We are going to be okay. I have found myself saying that aloud and to myself a lot these last few months. As many of you know, Debbie Musselman left her position as Library Development Director at the end of last month and Leslie Bowman left as Director of Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library earlier this fall. Both left their mark at the Missouri State Library and we are grateful for their shared commitment to providing excellent service to Missourians and Missouri libraries.

I learned so much from both of them, but the best thing they both left behind is the talented teams they helped build and foster. Be assured that your entire state library team: Reference Services, Library Development and Wolfner Library are committed to working through this transition period with little to no disruption of service. Questions that you normally would have asked of Debbie or Leslie can come to me at robin.westphal@sos.mo.gov or (573) 526-4783.

We are going to be okay! You have a great team at the Missouri State Library working for you and I have never worked with a more dedicated, supportive team.

If you have any questions about the survey or need changes to any of the locked fields, please contact Cory Mihalik at cory.mihalik@sos.mo.gov or (417) 895-5000. Instructional videos, helpful documents, and webinar recordings on the PLS can also be found on the Missouri State Library Webinar Archive page.
Fiscal Year 2022 State Funding
The Missouri State Library processed Q1 and Q2 State Aid Per Capita, Equalization and Athletes and Entertainers Tax (A&E) payments in October. One hundred and fifty nine library districts have been certified to receive state aid per capita this year. Per Capita State Aid funds were once again distributed at a $0.50 per capita rate. Equalization funds were distributed to 59 county, city/county and consolidated libraries. Equalization distribution focuses on library districts with the most need as determined by rankings based on assessed valuation and percentage of the county population living in poverty.

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 are listed on the State Funding for Missouri Libraries webpage on the Secretary of State’s website.

Please direct any questions about State Aid Per Capita, Equalization, or Athlete and Entertainer Tax payments to Cory Mihalik at (417) 895-5000 or cory.mihalik@sos.mo.gov.

Digital Imaging Grant Letter of Intent Instructions Now Available
Instructions for the Letter of Intent to submit a Digital Imaging Grant application are now available at LSTA Grant Application Forms. Any library planning to submit a Digital Imaging Grant proposal in January should also submit a Letter of Intent by Dec. 1. Please direct any questions about Digital Imaging Grants to Digitization Consultant Matt Butler at (573) 522-1477 or matthew.butler@sos.mo.gov.

State Library Bicentennial Programs
The State Library continues to offer programs celebrating Missouri’s bicentennial. Readers are invited to participate in the Read Across Missouri reading challenge, try their hand at a few scavenger hunts throughout Missouri Digital Heritage, and explore other bicentennial resources and activities through our one-stop Bicentennial Guide. To participate in or learn more about these activities, visit MOSL Bicentennial Programs. Be sure to check back later as more scavenger hunts are added!

New Library Website Program for Small Libraries: Missouri Ploud
The Missouri Ploud Program is a new service from the Missouri State Library. It is a website hosting service provided by Enfold Systems, Inc. for libraries with minimal or no website of their own. This enables small and rural libraries to have a digital platform where they can provide access to and information about library services and resources both online and in-person. The first three libraries to join the program are Monroe City Public Library, Bloomfield Public Library, and Oregon County Library District. Monroe City Public Library, Bloomfield Public Library, and Oregon County Library District had their sites go live in Sept. Four other libraries have joined the Ploud program and their staff are being trained about editing their sites.

As part of the program, the State Library offers personal one-on-one trainings to teach libraries how to edit and personalize their website.
before it goes live, and have created resources, including a help guide and discussion list, to support Ploud users as they continue to edit and maintain their new websites. Libraries have full control of what their website looks like through four different base themes, all with many different color palettes, and the ability to add as little or as much content as they wish.

The cost of the program is 100% subsidized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

If you are interested in joining the Ploud program and creating a new website, contact Janet Caruthers, Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant at the Missouri State Library, by email at janet.caruthers@sos.mo.gov or phone at (573) 526-1087; or Nora Wesselmann, Missouri Ploud Project Coordinator, by email at nora.vegiard@sos.mo.gov.

Workforce Development Webinar Series is back!
The Missouri State Library-Library Development Division has once again collaborated with the University of Missouri Extension to continue our webinar series on workforce development. The series will start on Nov. 3 and run through May 2022. It will focus on how to help local libraries better tackle the workforce issues in their communities. These 30-minute webinars will cover a variety of topics such as COVID-19 and its Impact on the Workforce, Developing Strategies to Effectively Retain Your Workforce, Remote Work and the Role of Libraries in Supporting Remote Workers, Impact of Opioids on Missouri’s Economy & Workforce. To register, please click here. For any questions you may have please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.

