Taylor	Springdale Public Library
2015	4,050.00	Wallace, Greg	Garland County Library
2015	5,400.00	Watson, Jennifer	Saline County Library

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2015	5,400.00	Wells, Kimberly	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2015	4,050.00	Wright, Roxie	Bella Vista Public Library
2016	2,700.00	Agginie, Dessalines	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2016	1,350.00	Blakeney, Jeannie	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2016	5,400.00	Brady, Erin	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2016	10,800.00	Chance, Morgan	Columbia County Library
2016	5,400.00	Chase, Victoria	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2016	6,750.00	Christy, Wendy	Saline County Library
2016	5,400.00	Cothren, Zac	Cleburne County Library
2016	2,700.00	Crenshaw, Loretta	Carroll & Madison Library System
2016	5,400.00	Dedmon, Laquita	Texarkana Public Library
2016	5,400.00	Dennis, Carlye	Fayetteville Public Library
2016	1,350.00	Fitzgerald, Courtney	Bentonville Public Library
2016	2,700.00	Friedan, Leah	Fayetteville Public Library
2016	4,050.00	Green, Linda	Conway County Library
2016	2,700.00	Jelinek, Gwyneth	Fayetteville Public Library
2016	10,800.00	Leeper, Gladys	Pike County Library
2016	5,400.00	Nelson-Lamont, Amy	Fayetteville Public Library
2016	4,050.00	Price-Harris, Arlisa	Forrest City Public Library
2016	5,400.00	Renollet, Erin	Springdale Public Library
2016	12,150.00	Schoenenberger, Ginger	Boone County Library
2016	9,450.00	Stine, Dara	Marion County Public Library
2016	5,400.00	Vanlandingham, Taylor	Springdale Public Library
2016	1,350.00	Wallace, Greg	Garland County Library
2016	5,400.00	Watson, Jennifer	Saline County Library
2016	5,400.00	Wells, Kimberly	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2016	5,400.00	Williams, Corinne	Garland County Library
2017	5,400.00	Agginie, Dessalines	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2017	6,750.00	Ammons, Lyndsey	Saline County Library
2017	4,050.00	Barlow Graham, Clare	Malvern-Hot Spring Co Library
2017	5,400.00	Brady-Randle, Erin	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2017	8,100.00	Browning-Kamins, Lara	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2017	10,800.00	Eaton, Rachel	Fayetteville Public Library
2017	2,700.00	Fitzgerald, Courtney	Bentonville Public Library
2017	2,700.00	Jelinek, Gwyneth	Fayetteville Public Library
2017	1,350.00	Leeper, Gladys	Pike County Library
2017	2,700.00	Miner, Brenda	Ouachita Mountains Regional Library
2017	1,350.00	Stine, Dara	Marion County Public Library
2017	2,700.00	Wallace, Greg	Garland County Library
2018	(12,150.00)	Leeper, Gladys	Southwest AR Reg Library - Repayment
2018	2,700.00	Agginie, Dessalines	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2018	5,400.00	Ammons, Lyndsey	Saline County Library
2018	6,750.00	Barlow Graham, Clare	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2018	2,700.00	Browning-Kamins, Lara	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2018	1,350.00	Coulter, Nate	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2018	13,500.00	Davis, Adrianna	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
2018	4,050.00	Egerton, Robin	Crawford County Library
2018	2,700.00	Fitzgerald, Courtney	Bentonville Public Library
2018	5,400.00	Garcia-Gomez, Nathalie	Springdale Public Library
2018	13,500.00	Griebel, Matthew Chance	Wm. F Laman Public Library
2018	10,800.00	Jones, Kristin	Rogers Public Library
2018	6,750.00	Moore, Deborah	Lonoke County Library
2018	7,200.00	Ogletree, Asti	East Central AR Regional Library
2018	6,750.00	Scott, Deidre	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2018	5,400.00	Singleton, Andrea	Van Buren County Library
2018	2,700.00	Wallace, Greg	Garland County Library
2018	13,950.00	Waters, Tara	Saline County Library
2018	6,750.00	Windel, Kenya	Newton County Library
2019	450.00	Burleson, Margaux	Crawford County Library
2019	4,050.00	Coulter, Nate	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2019	5,400.00	Egerton, Robin	Crawford County Library
2019	2,700.00	Fitzgerald, Courtney	Bentonville Public Library
2019	5,400.00	Garcia-Gomez, Nathalie	Springdale Public Library
2019	8,100.00	Harrison, Allison	Crawford County Library
2019	4,050.00	Lawler, Rebekah	Bentonville Public Library
2019	6,750.00	Martinez, Adriana	Springdale Public Library
2019	9,450.00	Milligan, Hannah	Rogers Public Library
2019	4,050.00	Moore, Deborah	Lonoke County Library
2019	5,400.00	Munguia, Sarah	Crawford County Library
2019	5,850.00	Ogletree, Asti	East Central AR Regional Library- Cross Co.
2019	4,050.00	Scott, Deidre	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2019	5,400.00	Singleton, Andrea	Van Buren County Library
2019	4,050.00	Skorija, Kate	Fayetteville Public Library
2019	4,050.00	Windel, Kenya	Newton County Library
2020	4,050.00	Burleson, Margaux	Crawford County Library
2020	4,050.00	Butkovic, Jessica	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2020	2,700.00	Canales-Ochoa, Randy	Fayetteville Public Library
2020	2,700.00	Coulter, Nate	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2020	2,700.00	Egerton, Robin	Crawford County Library
2020	6,750.00	Evans, Tammie	Springdale Public Library
2020	1,350.00	Fitzgerald, Courtney	Bentonville Public Library
2020	2,700.00	Harrison, Allison	Crawford County Library
2020	5,400.00	Hayes, Amanda	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2020	6,750.00	Lawler, Rebekah	Bentonville Public Library
2020	14,850.00	Locke, Hollie	Saline County Library
2020	4,050.00	Martinez, Adriana	Springdale Public Library
2020	2,700.00	Milligan, Hannah	Rogers Public Library
2020	5,400.00	Munguia, Sarah	Crawford County Library

