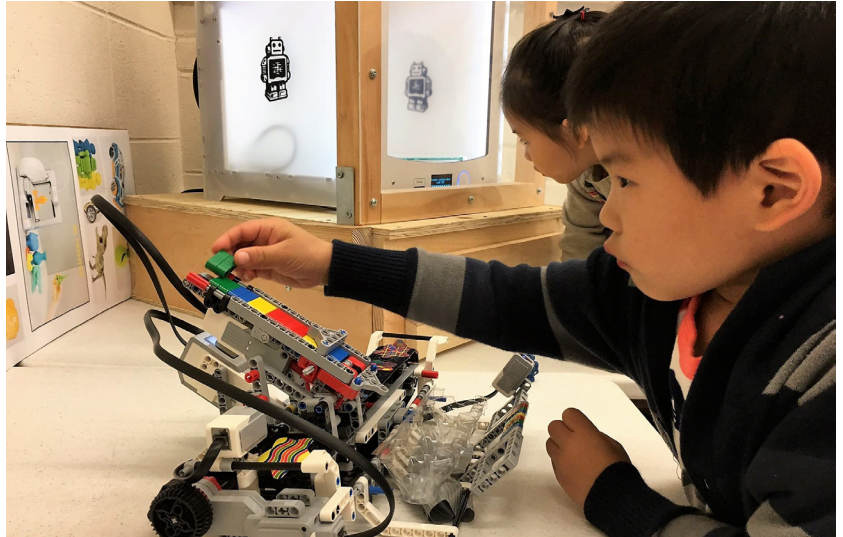


# LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

FY 2018 JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018 | WWW.NJSTATELIB.ORG



New Jersey libraries are strong and responsive community anchors assisting job seekers, entrepreneurs and students. By promoting the success of New Jerseyans, libraries support the economic recovery of the state.

In support of the people and libraries of New Jersey, the New Jersey State Library requests funding in **three priority areas** totaling an additional \$8.77 million in FY 2018:

## Restoration of Per Capita State Aid **\$6.77 million**

**TO RESTORE** the Per Capita State Aid program to the statutory funding level of \$10.446 million.

This program provides direct assistance to individual public libraries, providing them the resources they need to respond to local community needs.

- The combination of reduced budgets and flat funding at the local level, as well as the 49 percent decrease in Per Capita State Aid since FY 2010, has resulted in reduced hours, decreased staffing and fewer programs being offered to residents.
- The restoration of Per Capita funding would allow libraries to increase hours and staffing and expand services to more fully meet the needs of their ever-changing communities.

“

Thank you, library staff, for helping me with my resume. I got a job with a local area housing authority. I had been looking for over a year.

-RAFAEL F.  
LIBRARY USER

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*Connecting people with information through libraries*

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## Increase the State Library Information Center's Materials and Electronic Resources

**\$500,000** TO UPDATE AND AUGMENT the holdings and expand access to electronic resources in the State Library Information Center (SLIC), to better serve state employees, including legislators, and the residents of New Jersey, the State Library is requesting an increase of \$500,000 to the Special Purpose Appropriation.

- The State Library Law print and electronic collections are of immeasurable benefit to state judges, attorneys and legal researchers.
- Development of the law library has been impacted by a decrease in purchasing power due to seven-years of flat funding and rising costs that average 11 percent per year. As a result, fewer new and updated resources have been added and many annual subscriptions and updates have been canceled, resulting in loss of access to current research materials.

## Critical Upgrade of New Jersey Library Infrastructure

**\$1.5 million** TO SUPPORT Library Network Aid.

### ITEM ONE

- **\$1.3 million to upgrade JerseyConnect**, the statewide library technology infrastructure, which provides reliable core internet connectivity and related services to more than 300 library locations across the state.

The JerseyConnect network will be unable to provide crucial technology and services, and residents will be unable to access information quickly, easily and reliably if the network is not upgraded as the internet becomes more complex and the infrastructure ages.

### ITEM TWO

- **\$200,000 to meet the increased expense and demand of materials delivery** between libraries throughout New Jersey.

Libraries who are members of the New Jersey Library Network are able to maximize their purchasing power by sharing resources through the use of interlibrary loan and delivery of materials.

Libraries are increasingly loaning and borrowing books, periodicals and media. This has increased the need for delivery.



**Total Circulation in 2015: 55,053,481**



## SAVINGS THROUGH SHARING

New Jersey's libraries **shared** more than **55 million** items in 2015.

**EXAMPLE:** Parsippany-Troy Hills borrowed 83,000 items from other libraries in 2015.

- Without sharing, these materials would have been purchased at an estimated cost of \$1.25 million.
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