Show Me Steps Grants
Interested in attending a professional development opportunity, but need additional funds? Show-Me Steps to Continuing Education grants to provide reimbursement for up to 75% of the cost of eligible, non-credit continuing education event. The grant may be used to send an individual to a training or to bring a trainer to a group. Applications are accepted year-round and are available at Missouri State Library Online Grant Management System.

Upcoming eligible conferences include:
  • PLA 2022 Conference March 23-25, 2022 information can be found here.
New Grant Program featuring Next Chapter Book Club!

The Missouri State Library has collaborated with the Next Chapter Book Club to offer an exciting new grant. NCBC is an organization that helps train libraries to create weekly, bi-weekly or monthly community-based book clubs for adolescents and adults with Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. NCBC helps its members have interaction that is more social, community inclusion, and enjoyment of the library as a whole. This book club is open to readers of all levels, including those who cannot read at all. NCBC has implemented 300 book clubs in multiple countries including the United States, Australia, Canada, Germany and Rwanda. NCBC is endorsed by the National Book Foundation, was featured in the June 2019 issue of American Libraries and highlighted on WebJunction, a notable library resource.

We will be hosting a 30-minute, prerecorded introductory webinar on Next Chapter Book Clubs with a live Q/A session and introduction to the grant. The entire webinar will be recorded and posted online in the Missouri State Library’s webinar archive.

This training will coincide with a LSTA Inclusive Libraries Grant to be offered in 2022 that will help library districts buy supplies to implement a Next Chapter Book Club. To sign up for this informational training on Nov. 18, please go here.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services support these grants under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about this grant opportunity, please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.

Upcoming MOREnet Training

**EBSCO LearningExpress Library for Public and K-12 MOREnet Members, Tuesday, Nov. 9, 3 – 4 p.m.**

You will learn about LearningExpress Library, an online resource that offers a variety of practice tests, tutorials, and eBooks to help learners of all ages with academic skills, high stakes exams like high school equivalency and career certification exams and more. You will learn how you and your library patrons can access the resource, how to create a personal user account, and what kind of content is available in the various learning centers. Registration is available at EBSCO LearningExpress.

**Job and Career Resources in EBSCO LearningExpress for MOREnet Members, Wednesday, Nov. 17, 3 – 4 p.m.**

You will learn about LearningExpress Library. We will focus on the job and career resources available for high school and adult learners, including a variety of practice tests, tutorials and eBooks to prepare for high school equivalency and career certification exams. You will learn how you and your library patrons can access the resource, how to create a personal user account, and what kind of content is available in the various learning centers. Registration is available at Job and Career Resources in EBSCO LearningExpress.

**EBSCO Online Resources for MOREnet Members, Thursday, Dec. 2, 2 – 2:30 p.m.**

This session gives you an introduction and overview of the online resources available to you through MOREnet. This includes EBSCOhost databases, eBooks, Explora, LearningExpress Library and more. Learn what is available, how to access, and how to help your library make the most of these valuable online resources. Registration is available at EBSCO Online Resources.

A full list of MOREnet trainings is available at the **MOREnet Training Schedule**.
Upcoming Amigos Training

Amigos, a not-for-profit membership-based organization dedicated to serving libraries, has online trainings and conferences for members and non-members covering a wide range of topics. The Know & Go and Community Conversation sessions are free for Amigos members.

Upcoming MALAPro Webinar

Readers’ Advisory for Mystery Book Clubs with Shirley Braunlich, Lawrence Public Library, Wednesday, Nov. 17, 10 – 11 a.m.

Mystery is a widely varied and popular genre. Shirley Braunlich facilitates a book club where members read a different subgenre of mysteries for each meeting. Thanks to the popularity of this book club, she has developed a strong knowledge of the wide range of mystery subgenres and is excited to share what she has learned. In this one-hour live webinar, she will present an overview of how and why her book club has a unique structure and share her favorite readers’ advisory resources. Registration is available at Readers’ Advisory for Mystery Book Clubs.

Reference Services for YOU: Resources from the Smithsonian

The Smithsonian Institution is the largest system of museums, research and educational centers in the world. Founded by Congress in 1846, it operates as a federally funded, independent trust, “for the increase and diffusion of knowledge.” Sometimes known as “the nation’s attic,” the Smithsonian is famous for holding over 154 million items, ranging from ancient and natural history to pop culture and art.