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2020	6,750.00	Newbern, Ellizabeth	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2020	1,350.00	Olgetree, Asti	East Central AR Regional Library - Cross Co.
2020	8,100.00	Sharon, Anna	Bentonville Public Library
2021	4,050.00	Akers, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2021	10,800.00	Burks, Chris	Carroll & Madison Library System
2021	6,750.00	Burleson, Margaux	Crawford County Library
2021	1,350.00	Butkovic, Jessica	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2021	8,100.00	Canales-Ochoa, Randy	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	9,450.00	Dodge, Kia	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	4,050.00	Evans, Tammie	Springdale Public Library
2021	10,800.00	Hawkins, Misty	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2021	5,400.00	Hayes, Amanda	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2021	7,650.00	Hendrix, Nakeli	Bentonville Public Library
2021	2,700.00	Jones, Emily	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	9,450.00	Murray, Cassady	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	4,050.00	Newbern, Ellizabeth	Central AR Regional Library (CALS)
2021	5,400.00	Quinn, Molly	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	5,400.00	Rolf, Kimberly	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	2,700.00	Sharon, Anna	Bentonville Public Library
2021	5,400.00	Spears, Shelby	Rogers Public Library
2021	2,700.00	Smith, Jessica	Fayetteville Public Library
2021	10,800.00	Sweeney, Stephanie	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2021	(5,400.00)	Butkovic, Jessica (Kirk)	Central AR Regional Library (CALS) Repayment
2022	6,750.00	Akers, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2022	8,100.00	Ashmore, Kathleen	Lonoke County Library
2022	1,350.00	Bright, Rachel	Bentonville Public Library
2022	2,700.00	Burleson, Margaux	Crawford County Library
2022	8,100.00	Espenschied, Samantha	Rogers Public Library
2022	8,100.00	Espey, Leigh	Saline County Library
2022	8,100.00	Fancher, Mattison	Fort Smith Public Library
2022	3,150.00	Hendrix, Nakeli	Bentonville Public Library
2022	5,850.00	Hobbs, Hannah	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2022	8,100.00	Hough, Madison	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2022	5,400.00	Hurtado, Elizabeth	Springdale Public Library
2022	5,400.00	Jones, Emily	Fayetteville Public Library
2022	8,100.00	Jones, Kimberly	Springdale Public Library
2022	4,050.00	Jones, Tobie Taylor	Bentonville Public Library
2022	1,350.00	Murray, Cassady	Fayetteville Public Library
2022	8,100.00	Olsen, Brook	Garland County Library
2022	5,400.00	Quinn, Molly	Fayetteville Public Library
2022	4,050.00	Ritchie, James	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2022	3,600.00	Robinette, Alan	Saline County Library
2022	4,050.00	Rolf, Kimberly	Fayetteville Public Library
2022	8,100.00	Shrell, Hanna	Bentonville Public Library

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2022	4,050.00	Smith, Jessica	Fayetteville Public Library
2022	5,400.00	Spears, Shelby	Rogers Public Library
2022	450.00	Sweeney, Stephanie	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
2023	4,050.00	Ashmore, Kathleen	Lonoke County Library
2023	4,050.00	Bright, Rachel	Bentonville Public Library
2023	6,750.00	Davis, Clara	Fayetteville Public Library
2023	2,700.00	Espenschied, Samantha	Rogers Public Library
2023	2,700.00	Espey, Leigh	Saline County Library
2023	2,700.00	Fancher, Mattison	Fort Smith Public Library
2023	5,400.00	Ford, Jordan	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2023	6,750.00	Gillelan, Hannah (Hobbs)	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2023	3,150.00	Hendrix, Nakeli	Bentonville Public Library
2023	8,100.00	Hurtado, Elizabeth	Springdale Public Library
2023	2,700.00	Jones, Emily	Fayetteville Public Library
2023	5,400.00	Jones, Kimberly	Springdale Public Library
2023	5,400.00	Miller, Abby (Grimsley)	Springdale Public Library
2023	2,700.00	Olsen, Brook	Garland County Library
2023	5,400.00	Protiva-Brown, Tara	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2023	2,700.00	Quinn, Molly	Fayetteville Public Library
2023	2,700.00	Shrell, Hanna	Bentonville Public Library
2023	4,050.00	Smith, Jessica	Fayetteville Public Library
2023	10,800.00	Spears, Kacy	Springdale Public Library
2023	10,800.00	Swaim, Madison	Crawford County Library
2023	4,050.00	Williams, Brett	Garland County Library
2023	4,500.00	Wooley, Elizabeth	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2023	4,500.00	Wright, Keli	Rogers Public Library
2023	9,900.00	Wu, Bella	Bentonville Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Barnhart, Susan	Rogers Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Beliew, Hailey	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
2024	5,400.00	Bowman, Billie	Mississippi County Library System
2024	2,700.00	Bright, Rachel	Bentonville Public Library
2024	4,050.00	Davis, Clara	Farmington Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Ellis, Emma	Fayetteville Public Library
2024	6,750.00	Hignite, Mary Emma	Springdale Public Library
2024	10,800.00	Hostetler, Traci	Ouachita Mountains Regional Library
2024	5,400.00	Miller, Abby (Grimsley)	Springdale Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Morales, Tatiana	Springdale Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Nowlin, James	Garland County Library
2024	8,100.00	Ogle, Terra	Fayetteville Public Library
2024	5,400.00	Park, Elizabeth	Fayetteville Public Library
2024	5,400.00	Protiva-Brown, Tara	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2024	5,400.00	Williams, Brett	Garland County Library
2024	10,800.00	Williams, Ricky	Pine Bluff/Jefferson Co Public Library
2024	6,300.00	Wooley, Elizabeth	Central AR Library System (CALS)

