In March, Congress and President Biden passed and signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which, in part, designated $200 million in pandemic response funding to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to be distributed to every State Library Administrative Agency. Missouri’s share of the funding is $3,340,336 for projects that must be completed by September 30, 2022.

Per guidelines set by IMLS, ARPA funds must be used for the following purposes in response to the pandemic:

1. **First**, to support digital inclusion efforts to enable libraries to reach residents such as through internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, digital content and related resources, particularly in support of education, health and workforce development needs;

2. **Second**, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols; and

3. **Third**, to support library services that meet the needs of communities, including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment and associated indirect costs.

The Missouri State Library team consulted library directors, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and our library service partners to create a comprehensive plan that follows IMLS guidelines and has the potential of impacting a large portion of our state’s population.

The plan is a combination of statewide projects, consortium support and targeted grant opportunities. I am pleased to announce the plan, which will also be discussed in-depth during future webinars (TBD) and forums.

**STATEWIDE PROJECTS**

- **eCollections Support for MOLib2Go** — including for public libraries who are eligible, but have not yet joined the consortium, the Municipal Library Consortium, Scenic Regional Library, which also serves Washington Public Library, and the MOREnet Shared Collection for school libraries

- **Online High School Equivalency Support** — to help students find an alternate route to their high school equivalency certification available through public libraries in Missouri
• **Homework Gap Assistance** — featuring live tutoring and coaching services as well as 24/7 access to resources such as a writing lab, skill-building lessons and online practice tests available to students of all ages

• **Reading Enrichment Resource** — featuring an online collection of vetted resources available to all school, public and academic libraries

• **Teen Digital Resources** — to address digital literacy, financial literacy and health and wellness available to MOREnet members

• **Statewide Marketing Efforts** — to promote the new resources listed above

• **Missouri Evergreen** — to fund a cataloger for a year to provide maintenance and consistency in the current catalog, develop best practices and provide cataloging training throughout the consortium

• **REAL Program Membership + 1 Zoom license** — for public libraries that are not REAL Program members, so they can experience the value of statewide online resource sharing and MOREnet technical support including network assessments

**COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PROJECTS**

• **American Rescue Plan grants** — for the seven largest libraries in Missouri to develop projects that respond to the pandemic in ways that meet the IMLS purposes outlined above

• **Pandemic Response grants** — for library districts with library service populations between 30,000 and 150,000 as per the 2010 Census, to develop projects that respond to the pandemic in ways that meet the IMLS purposes outlined above

As you can see, the plan covers a lot and does have the potential to impact all of your patrons. If your library was not targeted in the grant opportunities listed above, don’t fret! We will continue to have our traditional grant opportunities for you, including but not limited to, Technology Ladder Grants, Spotlight on Literacy Grants, Summer Library Program Grants and Technology Mini-Grants.

Stay tuned as we develop webinar opportunities and continue to update you on these proposals.

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**Missouri State Library News**

**State Aid Third and Fourth Quarter Payments**

The Missouri State Library has completed processing third and fourth quarter State Aid Per Capita, Equalization, and Athlete and Entertainer Tax (A&E) payments to all eligible libraries. A&E funds that had been previously restricted are now released, resulting in larger third and fourth quarter payments. Libraries that would like to track receipt of these funds should check the Missouri Vendor Payment Portal. This site provides information on all payments issued through the State of Missouri, including automatic notification when a payment is made. Access is through the library’s Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). Payments will be listed at State Funding for Missouri Libraries.
FY2022 State Aid Certification Filing

Now that all Fiscal Year 2021 State Aid payments have been distributed, your library will be able to file your annual State Aid Certification documents. All State Aid eligible libraries will need to complete and submit the three required forms to the Missouri State Library by July 31, 2021. Please remember that your library must submit these documents to the Missouri State Library by this date in order to qualify for State Aid for Fiscal Year 2022.

The State Aid Application and Board of Trustees List forms are based on library type, so make sure to complete the form that applies to your library. Here are some other tips to help save you time:

- Instruction sheets are provided for State Aid Application forms. It is helpful to have the instruction form specific to your library type on hand when filling out the application.
- The per capita state aid amounts are based on the state fiscal year, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, which may not be your library’s fiscal year. All other responses are based on your library’s last completed library fiscal year.
- If you used the per capita funds in the Public Relations, Personnel, Programs or Other category, please remember to attach a brief narrative description of the purchases.
- If your actual tax rate is lower than the voted tax rate, remember to check the reason. These lower Actual tax rates will most commonly be due to Hancock rollbacks, but rarely may also be due to voluntary reductions by the Library Board.

