

## INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING PUBLIC LIBRARIES

While each type of library has a defined service area, regional and statewide entities and networks exist to ensure equitable and efficient service throughout the state.

### **New Jersey State Library**

The State Library has been providing service to the executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government for more than 200 years. The State Library's mission has expanded since [its establishment in 1796](#) to lead in the provision, promotion and support of high quality library and information services to all the people of New Jersey. Established and maintained according to N.J.S.A.18A:73-26 et seq., the New Jersey State Library provides services to the state's residents and libraries in 5 primary areas, the State Library Information Center, the Talking Book and Braille Center, Library Support Services, Lifelong Learning, and Innovation and Outreach. The New Jersey State Library is an affiliate of Thomas Edison State College

The State Library Information Center provides collections and reference assistance primarily to the state government, but also to other libraries, Thomas Edison State College staff and students. The library is open to the public. The Talking Book and Braille Center provides services for any state residents with print disabilities, including people who are blind or visually impaired, or who have a physical impairment that makes it difficult to hold a book or turn pages, or who have a learning disability with a physical basis. The library is open to the public.

Library Support Services provides technical, advisory and oversight services to support New Jersey's libraries and the New Jersey Library Network. Lifelong Learning provides consultant services and technical assistance to create, improve and strengthen library information and literacy services. Innovation and Outreach focuses on what is happening on the horizon both inside and outside the world of New Jersey's libraries.

### **LibraryLinkNJ**

The primary function of New Jersey's library cooperative is to enhance library services to New Jersey residents by promoting cooperative sharing of resources, information, and expertise among its member libraries. The cooperative accomplishes this by operating a statewide delivery service structure, engaging in group negotiation of resources, facilitating communication among member libraries, providing professional development for library staff, and promoting best practices across the membership.

The cooperative operates as a nonprofit organization serving public, school, academic, special, and institutional libraries, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 15:22-1.4 to 22-1.6. Services are funded from state tax dollars appropriated for the New Jersey Library Network and administered by the State Library.

### **New Jersey Library Association**

NJLA advocates for the advancement of library services for New Jersey residents, provides continuing education and networking opportunities for librarians, and supports the principles of intellectual freedom and democratic access to library services and materials. Established in 1890, it is the oldest library organization in the state.