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

2024	4,500.00	Wright, Keli	Rogers Public Library
2024	2,700.00	Wu, Bella	Bentonville Public Library
2025	8,100.00	Barnhart, Susan	Rogers Public Library
2025	8,100.00	Beliew, Hailey	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
2025	5,400.00	Bowman, Billie	Mississippi County Library System
2025	6,750.00	Clatworthy, Mary (Lamb)	Ashley County Library
2025	8,100.00	Ellis, Emma	Fayetteville Public Library
2025	6,750.00	Furney, Sydney	Fort Smith Public Library
2025	8,100.00	Gale, Tyler	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2025	8,100.00	Genser, Taylor	Rogers Public Library
2025	1,350.00	Hanst, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2025	4,050.00	Hignite, Mary Emma	Springdale Public Library
2025	8,100.00	Lott, Sloane	Independence County Library
2025	4,050.00	May, Lisa	Jackson County Library
2025	8,100.00	Morales, Tatiana	Springdale Public Library
2025	1,350.00	Nowlin, James	Garland County Library
2025	1,350.00	Nowlin, James	Garland County Library
2025	2,700.00	Ogle, Terra	Fayetteville Public Library
2025	6,750.00	Reeves, Jessica	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2025	5,400.00	Simon, Chelsea	Saline County Library
2025	8,100.00	Taurone, Riley	Pope County Regional Library System
2025	1,350.00	Williams, Brett	Garland County Library
2025	1,350.00	Williams, Ricky	Pine Bluff/Jefferson Co Public Library
2025	4,500.00	Wright, Keli	Rogers Public Library
2026	2,700.00	Gale, Tyler	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
2026	4,050.00	Clatworthy, Mary (Lamb)	Ashley County Library
2026	8,100.00	Mueller, Angelia	Boone County Library
2026	5,400.00	Goston, Leland	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2026	2,700.00	Lott, Sloane	Independence County Library
2026	8,100.00	May, Lisa	Jackson County Library
2026	2,700.00	Genser, Taylor	Rogers Public Library
2026	5,400.00	Simon, Chelsea	Saline County Library
2026	10,800.00	Davis, Fiona	Springdale Public Library
2026	5,400.00	Taurone, Riley	Pope County Regional Library System
2026	5,400.00	Reeves, Jessica	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
2026	8,100.00	Bennett, Hunter	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
2026	5,400.00	Hanst, Sarah	Bentonville Public Library
2026	2,700.00	Nowlin, James	Garland County Library
2026	10,800.00	Tollett, Erin	Fayetteville Public Library
2026	(2,700.00)	Nowlin, James	Garland County Library (returned funds 2/26)
2026	2,700.00	Goston, Leland	Central AR Library System (CALS)
2026	2,700.00	Tameka Lee	Central AR Library System (CALS)

Scholarship Payments Made
1977-2026

1,738,423.00 Total Paid Out in Scholarships

STATE GENERAL REVENUE
EPA0100 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2026
BY COMMITMENT ITEM
JUNE 30, 2026

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	FY Blocks	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$1,677,479	\$15,504	\$1,661,975	45.5%	\$1,529,979	\$131,996	8%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$9,000	0.2%	\$0	\$9,000	100%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$631,344	\$10,727	\$620,617	17.0%	\$589,499	\$31,118	5%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$2,318,823	\$27,231	\$2,291,592	62.8%	\$2,119,478	\$172,114	8%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$1,125,091	\$2,129	\$1,122,962	30.8%	\$1,114,723	\$8,239	1%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	0.3%	\$2,625	\$7,375	74%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
	Total M & O	\$1,135,091	\$2,129	\$1,132,962	31.0%	\$1,117,348	\$15,614	1%
509:00:46	Books/Subscriptions	\$230,000	\$5,000	\$225,000	6.2%	\$225,000	\$0	0%
	TOTALS	\$3,683,914	\$34,360	\$3,649,554	100.0%	\$3,461,826	\$187,728	5%
	M&R paid to ASL account					\$429	(\$429)	100%

FEDERAL LSTA REVENUE
FEL0100 FEL0200 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2026
BY COMMITMENT ITEM
JUNE 30, 2026

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$458,899	\$458,899	14.4%	\$383,909	\$74,990	16%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$22,000	\$22,000	0.7%	\$21,570	\$430	2%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$194,756	\$194,756	6.1%	\$172,484	\$22,272	11%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$675,655	\$675,655	21.3%	\$577,963	\$97,692	14%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$2,347,700	\$2,347,700	73.9%	\$1,393,616	\$954,084	41%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$145,000	\$145,000	4.6%	\$97,764	\$47,236	33%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.3%	\$9,994	\$7	0%
	Total M & O	\$2,502,700	\$2,502,700	78.7%	\$1,501,374	\$1,001,326	40%
	TOTALS	\$3,178,355	\$3,178,355	100.0%	\$2,079,337	\$1,099,018	35%

Fiscal Support Manager – Brooke Crawford

On-Going Projects:

Staff Information

Authorized staff: 36 (+2 Shared Services positions = 38 total staff)

Budgeted staff: 36 (Full-Time)

Current staff @ 7/15/25: 34 Full-Time, 2 Shared Services positions, 1 Extra Help, 2 Vacant Positions.

State Aid

Final amounts for FY26 State Aid: \$5,593,917 State Aid paid out to libraries. \$90,450 Scholarship Assistance paid out. (See State Aid Payments 2026).

Reports

Completed or working on the following reports for State Closeout and the Biennial Budget.

Closing Book has the following deadlines: 7/17/26, 8/7/26 & 8/28/26.

SEFA (Statewide Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards) deadline of 7/27/26.

FY2028 – 2029 Biennial Budget deadline of 7/22/26.

AASIS to S/4HANA

AASIS, which is the finance and business system that we have used since July 1, 2001, was upgraded to a more modern, connected system called S/4HANA, commonly known as S4. It went live on July 9, 2026.

This brings a lot of change to the finance area, but it is expected to be easier to use and have faster performance, cleaner data and give better support for compliance. The Business Office staff have spent many hours in training over the last year, especially over the last 2 months, and we are currently updating the various forms, reference guides, etc., to reflect the all-new coding and guidance.

IT

Our servers have been migrated to the Office of State Technology (OST) Greenfield infrastructure, which put the agency in compliance with the state technology standards. We also recently transitioned from Microsoft Defender to CrowdStrike endpoint protection as part of a statewide cybersecurity initiative. Migration of our SSL certificate services from Digicert to Sectigo through OST reduced our costs while maintaining secure communications for our systems.

Upcoming Events:

Federal Closeout: September 30, 2026

IT is planning to replace aging desktops, laptops and network equipment that are approaching end-of-life.

State Librarian – Jennifer Chilcoat

On-going Projects

Year End Activities

The end of the state fiscal year, which occurs on June 30, is always a very active time. This year it was doubly so with the completion of a major upgrade to the statewide accounting system. Staff, especially staff in the business office, answered the call by attending numerous training sessions and townhalls, submitting necessary reports, and arranging travel and purchasing requests around a modified closeout calendar. The transition was generally very smooth, and we are busily acquainting ourselves with the capabilities of the new software.

As we approach the end of the federal fiscal year on September 30, we are hopeful that we will be able to use funds we have set aside to purchase a vehicle for the numerous site visits and for supplies we use for putting on workshops around the state. Expenditures of LSTA funds over \$10,000 require pre-approval from IMLS, in addition to obtaining state approval and locating a vehicle that is a base model and therefore allowable under procurement laws.