Preferably, all three forms should be submitted together. The forms may be submitted using the following options: Email the forms to mostlib@sos.mo.gov, OR Fax the forms to (573) 751-3612. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Mihalik at cory.mihalik@sos.mo.gov or by phone at (417) 895-5000.

MASL Diversity Book Club

The Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) Diversity Task Force was formed in September 2020 to provide resources, educational opportunities and advocacy efforts to diversify both the school library workforce and representation within library collections. As part of our mission, the task force created a book club focused on learning more about underrepresented people in our field. The hope was to provide librarians a place to discuss hard topics, increase understanding and share ways to address these concerns within the walls of our libraries. These clubs have been very successful, with a wide variety of professionals participating, including school and public librarians, teachers and administrators who meet to listen, learn and grow. The first two book clubs centered around the history of African-Americans with the reading of Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning by Jason Reynolds. This provided a historical overview and efforts by the black community to access equal rights. The second book club built upon the first to look at ways to take this knowledge and apply it in our daily lives. This was done by reading This Book is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action, and Do the Work by Tiffany Jewell. The upcoming book club will focus on the LGBTQIA+ community in June, following the same pattern, and will discuss A Queer History of the United States for Young People by Michael Bronshi. If you would like to join the Diversity Book Club, please visit the MASL website. Contact MASL with any questions at info@maslonline.org.
Creating a Welcoming Library to Support Adults with Autism

The Missouri State Library has collaborated with Monarch Center for Autism to create a webinar series on how libraries can help serve their patrons who are on the autism spectrum. The final installment of this series will focus on adaptive technology and will be held on May 12 at 9 a.m. To register, go to Libraries and Autism. If you missed the last session, it is available in our archives at Supportive and Welcoming Spaces. For questions, please contact Merideth Johnson at merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov or (573) 751-1822.

Missouri State Library Bicentennial Read Across Missouri

In honor of the 200 anniversary of the great state of Missouri’s joining the union, the State Library of Missouri has created an interactive reading challenge that allows the people of Missouri a chance to see all the literary treasures this state has to offer.

The challenge is broken up into six geographic regions:

• Northwest
• Northeast
• Kansas City area
• Central
• St. Louis area
• Southwest

Readers are encouraged to read a book that either takes place in said region, or an author originally from that region. Once readers have completed a section, they receive a “passport stamp”. The end goal is to read a book from every region of the state. The challenge is offered both interactively through the platform Beanstack or a paper passport is available to be printed off and used. With our online version of this challenge, readers can track their progress, participate in the selfie challenge, find information on other Bicentennial events, vote in favorite “Missouri Icon” polls and try their hand at the Missouri Digital Heritage Scavenger Hunt. The activities help promote the rich literary resources that Missouri has to offer, while celebrating Missouri’s fascinating 200 year history. To participate in or learn more about these activities, go to MOSL Bicentennial Programs. To create a free account in Beanstack please go to https://wolfpac.beanstack.org/.

NEW Implementing the Cycle of Marketing Webinar, May 19 at 10 a.m.

This webinar will build on attendees’ understanding of the Cycle of True Marketing, a webinar held in April 2021. In this follow-up webinar, Kathy Dempsey returns and will discuss how to actually implement the process in libraries. The session will include getting buy-in from administrations and colleagues, outlining overall marketing strategies and discussing which tactics to use in various situations. There will also be time for detailed Q&A to help attendees get their initiatives off the ground. Registration is required and may be completed at Implementing the Cycle of Marketing.

If you were unable to view the original marketing webinar or would like a review, you can catch it in our archive at Cycle of True Marketing.

NEW Understanding Compassion Fatigue in Your Library, Aug. 20 at 2 p.m.

“Compassion fatigue” is a term normally heard in a medical/caregiver environment, describing a caregiver’s reaction to chronic stress that results in feelings of hopelessness, anxiety, self-doubt, lack of focus and fatigue. Yet, isn’t that what many librarians are too...a “caregiver”? Sometimes people just need to know that someone really does care – and you are happy to let them know that. At the end of the day, though, when every single solitary person you have seen has required extra “care,” your energy level can be depleted. Add in the additional care that is needed during a pandemic or any of the challenges we face on this journey we call life →
and... how do you deal with the depth of fatigue that caring can create?

