Michigan LSTA Fact Sheet 2022

LSTA and Other Federal Funds in Michigan
Serving All Michigan Residents

State Fiscal Year 2022/Federal Fiscal Year 2021
(10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides funds through the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018, including the Library Services & Technology subchapter (LSTA) to the states. In Michigan, the Library of Michigan receives the funds to improve library services to state residents. LM funds projects based on the goals of the LSTA legislation and the goals of Michigan's IMLS approved Five-Year Plan. The LSTA legislation and the current Five-Year Plan are at www.michigan.gov/lsta. LM also received funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

How are LSTA and ARPA funds used?

In accordance with the legislative priorities of ARPA, LM completed distribution of $4,004,730 in funds to libraries through grants. The LM APRA grant program included both 21 equipment grants and 3 capacity grants. The equipment grants helped grantee libraries safely provide services and content to community members. The capacity grants both increased the capacity of public libraries to provide internet access and virtual services and increased the capacity of public and academic libraries to provide virtual content to their communities.

LM uses our annual allotment of LSTA funds primarily for statewide resources programs that benefit school, public, and academic library users, and Michigan residents directly. The federal FY 2021 allotment was $4,603,447. The premier statewide program is the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), a virtual library available at www.mel.org, anytime, anywhere to all Michigan residents. MeL, other major statewide programs, and grants include the following.

Michigan eLibrary (MeL)

Databases – The MeL databases contain hundreds of thousands of subscription magazine and newspaper articles, reference book articles, art images, eBooks, historical documents and images, and other full-text materials. Content ranges from PreK-12 levels to professional and research levels in science, medicine, education, technology, humanities, arts, social sciences, law, and genealogy. Spanish language materials are available for PreK-12 students and translation is available in magazine and newspaper databases to support learners who are learning or speak other languages. State funds also support early literacy resources.

MeLCat – The statewide library catalog and resource-sharing network. Users can search the catalog from www.MeL.org/melcat or directly from their participating local library catalog. Michigan residents are using MeLCat to easily identify and request convenient, quick, and free delivery of materials from other participating Michigan libraries to their own library for pick up.

eBooks – A collection of thousands of non-fiction and reference electronic books for K-12 students and teachers, college-level academics, and professionals. Topics include science, computers, business, education, and humanities among others.

Tests, Tutorials & Workforce Development – A comprehensive, interactive site with occupational, licensing, and academic practice tests and tutorials for K-16 and job seekers, from the GED to the GRE.

Training and Support - A robust collection of materials designed to support easier independent use of MeL eResources in two ways. First, engagement specialists connect with Public Library Staff and Educators for training sessions. Second, content is created to support self-directed learning, practical applications, and promotion of eResources.

Other Major Statewide Programs

Continuing Education for Librarians & Trustees – LM supports training both by LM staff and partner organizations, such as conferences, workshops, topical learning cohorts, and webinars. LM provides a range of online continuing education resources for librarians and trustees, as well as continuing education stipends, giving library staff the opportunity to learn new techniques and methods to reach underserved residents. LM maintains a Library Science collection for use by the Michigan library community and provides law, trustee, and financial manuals for libraries.

Early Literacy Support – High-quality, resource-filled summer reading manuals from the Collaborative Summer Library Program are provided to public libraries, saving the libraries both staff time and money. Support for the Ready to Read early literacy program also helped provide quality early literacy programming and training to children's librarians as they work with families in their communities.

Digitization Support – LM participates in statewide digitization efforts such as the Michigan Digital Preservation Network, Michigan newspaper digitization work at CMU's Clarke Historical Library, support for Making of Modern Michigan and Michigan Memories projects, and grants funding local history and special collections work.

Grants – LSTA funds several grant programs. The Public Library Services grants are small summer programming grants for public libraries in the areas of technology, children & teen programs, and literacy. The Improving Access to Information grants are one-year grants for public and academic libraries to increase capacity to provide access to library collections and information.

Technology Support – Michigan participates in Ploud, a nation-wide collaborative to provide high quality, easy to use web sites for public libraries, giving their communities online access to statewide resources. LM also provides consulting support for public libraries to participate in the federal E-Rate program.

How does Michigan receive LSTA funds?

Congress funds the Library Services & Technology Act annually through an appropriation to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS then allocates the funds through a formula with a base amount per state plus a per capita amount. To receive LSTA funds, the State of Michigan must both match the federal funds and maintain a level of effort through state or private funds.

Matching funds may be state or private and must equal approximately 50% of the federal allotment. States must meet the matching requirement to receive the allotment.

Maintenance of effort is determined by a three-year average of state funds appropriated to the State Library. These funds must be spent on libraries in a way that supports the purpose of the LSTA Act. In Michigan, that funding is primarily state aid to public libraries. If the three-year average of funding eligible as maintenance of effort falls, the LSTA allotment amount falls by the same percentage.

What is the impact on community members in Michigan?

LSTA and ARPA funding have a profound impact on improving outcomes in Michigan for students, professionals, and lifelong learners as the comments the Library of Michigan receives attest to.

Continuing Education for Librarians

"It was so helpful of Ann to share her in depth knowledge and point out little tricks she has learned. Everything presented was valuable and you were able to cover both elementary and secondary resources. Thank you for accommodating us! I am particularly excited to check out the free publications you shared with us. I had no idea of the expansive breadth of publications offered! Amazing!"

"The training was wonderful and informative to be a part of Leap into Science. I am grateful to be a part of it. Feel more confident as I start the journey with a coworker to implement the workshops."

"Trainings like this are great! Regardless of how many times I've attended ECRR workshops, I always feel inspired afterward. There's always a new idea, takeaway, perspective, and confidence boost. Pamela Martin-Diaz was such a joy! She created a super welcoming environment to talk, learn, and grow together. "

MeLCat

"No library has the budget to buy everything, so sharing is the solution. MeLCat enriches what all of us, large or small, can offer our readers."

"I hear from many college students at my public library in West Michigan who are struggling to afford textbooks. They report being so thankful for being able to complete their assignments and reading by borrowing their textbooks and required reading from libraries around the state that participate with MeLCat."

MeL

"During the pandemic, the MeL eResources were a lifesaver for our summer reading program. I used Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center to find craft kit ideas. The eBooks in the eBook K-8 Collection were used as part of our virtual story time. World Book Kids helped with content for research topics and learning activities, and I used the World Book Early Learning Print and Do activities for grab and go activities. Along with crafts, I included a link for a reading list each week featuring downloadable eBooks from the eBook K-8 Collection."

"I learned MEL provides these services for free. I immediately utilized the services as I was planning to spend $1500 to purchase a mailing list and utilized the A-to-Z database instead. Secondly, I utilized the Gale database to insert market size for a pitch competition. Lastly, I believe librarians are the greatest resource and asset of the library. Our presenter was phenomenal."

Technology Support

"Overall, this service (Ploud) is an amazing offering to tiny libraries. It not only addresses a critical need, it also provides an uplifting learning opportunity. Sonya was an inspiring teacher because her passion for the subject and her desire to teach it were evident. I enjoyed her sessions thoroughly."