IMLS America 250 Convening

I had the opportunity to join IMLS and twelve Arkansas public library directors in Atlanta for the IMLS Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story. The Atlanta event was one of five regional America 250 Convenings held around the country, each one dedicated to an audience of librarians from small and rural libraries. It was a rare treat to be in one place with the directors of some of our small and rural libraries. Sessions included *Winning Grants for Rural Libraries*, *Creative Space and Display Strategies for Libraries*, *Child Reading Literacy and the Role of Public Libraries*, as well as reports from libraries in the attending states about their America 250 programs and initiatives. As is often the case, Arkansas attendees reported that the networking they got to do with librarians from other states was the most valuable benefit they received. The underwriting of attendance by IMLS for this event was an extremely important factor in allowing them to attend.

White River Regional Update

As of July 1, all director positions for the libraries that comprised the White River Regional Library have been filled. Denise Meli is the director of the Cleburne County Library in Heber Springs. As reported previously, Racheal Foster is the systemwide director of the White River Regional Library, which has moved its headquarters from Mountain View, Stone County, to Calico Rock, Izard County. Most recently, Maggie Hall has been named the director of the Sharp County Library. All three have been contacted with information and offers of support from our staff, and all seem to be embracing their new roles with enthusiasm.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

May 9	Rogers Library Reopening Celebration
May 11-13	IMLS America 250 Convening, Atlanta, GA
May 27-28	If All Arkansas Read the Same Book, Little Rock and Bentonville
June 9	COSLA Southern Council Meeting
June 10	State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) Survey Changes Discussion Group
June 11	COSLA Special Board Meeting
June 12	Administrative Rules Public Comment Session
June 18	COSLA Member Update

June 26	Summer LSWG Meeting
July 17	MyARInternship presentations and tours at ASL
July 23	COSLA Board Meeting
July 28	Southern Council Meeting

Upcoming Events

October 15	Arkansas Library Directors Summit
October 19-21	COSLA Annual Meeting, Lawrence, KS

Acronyms: ADE - Arkansas Department of Education; ALA - American Library Association; ArLA - Arkansas Library Association; ARSL - Association for Rural and Small Libraries; 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; PLA - Public Library Association; SDC - State Data Coordinator; SHLB - Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition

Deputy Director – Kristen Cooke

Ongoing Projects

Program Oversight

Cooke continues to provide oversight and support of Library Development, the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, Information Services, and Statewide Sharing & Engagement.

Library Statistics Working Group Meeting

The Library Statistics Working Group convened to review and refine proposed data elements for the 2027 survey. One data element was retained for further cognitive testing, and the national ballot has been sent to all states for the final voting period.

Library Services and Technology Act 5-Year Evaluation

Responses to the RFP for a reviewer for the LSTA 5-Year Plan are being received. The next phase of the project is to review the applicants, selecting one that can meet the requirements from the agency and IMLS/federal standards.

Mississippi State University Libraries' Data Education Initiative

Cooke is working with the faculty of Mississippi State University Libraries in the Scholar Support and Data Services division on an initiative to increase data processing, cleaning, and analytics skills development opportunities among academic librarians in the south. The initiative is funded through a federal Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant awarded to Mississippi State University. Cooke will serve as the Arkansas partner to host the training at ASL. One key feature of the grant objective is to create a professional network of data librarians that is sustained through the strategic establishment of certified Data Carpentry instructors. As part of the initiative, Cooke will complete the Carpentry Instructor training with the goals of delivering the training to interested public library employees and sustaining the Arkansas network participation.

2026 Arkansas Public Library Survey

The 2026 AR Public Library Survey is under revision and training is being developed. The 2026 survey will launch in January 2027.

Certified Arkansas Governmental Manager

Cooke completed the AGM level of the Certified Public Manager program through the UALR School of Public Affairs and has earned the Certified Arkansas Governmental Manager designation.

Site Visits/Meetings /Traininings

Recurring	State Data Coordinators Meeting
Recurring	SDC Mentors Meeting
Recurring	IMLS Meeting

May 19-21	Arkansas Rural Development Conference
June 25-26	Library Statistics Working Group Meeting

Librarian - Statewide Sharing and Engagement - Taylor McKinney

On-Going Projects:

Statewide Sharing: Mockingbird

The Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator has been planning the implementation of monthly meetings to serve as office hours and bite-sized training sessions. The meetings will begin in September, with a Save the Date to be sent out beforehand.

Engagement

The Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator, along with the Center for the Book Coordinator and the Information Services Manager, completed a Pathfinder to accompany If All Arkansas Read the Same Book events. The chosen title for this year was The Fate of the Day by Rick Atkinson, and the Pathfinder included thematically relevant titles and database resources participants can access through the Arkansas State Library. She also presented a session on Presentation Skills for Arkansas library paraprofessionals at InfoBits. The Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator finalized the LibGuides style guide and site design for employees to use when creating new Guides. She will present a training session to relevant staff in July. The Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator presented on Data, Statewide Sharing & Engagement, and Information Services for attendees from the MyARinternship program in July.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

April 22	Mockingbird SHAREit Discussion
May 14	Monthly ARSL SHAREit Meeting
May 8	Arkansas State Library Board Meeting
May 15	InfoBits
May 27	The Fate of the Day Event
May 27	Sharing about SHAREit Training
June 2	SHAREit User Group Meeting
June 11	Monthly ARSL SHAREit Meeting
June 23	Sharing about SHAREit Training
July 9	Monthly ARSL SHAREit Meeting
July 10	MyARinternship Presentation
July 16	LibGuides Tour Presentation

Library Development Office – Jenn Wann Amber Gregory, Ruth Hyatt, Janine Miller, Karen O’Connell

Library Consulting Services

The Library Development Office provides guidance and support to public libraries throughout the state of Arkansas on a wide range of issues. Consultations are designed to foster best practices in librarianship and to develop community focused library services. During the reporting period, topics included, but were not limited to:

Administration and Management – invoice and payment processes; regionalization pros and cons; strategic planning process; pros and cons of county librarian also serving as regional director; purchasing from the state master contract; bidding requirements; web accessibility guidelines; county fiscal year and fund balance of the county library fund; emergency planning; donor recognition; pay schedules for library workers; canvassers at the library; records retention policy.

Board of Trustees and Library Governance – federal and state requirements to qualify as a public library; municipal libraries without Boards of Trustees; bylaws; required or optional officers for a library board.

E-Rate, Broadband, and Digital Skills – filing assistance and consultations provided to 24 library systems or independent libraries via 32 Zoom meetings during the current reporting period.

FY 2026 E-Rate AR library data as of 7/20/2026:

- Amount requested during filing window: \$826,924.57
 - Funded: \$660,058.35
 - Pending: \$164,610.22

Friends of the Library – merging groups; Freedom of Information Act applicability to Friends groups; bylaws.