During this session, led by Trainer/Library Consultant Linda Bruno, you will learn what “compassion fatigue” is. What kinds of situations cause that energy drain? How can we recognize it? How does it affect our working environment? What can we do about it? We will explore ways to take care of yourself so you can continue to show compassion and give your patrons – and others – the care they need. Join us for this webinar and leave with a better understanding of why you feel the way you do and how you can deal with it more effectively. Registration is required and may be completed at Understanding Compassion Fatigue.

Effective Library Boards

This four-part webinar series, led by Bonnie McKewon from the State Library of Iowa, will provide library directors and trustees of all types, sizes and budgets with information on library board basics, including roles and responsibilities, library policies, effective board meetings and the importance of telling your library’s story. Registration is for the series and can be completed at Effective Library Boards.

Basic Supervision Webinar Series

This four-part webinar series, presented by Tiffany Hentschel, will train library directors and others in library supervisory positions on legal responsibilities, people skills, performance assessments, and coaching and mentoring, to improve knowledge and skills of staff involved in library administration and management. Each session will last one hour and begin at 10 a.m. Registration is required and can be completed at Basic Supervision. Topics and dates are:

- **Human Resources 101 on Oct. 29 and Nov. 12.** These sessions look at fundamentals of employment law, applicability and practical application of the laws, and harassment and discrimination in the workplace.
- **Creating a Welcoming and Inclusive Workplace Culture on Nov. 19.** This session introduces key skills for supervision, pitfalls for leaders, selecting an effective workforce and techniques for building trust and fostering teamwork.
- **Motivation and Performance Management on Dec. 10.** In this session, specific topics will include the importance of providing meaningful feedback, techniques for motivating yourself and others, identifying and managing conduct and performance issues and tips for effective documentation.

Monthly Adult Forum Web Series

Please join us each month for our ongoing series on adult services and programming for libraries. This once a month session highlights resources, program ideas and issues that libraries encounter with their adult patrons. Upcoming programs include:

- **May 6 - Financial Literacy Tools for Patrons**
- **June 10 - Succulents Programs**
- **July 8 - TBA**
- **Aug. 12 - Educational Resources presented by the Department of Education**

To register, go to Adult Services Forums. For questions, contact Merideth Johnson, merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov or (573) 751-1822.
MALAPro Webinars

Readers' Advisory: The Importance of Representation with Margo Moore, youth services assistant, Lawrence Public Library and Kimberly Lopez, readers' services assistant, Lawrence Public Library on May 12, 10 - 11 a.m.

Join Margo Moore and Kimberly Lopez as they give a well-rounded overview on titles your library can offer that feature transgender characters and/or trans authors. In this one-hour webinar, participants will learn how they can utilize readers’ advisory to cultivate an environment for trans patrons. For more information, go to MALAPro.

The Foundation for Building a Successful Team with Pat Wagner, Management Consultant, Pattern Research May 20, 10-11 a.m.

Team building is an essential component to running a successful organization. Working in harmony with one another can be a difficult task, even for some of the best communicators. Join Pat Wagner, for this one-hour session as we dive into key aspects of how to establish or re-establish our team communication. Attendees will learn how to cooperate with peers and staff members as we re-connect from the previous year. For more information, go to Build a Successful Team.

Other Upcoming MALAPro Training

Financial Webinar: June 9

Supervisory Webinar: June 23

MOREnet Training

A Technical Training Summit will be hosted by MOREnet from May to August providing a hands-on, deep dive into six different topics. The summit will be in-person with physical distancing at the MOREnet training rooms from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Due to limited space, be sure to register early at Technical Training Summit. The dates and topics are:

- May 5 - Fortinet for K-12
- May 26 - Aruba Wireless (morning session for novice users and afternoon session for experienced users)
- June 9 - Securing your Windows Server 2019
- June 30 - Securing the Workplace with Logging
- July 14 - Fortinet for Libraries
- Aug. 4 - Building your Cybersecurity Awareness Program

Amigos Conference

The Amigos 2021 member conference, What Will We Keep: Creating the Next Remix of Library Services, will be held online, May 12, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In 2020, we saw libraries close, partially reopen, fully reopen, and some we watched go through the cycle multiple times. Through it all, libraries adapted to the new operational and service landscape in unique and unprecedented ways. While some of these changes are not sustainable or ideal long term, many of these adaptations are proving to be beneficial solutions.

How will/should your library compose its new suite of services? Which services will be part of the new mix? Which new service delivery methods, unique programs, and systems will continue into the future? Amigos’ 2021 Annual Member Conference will highlight libraries’ new directions, services, and opportunities and what libraries expect to keep as our changed landscape continues to develop. Registration is available at Amigos 2021 Member Conference.
Libraries participating in this year’s Collaborative Summer Library Program theme of “Tails and Tales” may already have a great lineup of animal-themed programs planned. However, if you are still looking for last minute (or even future) ideas, consider looking at wildlife closer to home! The Missouri Department of Conservation has excellent resources you can use for a variety of critter-themed programs.

