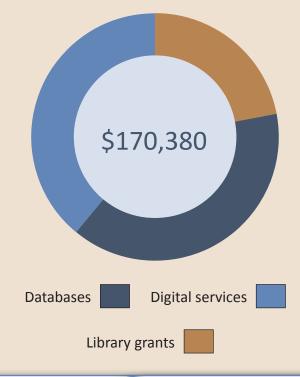
Services to Libraries: 6th Congressional District

The Washington State Library (WSL) ensures that residents of the entire state have access to educational materials, research capabilities, and resources that change lives. WSL achieves these goals using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, which are dependent on state matching funding, to offer consulting services, grants, subsidies, training, and other programs that improve libraries.

Awards & Subsidies

WSL provides funding to support local libraries through circulating STEM kits, professional development grants, digital literacy, early literacy programming, cost-sharing of online databases, and 24/7 online reference services.



Training Opportunities

WSL provides training opportunities for the library staff and the public including Microsoft Office training and industry-recognized certification, professional development, and specialized training for library administration.

23 trainings

4,817

Training Programs & Partners









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Statewide Library Projects

Awards & Subsidies

Washington Talking
Book & Braille Library

Prison & Hospital Libraries

For every \$1 of state funding, the state receives approximately \$1.16 in additional federal LSTA funding to support libraries.

\$170,380 to 6th Congressional District libraries

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only state agency specifically designated by law to assist local and regional libraries with library and information services. Below is just one example of how WSL has helped libraries in this district connect with communities and improve the quality of life for their patrons. This project and more, such as our new Lynda.com partnership, continue to drive our public libraries into the future.

Libraries in the 21st century provide access to books in a variety of formats. In addition to traditional paper books, libraries now offer eBooks and audiobooks. Library patrons have come to depend on being able to access books in all of these formats. Businesses have developed platforms that allow libraries to provide access to them; however, the initial cost is beyond what most smaller libraries can afford. In 2010, WSL initiated a project which helps libraries provide access while keeping the cost affordable. A librarian in this district told us this story about how important these resources are to her patrons: "We have a patron who recently had a cochlear implant in one ear, along with a hearing aid upgrade. They had been essentially deaf long enough that words had become distorted. There are many adjustments for the brain to handle. Post-op therapy includes reading a physical book while listening to the same book, using a finger to identify each word a spoken sound represents. The patron had become frustrated with the speed of speech in physical audio books, so we looked at an E-reader app which allows you to slow the reading speed to 65 percent of the reader's speech. I borrowed a book that I knew would be available, and today helped the patron and their partner install and adjust the app. It was quite riveting. At first, they didn't think it was going to work, but after adjusting speed and volume, and then bringing the speaker forward and adjusting bass and treble it worked. Their partner and I watched as the patron's finger moved along in time with the audio. Quite a wonderful moment!"