General Library Services – 3D printing services in libraries; faxing services.

Youth Services – student volunteers; nominees for the Arkansas Choice Book Awards; voting for the Awards; Arkansas authors; creating promotional materials; programming development; professional development opportunities; helping families navigate and understand third grade reading promotion information.

Continuing Education Services

ALL-In -- The Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (ALL-In) is held approximately every three years and is designed to develop leaders within the library profession and to strengthen professional relationships among all types of librarians. The fourth cohort was recently announced and will be held April 2027-April 2028.

Arkansas Rural Libraries Virtual Conference – Planning is underway for ASL’s first virtual conference for public libraries in the state. The event will be held in January 2027 and will highlight library work being done around the state by rural libraries that can be duplicated by others.

Library Directors' Summit – Registration for the annual [Public Library Directors Summit](#) is open. Andrew Sanderbeck will present on how to identify the metaphorical poisonous red frogs in one's work, conquer them, and avoid them in the future.

Workshops held during the reporting period included:

Arkansas Choice Book Awards – Five virtual sessions on the Arkansas Choice Book Awards were provided during the reporting period.

Friends of the Library Training – Statewide Friends of the Library training was held the State Library in June. Training is designed to bring library staff, friends, and foundation members together to network and facilitate meaningful conversations.

Weekly Webinars:

Thirteen webinars were held by PCI during the reporting period with 880 views of recorded, archived content in PCI by library workers in Arkansas.

Reading Programs for Public Libraries

America 250 Celebration: Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie discuss *A Founding Mother* – On Wednesday, July 29, 2026, the Center will host a virtual moderated discussion featuring bestselling authors Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie on their latest novel and July Reese Book Club pick, *A Founding Mother: A Novel of Abigail Adams* (William Morrow, 2026). Moderators included Allie Stevens Gosselink (Calhoun County Library), Stephanie Freedle (Siloam Springs Public Library), Kristin Quintanilla (National Park College), and Tiffany Fowler (Arkansas River Valley Regional Library).

Arkansas Center for the Book 2026 Reading Challenge – The August challenge is to read a past selection from the [If All Arkansas Read the Same Book](#) program, and the September challenge is to read a book from the National Book Festival's Great Reads list.

Arkansas Choice Book Awards -- The Arkansas State Library facilitates three book awards across the state. Each award winner is selected by eligible students on an annual basis:

- [Arkansas Diamond Primary Book Award](#), established in 1998 to encourage reading for students in Grades K-3.
- [Charlie May Simon Children's Book Award](#), presented annually since 1971 to promote reading for children in grades 4-6, and to recognize Charlie May Simon (1897-1977), one of Arkansas' most prolific authors.
- [Arkansas Teen Book Award](#), founded in 2009 to encourage reading among Arkansas youth.

Any resident of Arkansas can submit a title for the award committee to consider for nomination.

Arkansas Gems – The 2026 Arkansas Gems poster design and printing have been completed. Distribution to Arkansas libraries will begin in late September after the debut of the poster at the National Book Festival. The longlist titles for 2027 are accumulating.

National Book "Festival Near You" Programs – The Center applied for and received additional IMLS grant funding for two "Festival Near You" events in Arkansas:

- National Book Festival – Festival Near You: T. L. Simpson Discusses *Cope Field* on Saturday, August 29, 11:00 a.m., North Little Rock Public Library System – Laman Library
- National Book Festival – Festival Near You: Karen Van Horn and Becky Bull discuss *Eat Like the Hogs* on Saturday, September 12, 11:00 a.m., Van Buren Library, Crawford County

If All Arkansas Read the Same Book – Both in-person events with Rick Atkinson discussing *The Fate of the Day* were successful, with 59 attendees at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater and 53 at the Bentonville Public Library Walmart Foundation Community Room. Statistics for viewers of the May 27th Arkansas TV livestream are forthcoming. In addition, Arkansas TV was able to record an “Arkansas Week” program (first aired on July 14) with Atkinson and Steve Barnes after the CALS event, extending the reach of the program.

Library Book Club Lending Program – During the current reporting period, the program supported 959 readers. July statistics still being reported to the Center.

Summer Reading Program – Public libraries are wrapping up their Summer Reading programs and preparing to submit annual evaluations to the State Library during the month of September. The 2027 theme is Mystery/Detective/Suspense and the slogan is, “Mysteries Await at Your Library.”

Special Projects & Partnerships

Arkansas State Library Introduction for New Library Directors – an introduction to the Arkansas State Library was provided via Zoom for new library directors. Topics included overview of development services including consulting services, continuing education, the Arkansas Library Leadership Institute, and statewide reading programs. Additional virtual gatherings for new library directors will be held later in the year.

Assistance to the Office of State Technology (OST) – The memorandum of understanding with the Office of State Technology has been successfully concluded and is no longer in force. The MOU was put in place for Amber Gregory to provide assistance to OST in filing for E-Rate on behalf of the state’s K-12 schools.

Children’s Book Distribution – Children’s book publishers provide hundreds of books every year to the Arkansas Choice Book Award Committees for consideration. After each award cycle, the State Library coordinates distribution of these recently published, like-new books to public libraries throughout the state. During this reporting period 32 boxes of books were distributed to public libraries around the state.

Multi-County Regional Library Director Gathering – the State Library facilitated an in-person gathering of regional library directors. Issues explored included the benefits and value of regionalization; governance and library structure; and the standardization of policies and procedures. Eight regional library systems (out of 16) representing 24 counties participated.

Revolutionary Transcribe-A-Thon Programming – During the reporting period, the Center led Revolutionary Transcribe-a-Thon programs at Hempstead County Library, Garland County Library, Phillips County Library, and at South Arkansas College, concluding the project. This project was done in partnership with Arkansas TV and the Library of Congress.

From November 2025 through June 2026, approximately 200 people attended the programs and contributed hundreds of transcriptions to the Library of Congress *By the People* project. The Library of Congress featured the Arkansas TV video of the Harding University Transcribe-a-Thon in their June *By the People* Bulletin: “We were inspired by a [recent video of a transcribe-a-thon at Harding University](#) in partnership with the Arkansas State Library. Volunteers gathered to [transcribe The American Revolution in Context](#) to celebrate the 250th birthday of America.”

Field Work

The Library Development team made sixteen field visits to public libraries in the reporting period. Visits by Library Development District were:

- LDD 1 (Northwest Arkansas) x 6
- LDD 2 (Northeast Arkansas) x 2
- LDD 3 (Central Arkansas) x 4
- LDD 4 (Southwest Arkansas) x 2
- LDD 5 (Southeast Arkansas) x 2

Professional Service & Development

Amber Gregory completed 150 hours of Certified Public Manager courses to achieve Level 1 Arkansas Government Manager (AGM) certification.

