Missouri State Library News

State Aid Certification Documents

Now that all Fiscal Year 2022 State Aid payments have been distributed, all libraries will be able to file their annual State Aid Certification documents. All State Aid-eligible libraries need to complete and submit the three required forms to the Missouri State Library by July 31, 2022. 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 2023. All forms and instructions may be found on the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.mo.gov/library/certifications/stateaid.

The State Aid Application and Board of Trustees List forms are based on library type, so please 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, 2021 to June 30, 2022, 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, 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.

It would be best if all three forms were submitted together via email to mostlib@sos.mo.gov OR fax to (573) 751-3612. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Mihalik at (417) 895-5000 or cory.mihalik@sos.mo.gov.

2022 Oceans of Possibilities PSA

CSLP has released links for the 2022 PSA. Do you want to personalize with your library logo or text? You can find the base files to edit in the CSLP Online Manual. The PSA is available in English and Spanish. CSLP and summer library program questions can be directed to Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant at lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov.
The Montgomery City Public Library received a $14,392.00 grant from 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. With the grant money and donations, the Montgomery City Public Library established the Creation Station to inspire patrons and community members to learn a new skill, develop a hobby, make items to sell or give away, or just have some creative fun!

The Montgomery City Public Library hosted an open house for its new Creation Station maker space. Patrons and community members were able to observe each piece of new equipment in action. The Creation Station is made up of a Janome digitalized sewing machine, two Cricut cutting machines, a heat press transfer machine, a digital camera, a virtual reality system and a design computer with an Adobe Creative Cloud subscription. Staff members explained how each station works and presented samples of the many products that can be produced. The Cricut machines and the HTC VIVE Pro virtual reality system were the most popular of the night. Creation Station training classes and reservations are being set up now.

Missouri School Librarians Present on Show Me Steps Grant Experience at MASL Spring Conference

School Librarians Jenn Baldwin, Hope Hunter, Kassi Maurer and Erin McCurdy shared their experiences applying for and receiving Show Me Steps Grants to attend the American Association of School Librarians National Conference last fall in Salt Lake City. They shared their presentation during the Missouri Association of School Librarians Spring Conference on April 10. Contact Meredith Johnson at meredith.johnson@sos.mo.gov with questions regarding Show Me Steps Grants.

Missouri Evergreen

Reynolds County Library District is live on the Missouri Evergreen consortium catalog. The library district has five branches that had various resource sharing start dates from January through March. The library added 28,009 items to the shared catalog—as 152 patrons now have access to the almost four million items in the consortium catalog. Prior to joining Missouri Evergreen, Reynolds County Library did not have an automated library system. Kudos to the library staff for undertaking the challenge of implementing their first automated system and starting statewide resource sharing to benefit the community. For more information about the benefits of being a Missouri Evergreen member, contact Mickey Coalwell, executive director, at director@moevergreenlibraries.org or Shannon Midyett, board chair, at shannon@poplarbluff.org.
Upcoming MALAPro Webinars

For the complete webinar list, visit MALAPro Professional Development.

Social Media and Marketing for Small Libraries with Kia Boyd, Atchison Public Library, Thursday, May 12, 10 – 11 a.m.
The recent years have proven that no matter what your patron count is, an online presence and creative marketing plans are necessary for your operations. Focusing on Facebook and tools like Canva and Vistaprint, this presentation provides easy-to-implement tips and suggestions to increase your online visibility and present more polished marketing and advertising. We will also cover how to manage these tasks when you have a handful of employees--or less. Registration is available at Social Media and Marketing for Small Libraries.

Library Board Recruitment and Retention with Robin Newell, Emporia Public Library, Wednesday, May 18, 10 – 11 a.m.
Robin Newell, Executive Director at the Emporia Public Library, will share a systematic process for recruiting effective board members, how to conduct an orientation for new board members and how following up regularly with board members develops trust and confidence in both the director and the board. Registration is available at Library Board Recruitment and Retention.

Upcoming MOREnet Trainings

For the complete training list, visit the MOREnet Training Schedule.

Oceans Of Possibilities - Technology For Your Library Summer Reading Program, Monday, May 9, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Midwest Genealogy Center, Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence
This all-day, hands-on session will provide a variety of activities to help integrate technology into your summer reading program. The primary focus will be on maker activities and coding. No maker or coding experience is necessary. You will learn and walk away with activities you can use in your library. Registration is available at Oceans of Possibilities.

Navigating Code.Org and its Resources, Thursday, May 19, 9 – 10 a.m.
Code.org is one of the industry leaders in computer science education globally. Backed by industry giants and classroom leaders, Code.org has amazing resources for learners and educators. Learners can choose to explore Hour of Code options covering functions and loops, but done so with Star Wars and Minecraft characters. Educators and libraries can use Code.org resources to highlight computer science without having to invest their own resources. Navigate through online courses tailored to early learners or choose to prepare students for careers or industry with courses covering app development and text programming. Registration is available at Navigating Code.Org And its Resources.
Upcoming Amigos Trainings

For the complete training list, visit the Amigos online course schedule.

Unconscious Bias in Hiring Practices, Thursday, May 12, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Are unconscious biases influencing your hiring process? These can cause us to make decisions in favor of one person or group to the detriment of others. In this session, learn how to recognize and eliminate bias in your library’s hiring process. We will look at the potential for bias to appear in job descriptions, recruitment, candidate screenings, interviews, offers and retention practices. Attendees will learn to understand why and how unconscious bias may influence hiring and promotion decisions, recognize and proactively avoid bias during the hiring process, and employ strategies to reduce biases in hiring processes. Registration is available at Unconscious Bias in Hiring Practices.

Know & Go: Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk, Monday, June 6, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Want to learn how the latest web-based tools and apps may be implemented at the physical reference desk? Learn how to utilize several free or low-cost online tools in your reference activities to better help patrons at the point of need. Attendees will learn to identify online tools, evaluate online tools that are most appropriate for their reference department and library, and implement online tools at their reference desk. Registration is available at Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk.

Reference Services for YOU: Redistricting Resources
Some common reference questions this year may concern the status and timeline of the current redistricting process. “Redistricting” is the process of enacting new congressional and state legislative district boundaries following updated population estimates from the decennial Census.

In Missouri, state legislative district lines are drawn by two separate commissions, one for state Senate districts and one for state House districts. For the U.S. House districts, Missouri maintained eight seats, but the district boundary lines still need to be redrawn by the state legislature. General guidelines include population equalization, preservation of county lines, partisan fairness and no obstruction of any specific group’s ability to vote. For patrons searching for detailed redistricting information, here is a list of helpful resources:

- Current District Maps
- House Committee on Redistricting
- Senate Committee on Redistricting
- Previous Plans in Missouri State Publications

As of mid-April, the state House and Senate district plans are complete. The U.S. congressional district boundaries are not yet finalized. Patrons may continue to follow the status of the current proposals online.

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!
New Books From The Missouri State Library

Discover more of our new Library Professional Development titles as well as recorded webinars, government publications and more on the Missouri Library Staff Guide here.

Directors and branch managers are able to sign up for a State Library card from the guide and are encouraged to borrow items for themselves or any of their library’s staff.

For assistance with placing holds, requesting a card, replacing a card, or receiving 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!

Grant Opportunities

**Educational Presenter Grant • Deadline: Ongoing**

This open-call grant is a combination 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 supported publicly or privately.