Many of the Smithsonian’s resources are available online, allowing researchers, students and the public to explore their collections without an expensive trip to D.C. Take a look!

- Digital Collections – More than 3 million open access images are available from the Smithsonian Collections, including their descriptions and catalog records. Some objects are even available in 3D files, which can be downloaded and modified for printing.

- Virtual Tours and Webcams – Some Smithsonian museums offer virtual tours, such as the National Museum of Natural History and the National Air and Space Museum. Alternatively, you can take a brain break and visit the animals via webcam at the National Zoo.

- Online Exhibits – Many museums and even some libraries now offer online exhibits, which may combine images, maps, slides, videos and other media to create an interactive experience. These may be independent, or complimentary to physical displays.

- YouTube, Social Media and More! – Many Smithsonian museums host their own individual YouTube and other social media pages for those interested in exploring their collections and related topics further. Alternatively, check out their free coloring pages, educational resources, and magazines.

Need help? If you or a patron have questions about government information or State Library resources, 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
Project WET

Project WET: water education for today – Have you heard of this? Project WET has great early childhood resources and ways to perform a water audit with groups of students, how soap really works (great for teaching hand washing and water conservation) and so much more.

The site also hosts Discover Water, which has fun online games and information for kids to discover more about water conservation. Perfect for use now and for CSLP’s Oceans of Possibilities summer reading theme for 2022.

Host Jason Reynolds!

Every Child a Reader is accepting proposals to host Jason Reynolds, the seventh National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature. This is the perfect opportunity to collaborate with school librarians in your area. Check out the criteria for proposals and find the form to submit at https://everychildareader.net/ambassador/events/.

New Books From The Missouri State Library

Intellectual Freedom Manual

Prison Librarianship Policy and Practice


Library Space: A Planning Resource for Librarians

Mother Goose on the Loose: Updated

Stories, Songs, and Stretches! : Creating Playful Story times with Yoga and Movement

Leaders Eat Last: Why Some Teams Pull Together and Others Don’t

Your Hidden Superpower: The Kindness that Makes You Unbeatable at Work and Connects You with Anyone

Herding Tigers: Be the Leader that Creative People Need

Find Your Why: A Practical Guide to Discovering Purpose for You or Your Team

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 themselves or any of their library’s staff with this card by placing a request in our catalog. Holds and renewals can be managed from the catalog under My Library Account.

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

For assistance with placing holds, requesting 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

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.
Grant Opportunities

Show Me Steps Grants • Deadline: Ongoing

Interested in attending a professional development opportunity, but need additional funds? Show Me Steps to Continuing Education grants to provide reimbursement for up to 75% of the cost of eligible, non-credit continuing education event. The grant may be used to send an individual to a training or to bring a trainer to a group. Applications are accepted year-round.

Upcoming eligible conferences include, but are not limited to:

• Public Library Association, Portland, Ore., Mar. 23-25

Summer Library Program • Deadline: Dec. 1

This grant opened for applications on Oct. 1, with applications being due by Dec. 1. This grant is open to all Missouri public libraries certified to receive FY22 state aid or school libraries located in a community where there is no access to a public library with a summer library program. The Summer Library Program Grant Application Overview will be held on Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. You can register here.

Strengthen Missourians • Deadline: Dec. 1

This grant is available for pandemic response projects relating to homework assistance, workforce recovery, digital inclusion, and health, including health education and telehealth. This grant opportunity is open to public libraries certified for state aid. The application is open with applications being accepted on a rolling basis until Dec. 1. Libraries are encouraged to submit earlier as applications will be reviewed and grants awarded as they are reviewed and approved.

Educational Presenter Grant • Deadline: Ongoing

This open call grant is a mash up of the previously offered Author Visit Grant and the Bicentennial Programs Grant and will replace the two separate grants. Libraries can apply to bring an author or educational presentation to their community. This application is open to Missouri public libraries certified to receive FY22 State Aid, Missouri school libraries that are publicly supported and publicly controlled and Missouri academic libraries, either publicly supported or private.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services support these grants under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about the Show Me Steps grant opportunities, please contact Merideth Johnson at merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov or call (573) 751-1822.

Around the State

Missouri School Librarians attending AASL in Salt Lake City thanks to the Show Me Steps grant. Jenn Baldwin, Jasper R-5, Erin McCurdy and Hope Hunter, St. James R-1, and Kassi Maurer, Belle High School.