Janine Miller participated in the annual Continuing Education Forum where she was able to connect, collaborate, and gain new ideas from other Continuing Education specialists at other State Library Agencies.

Jennifer Wann provided staff training and development using the Myers-Briggs Personality Assessment to the Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR) during the reporting period.

Karen O’Connell continues her service on the Core Preservation Section Leadership Team and service as co-chair of the Core Book & Paper Interest Group.

Ruth Hyatt participated in the Arkansas Literacy Association’s *Build that Stack!* Event which focused on leadership, Arkansas children’s book authors, and spreading the love of reading. Ruth also serves on the Partnership and Vendor committees for the national Collaborative Summer Library Program and will participate in listening sessions for upcoming Summer Reading themes and slogans.

Library for the Blind and Print Disabled – Natalie Marlin

On-Going Projects:

Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program kicked off on June 15 and will be running until August 11. In addition to virtual programming provided by NLS, summer reading kits were also mailed out to our juvenile patrons. Thomas Sepe, Library Specialist, designed these kits to fit with the CSLP theme of “Unearth a Story.” Activities centered around geology, artifacts, and seed germination. We also had juvenile and adult reading challenges with prizes to be awarded at the end of the program.

LBDP Newsletter

The two most recent volumes of the LBDP newsletter are now available on the State Library website in PDF, HTML, and audio. This meets the goal mentioned in the previous report of providing greater online accessibility for LBDP patrons. I worked with Sarah Lipsey to complete this project and make sure that the updated content met the goal of increasing accessibility for patrons. Previous issues of the newsletter are also available via a link to the State Library’s online repository.

Circulation

From April 1 through June 30 LBDP circulated a total of 42,932 titles. Of this figure, 34,126 were by direct mail circulation of Audio titles, 11 were direct mail circulation of Braille titles, 101 were downloads from Bookshare and 8,694 were patron downloads from the Braille and Audio Reading program (BARD).

Reader Interaction Statistics

From April 1 through June 30, our Reader Advisors had a total of 6,492 patron interactions. Of those interactions, 1,828 were phone calls received, 1,150 were emails received and responded to, 476 were voicemails received and responded to, 30 were walk-in interactions, 484 were new patron outreach calls and 2,524 were work follow-up tasks. Work follow up includes curating a book order for a patron or searching for and providing reference information.

BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) Readership

There are 643 Library for the Blind readers registered with the NLS BARD program. Of those patrons, 481 actively download digital audio and braille books and magazines. From January 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026, the total number of downloaded BARD items was 8,694. Patrons read these items on 2,347 total registered mobile devices.

Outreach/ Meetings/ Training:

May 12	Bald Knob Community Resource Fair
May 14	CALS Adult Programmers Inservice
May 15	Infobits presentation for library workers from around the state
May 21	Zoom presentation to Brain Injury Program with UAMS
May 21	CALS Children’s Programmers Inservice
May 26-28	Tabling at MOKA Conference in Broken Arrow, OK
June 22	Visit from NLS Chief of Collections, Alice O’Reilly

Information Services – Britni McGuire

Outreach

Information Services Supervisor, Britni McGuire, will be attending Year Two of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Central Arkansas July 27-31. CDI brings together elected officials, economic and community developers, city planners, nonprofit professionals, and many others to connect and obtain training in community and economic development. It is a 3-year program in which participants learn how to connect community assets with opportunities, work with local and regional leaders, and sustain economic development through building communities. At the end of the program, participants can sit for the Professional Community and Economic Developer (PCED) Exam to become a certified PCED.

On August 6th, McGuire will be providing Basic Reference Training for Frontline Staff at Pope County Library. This training is geared toward public library staff who are not trained librarians, to provide them with some basic reference skills to better serve their patrons and streamline library services.

McGuire was invited by the Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center to attend an Intellectual Property Basics webinar they are hosting with the US Patent and Trademark Office on September 1. During the webinar, McGuire will be giving participants a brief overview of our services as the state's only Patent and Trademark Resource Center.

Services

At the beginning of July, Information Services switched to a new platform, LibAnswers, to provide virtual reference services. This has created a much more streamlined and efficient approach compared to the shared email inbox we were previously using. LibAnswers is a ticket system that allows us to see in real time who is actively working on a request, see which requests have yet to be answered, and more efficiently track statistical information following the reference interaction.

Library Manager of Collection Management – Sarah Lipsey

On-Going Projects:

Area Personnel

With the closeout of the 2026 fiscal year, we hope to pursue filling our vacant cataloging position in the Digital Services unit, which was vacated by Evelyn Uptigrove-Sartin upon her promotion to Librarian.

ASL Website

We are the process of selecting an accessibility plug-in for our website in anticipation of the [new rule](#) from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on online content accessibility. The rule requires both state government and public library web content to meet [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#) (WCAG) 2 requirements developed by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). The compliance date, originally April 24, 2026, has been pushed back to April 2027, which allows us additional time to prepare.

Additionally, I have requested that the Executive Committee meet to discuss implementing a general plan for online publishing, resource and service delivery. This will create a consistent process to ensure ongoing compliance and staff awareness.

Finally, I am prepared to move forward with the redesign of the Library Directory on our website, pending additional staff input.

State Aid Records Management System

With assistance from Library Supervisor/Expert Jennifer Razer, I've devised a records management system and workflow to support the agency's storage and retrieval needs for submitted documentation upon adoption of new Rules Governing State Aid to Public Libraries.

Ultimately, we will apply a brief metadata template to all records versus traditionally cataloging them. The template will employ controlled vocabularies and naming conventions across multiple fields. This approach ensures the records are consistently identified and collocated, optimizes their findability via search, and expedites procedures for final processing. After record submissions are formally accepted, the records will be processed by Digital Services staff and made available in Preservica as a special collection.

We are currently fine-tuning the details of the current plan, but we remain poised to reflect any changes made to the proposed rule during promulgation.

Digital Services – Jennifer Razer

Ongoing Projects

State Documents Depository and Clearinghouse

Electronic Publications Processing

The unit continues to have one vacancy. Wendy Etchison, Federal Documents Librarian, completed cross-training in electronic document processing and is now assisting with a backlog of serial publications retrieved from agency websites. Because these publications are not routinely submitted to the State Documents Program, staff must identify, capture, and process them for inclusion in the collection. Her assistance has expanded workflow capacity and is helping reduce the backlog of web-fetched serials.

