

RLBSS

# Regional Library Basic System Support

MLA and ITEM support an annual appropriation of \$18,570,000 for Regional Library Basic System Support, a \$5,000,000 annual increase from the current appropriation.

Total State RLBSS has increased only once in over 20 years. State support for public library services in the form of RLBSS must be increased to avoid further reductions in state mandated regional library services.



Approximately 70% of all Minnesotans have a library card and expect the early literacy, school success, and continuing education support which have been the hallmark of Minnesota's public libraries since the 1850s.

*The State's investment in regional public library systems results in...*

*EFFICIENT, ORGANIZED, & COORDINATED services in over 360 Public Libraries!*

## Resource Sharing and Reciprocal Borrowing

You can reserve, pick up, check out, and return materials at any statewide public library convenient to you, whether it's where you live, where you work, where you go to school, or where you vacation. Statewide delivery services efficiently move the materials around the state so that all

**32,000,000** items can be shared by all Minnesotans.



## Lifelong Learning

Public libraries support the needs of Minnesota's rapidly aging and growing retirement populations with access to eGovernment resources, programs and classes, and print and electronic information resources to support healthy engagement in their community.



## eBooks

Most public libraries belong to regional systems which provide access to eBook and other electronic resource collections for their patrons. Library staff provide information on how to use technology and equipment used to access eBook materials.



## Workforce and Digital Literacy Job Services



Public libraries provide millions of hours of public computer access each year. Libraries provide resources and programs to teach adults basic computer and online skills to train workers for new jobs.

Libraries outnumber MN Workforce Centers as much as **12 to 1** in some regions of the state, and job seekers and the unemployed use libraries.



## Early Literacy, Education, and K-12 Support

Regional public library systems provide the stable infrastructure to support all types of educational activities in public libraries and community outreach service locations.

- Library activities promote school readiness by improving a child's vocabulary, self-regulation, social, listening, and comprehension skills. Children who actively participate in library programs start school ready to learn as a part of a group.
- Youth Summer Reading Programs help to keep children learning over the break, preventing a loss of educational ground. Some children even experience an increase in skills.
- Libraries are the cornerstone of no-cost early literacy family education in communities across the state.



This information is presented by:



MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



For more information go to [www.crplsa.info/advocacy](http://www.crplsa.info/advocacy)