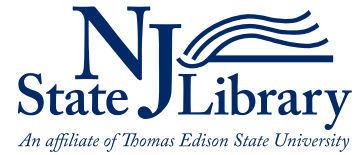


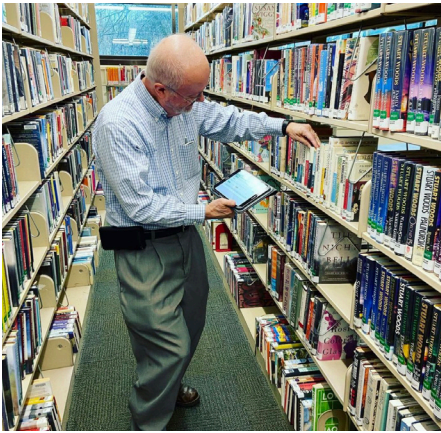
FY2022 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR **\$12 MILLION** ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Connecting people with information through libraries

SHARED SERVICES TO STRENGTHEN LIBRARIES



JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022



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

In support of the people and libraries of New Jersey, the library community requests funding in **three priority areas** totaling an additional \$12 million in FY 2022:

\$4 million Library Network Aid

TO SUPPORT the shared services provided through the Network including the statewide delivery of interlibrary loan materials and to upgrade the JerseyConnect statewide technology infrastructure.

Statewide Library Delivery is an excellent example of cost effective shared services between the State Library, LibraryLinkNJ and over 400 libraries representing every county in the state.

- Restoration of the \$215,000 in Library Network Aid funds to pre-pandemic levels.
- \$650,000 to replace the technology infrastructure that provides reliable core internet connectivity and related services to more than 360 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.

- \$800,000 to continue the core services undertaken with CARES Act funding that will run out in September 2021.
- \$2 million to provide post-pandemic library services provided through Library Network Aid, including funds for statewide delivery of materials, enhanced electronic resources and a statewide device and internet hotspot lending program.

FY2022 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR **\$12 MILLION** ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Connecting people with information through libraries

LOCAL SERVICES TO EMPOWER PATRONS



JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022



\$1 million

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

TO ENHANCE the holdings and expand access to electronic resources in the State Library Information Center, to better serve state employees and the residents of New Jersey.

- 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 12 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.

RESTORATION OF PER CAPITA STATE AID

\$7 million

TO RESTORE the Per Capita State Aid program to the statutory funding level of \$10.492 million.

This program provides direct assistance to public libraries, allowing them to remain strong community anchors throughout the state.

- The combination of reduced budgets and flat funding at the local level, as well as the 43 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.