CD-ROM Digitization Project

The CD-ROM digitization project was completed during this reporting period. Following digitization by Library Specialist Emm Coats, all files were uploaded to the digital collection and linked through OCLC records and the library catalog. These enhancements improve discoverability, expand online access, and support the long-term preservation of state publications.

Outreach

As part of ongoing outreach efforts, State Documents Librarian Lanette Meyer presented to participants in the MyAR Internship Program. She provided an overview of the State Documents Program and its role in collecting, preserving, and providing access to state publications, highlighting the importance of public access to government information and transparency in state government.

Staff processed: 6,503 new digital documents, 13 digital rules, and 190 print titles into the collection as of the writing of this report.

[Shipping list 427](#) was distributed to depository libraries. These bimonthly lists include all digital submissions to the program.

Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)

Staff processed: 4,264 new digital documents and 610 retrospective print titles into the collection as of the writing of this report.

Acquisitions –Katie Walton

On-Going Projects:

Acquisitions

Acquisitions staff completed its portion of the FY2026 budget closeout of state funds well ahead of all deadlines. This budget supports the State Library's collection of books, periodicals, and online databases for State Employees. In contrast to the federal funds that support our Traveler databases and the administration of ADLC, these state funds are used for targeted interest titles that support the work of state agencies and other aspects of state government. One such example is the BioOne Complete database, which is purchased primarily for the use of the Game and Fish Commission. Last year, approximately \$180,000 of state acquisitions funds were allocated to online databases, with periodicals accounting for about \$35,000. Remaining funds are used for book purchases.

With our FY2026 budget closed out, we are planning the use of our FY2027 budget of \$230,000, with approximately \$138,336 in Category A funds and \$91,664 in Category B funds. Because decisions regarding the release of Category B funds are typically not made until January or February, Brooke asked us to identify subscriptions that are normally paid during the first quarter of the fiscal year and could be invoiced before the end of FY2026. By using available FY2026 funds, we were able to prepay subscriptions that would otherwise have drawn from the FY2027 budget. In total, we requested 12 invoices from eight vendors, allowing us to pay \$38,148.39 in upcoming subscription costs with FY2026 funds. This strategy was the result of a collaborative effort among Acquisitions staff, Business Office staff, and our vendors.

Arkansas Digital Library Consortium

So far in 2026, we have had 1,066,887 checkouts from 50,352 unique users. There are 116,443 titles in the shared collection: 79,189 eBooks, 30,499 audiobooks, and 6,755 magazine titles.

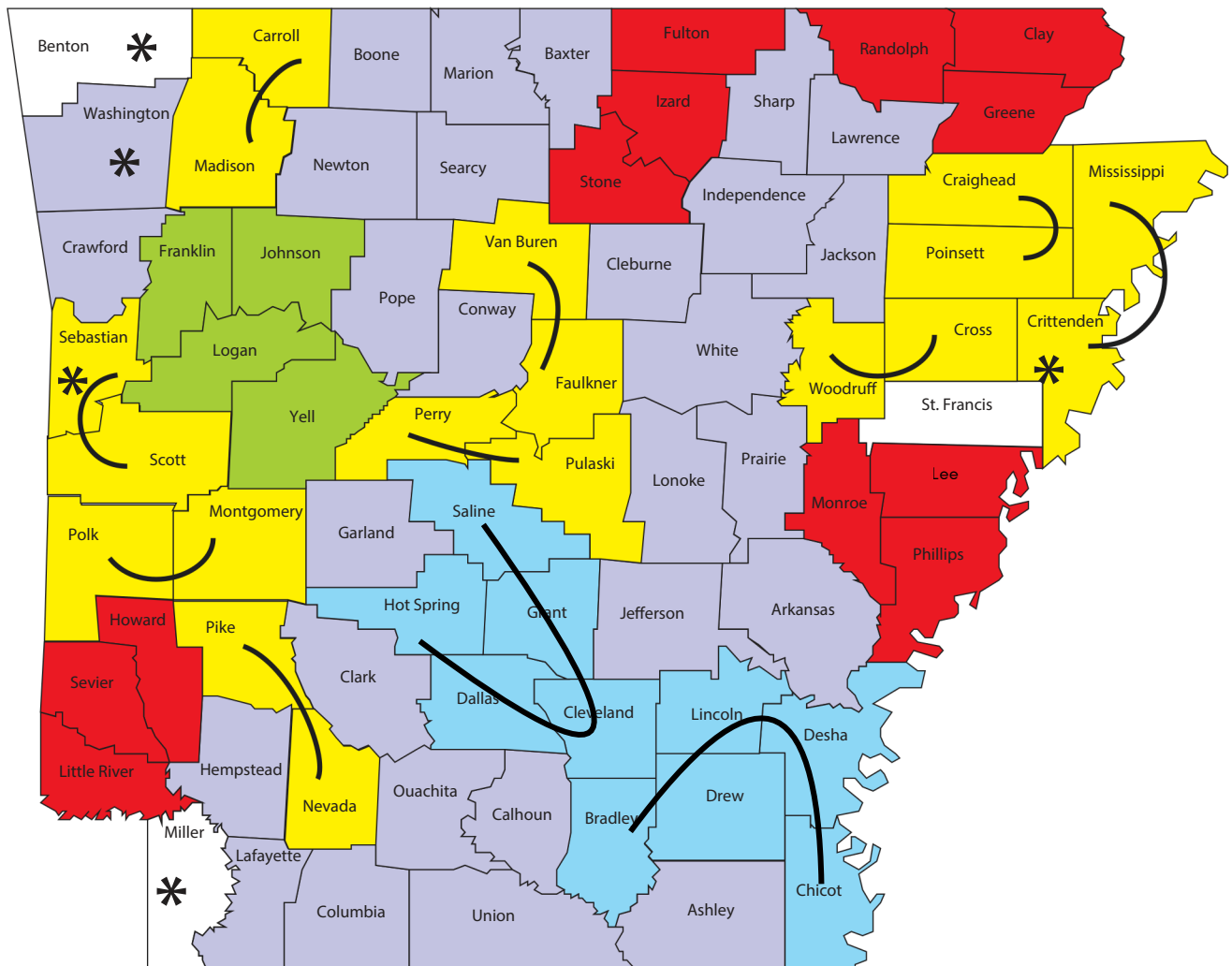
We will soon begin collecting funds for the digital magazine subscription's annual renewal. This \$30,000 subscription is paid by ADLC members. Each library's cost is determined based on their patrons' percentage of the total magazine usage for the previous year. We have compared OverDrive's subscription with other digital magazine subscriptions and vendors, and this method is by far the most cost-effective option for the members. OverDrive also offers a more robust collection than some of their competitors.