• **Discover Nature Field Guide** – This database is perfect for nature walks or garden talks, providing identification for the many plant and animal species in Missouri.

• **Find My Local Contact** – Consider reaching out to your local Conservation Agent for potential partnerships and programming resources.

• **Magazines and Newsletters** – Suggest these free subscriptions to your patrons to encourage reading all year long! Includes Missouri Conservationist and Xplor for kids.

• **Wildlife Publications** – Browse our collection of state publications for more inspiration and informational materials on local animal life.

Cheers to a successful summer reading program for all creatures at your library!

Need help? If you or a patron have questions about government information or resources available through the State Library, please contact Reference Services by phone, email, or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and are always happy to help!

**Phone:** (573) 751-3615  
**Email:** libref@sos.mo.gov  
**Chat:** visit mostate.libguides.com and click the “Ask Us” tab on the right

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**New Books From The Missouri State Library**

- **The Library Book**
- **Combating Plagiarism: A Hands-On Guide for Librarians, Teachers, and Students**
- **Anime Clubs for Public Libraries**
- **All Ages Welcome: Recruiting and Retaining Younger Generations for Library Boards, Friends Groups, and Foundations**
- **Resource Discovery for the Twenty-First Century Library**
- **Stepping Forward: A Positive, Practical Path to Transform Our Communities and Our Lives**
- **Joy at Work: Organizing Your Professional Life**
- **Why Should Anyone be Led by You? What it Takes to be an Authentic Leader**
- **Management Mess to Leadership Success: 30 Challenges to Become the Leader You Would Follow**
- **The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organizations**

We are pleased to offer direct borrowing from the Missouri State Library to Missouri public library directors and branch managers for continuing education and professional development.

State Library cards are issued in the name of the library director or branch manager. Directors →
and branch managers are encouraged to borrow items for any of their library’s staff with this card by placing a request in our catalog.

To sign up for a card, visit our guide for Missouri public library directors. The guide also features new books, government publications, and other helpful resources.

For assistance with placing requests, obtaining a card, replacing a card or for additional information, please contact Reference Services by phone, email or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and are always happy to help!

Phone: (573) 751-3615
Email: libref@sos.mo.gov
Chat: visit mostate.libguides.com and click the “Ask Us” tab on the right

**Around the State**

**Welcome New Director!**

Karen Graham at De Soto Public Library

**Grant Opportunities**

**Bicentennial Program Grant** – Deadline Extended

The Bicentennial Program Grant application deadline has been extended to Sept. 15! Aug. 10, marks the 200th anniversary of Missouri statehood. To celebrate this milestone, the Bicentennial Program Grant is being offered to Missouri public libraries certified to receive State Aid, Missouri school libraries that are publicly supported and publicly controlled, and Missouri academic libraries, either publicly supported or private to bring an educational presentation to their community. Collaboration between local academic, school and public libraries will be given high priority. Questions? Contact Matt Butler, Digitization Consultant, at matt.butler@sos.mo.gov or (573) 522-1477.

**Author Visit Grant** • DEADLINE: Ongoing

This grant is specifically designed for school or public libraries to bring an author to their community. Virtual events are also applicable. Grants range from $500 up to $5,000. All travel for the author must be included as part of a flat rate fee for the author. Other additional costs allowable: publicity and promotional items, up to $500 towards library materials for collection development related to the project, additional staff hours, and transportation for youth from school or licensed childcare. These grants are supported by IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. Questions? Contact Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, at (573) 522-9564 or lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov.

**Show Me Steps to Continuing Education: Individual Training Events** • DEADLINE: Ongoing

Interested in attending a professional development opportunity, but need additional funds? Show Me Steps to Continuing Education grants provide reimbursement for up to 75% of the costs of an eligible, non-credit continuing education event. These grants are supported by IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about Show Me Steps grant opportunities, please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.
Show Me Steps to Continuing Education: Group Training Events • DEADLINE: Ongoing

Do you want to bring an expert to your library for training? This competitive grant program provides funds for a host library or library consortium to plan and provide group training on current, relevant, unique and/or in-demand topics at a local, regional or statewide level. Grants range from $500 up to $8,000. Virtual events are also applicable. These grants are supported by IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about this Show Me Steps grant opportunity, please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.