Arkansas Traveler Statewide Resources

I offered eight training opportunities for the Traveler resources last quarter. During the Arkansas Association for Instructional Media (AAIM) annual conference, I presented two breakout sessions: one for Elementary and Middle School resources and one for High School resources. In July, I provided six two-hour webinars. Five of these sessions were scheduled after Ruth Hyatt's sessions on the Book Awards and gave teachers the opportunity to attend six hours of training in one day.

I met with vendors from ProQuest, InfoBase, and ABC-CLIO to discuss training opportunities and future upgrades. I've received price quotes from all Traveler vendors except ProQuest for the subscription period beginning in August 2027. After all the quotes are in, the Traveler Advisory Committee will meet to discuss possible adjustments to the collection for August 2027 through July 2030.

Arkansas Public Library Systems



- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| 29 |  | One-County System | 1 |  | Four-County System |
| 9 |  | Two-County System | 2 |  | Five-County System |
| 4 |  | Three-County System | 3 |  | No Countywide Library Tax |
| 7 -* Independent City Library | | | | | |

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 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. **

*** Approved 02-09-2018 by Arkansas State Library Board*

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.

**Approved 02-01-80 by Arkansas State Library Board*

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

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, 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

7/15/2026

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
Office of the State Librarian			501-682-1526 / 501-682-1533 FAX	
JENNIFER	CHILCOAT	STATE LIBRARIAN		jennifer.chilcoat@ade.arkansas.gov
JAYNIE	BROWNE	ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR		jaynie.browne@ade.arkansas.gov
Deputy Director/Statewide Sharing & Engagement/Virtual Union Catalog			501-682-2863 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
KRISTEN	COOKE	LIBRARY MANAGER		kristen.cooke@ade.arkansas.gov
TAYLOR	MCKINNEY	LIBRARIAN - MOCKINGBIRD		taylor.mckinney@ade.arkansas.gov
Library for the Blind & Print Disabled			501-682-1155 / 501-682-1529 FAX	
NATALIE	MARLIN	LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT - BPD	1-866-660-0885 Toll Free	natalie.marlin@ade.arkansas.gov
JEFFERY	KERSEY	LIBRARIAN		jeff.kersey@ade.arkansas.gov
KELLY	SMITH	LIBRARIAN		kelly.smith@ade.arkansas.gov
THOMAS	SEPE	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		thomas.sepe@ade.arkansas.gov
ANNA	ELLIOTT	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		anna.elliott@ade.arkansas.gov
RACHEL	MCBROOM	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		rachel.mcbroom@ade.arkansas.gov
Library Development			501-682-1693 FAX	
JENNIFER	WANN	LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT - LIB DEV	501-682-5288	jenn.wann@ade.arkansas.gov
RUTH	HYATT	LIBRARIAN - YOUTH SERVICES	501-682-2860	ruth.hyatt@ade.arkansas.gov
KAREN	O'CONNELL	LIBRARIAN - CENTER FOR THE BOOK	501-682-2874	karen.oconnell@ade.arkansas.gov
AMBER	GREGORY	LIBRARIAN - E-RATE	501-682-8576	amber.gregory@ade.arkansas.gov
JANINE	MILLER	LIBRARAIN - CONT ED	501-682-5291	janine.miller@ade.arkansas.gov
JULIE	FRANCE-ROWLAND	ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	501-682-2159	julie.france-rowland@ade.arkansas.gov
Information Services			501-682-2053 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
BRITNI	MCGUIRE	LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT - INFO SVCS		britni.mcguire@ade.arkansas.gov
AVA	CONWAY	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		ava.conway@ade.arkansas.gov
		LIBRARY SPECIALIST	VACANT	
ELEANOR	BEARD	LIBRARIAN		eleanor.beard@ade.arkansas.gov
SHELBEA	GENTRY	LIBRARIAN		shelbea.gentry@ade.arkansas.gov
Collection Management			501-682-1899 FAX	

Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

7/15/2026

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
SARAH	LIPSEY	LIBRARY MANAGER - COLL MGMT	501-682-2862	sarah.lipsey@ade.arkansas.gov
JENNIFER	RAZER	LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT - DIG SVCS	501-682-2550	jennifer.razer@ade.arkansas.gov
KATIE	WALTON	LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT - ACQUISITIONS	501-682-2266	katie.walton@ade.arkansas.gov
EMM	COATS	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		emm.coats@ade.arkansas.gov
WENDY	ETCHISON	LIBRARIAN - FEDERAL DOCS		wendy.etchison@ade.arkansas.gov
REBA	DRIVER	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		reba.driver@ade.arkansas.gov
EVELYN	UPTIGROVE-SARTIN	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		evelyn.uptigrove-sartin@ade.arkansas.gov
LANETTE	MEYER	LIBRARIAN - STATE DOCS		lanette.meyer@ade.arkansas.gov
TOSHONA	CARTER	LIBRARIAN - ACQUISITIONS		toshona.carter@ade.arkansas.gov
CHERIE	MADARASH-HILL	LIBRARIAN - CATALOGING		cherie.madarash-hill@ade.arkansas.gov
FLANNERY	HIRREL	LIBRARY SPECIALIST		flannery.hirrel@ade.arkansas.gov
		LIBRARIAN - DIG SVCS	VACANT	
Administration			501-682-1527/ 501-682-1533 FAX	
BROOKE	CRAWFORD	FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER		brooke.crawford@ade.arkansas.gov
ERIN	SEBREE	PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST		erin.sebree@ade.arkansas.gov
TRISH	LUCKADUE	FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT		trish.luckadue@ade.arkansas.gov
DAWANNA	WALLS	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST		dawanna.walls@ade.arkansas.gov
KEN	GIESBRECHT	IT COORDINATOR		ken.giesbrecht@ade.arkansas.gov



2026

JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MAY

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JUNE

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JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS , AS SCHEDULED



STATE OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

JAN 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY (OBSERVED); JAN 19- DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY (OBSERVED); FEB 16 - GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY AND DAISY GATSON BATES DAY (OBSERVED); MAY 25 - MEMORIAL DAY (OBSERVED); JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY; SEPT 7 - LABOR DAY; NOV 11- VETERANS DAY (OBSERVED); NOV 26 - THANKSGIVING DAY; DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE (OBSERVED); DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY (OBSERVED)