

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only agency in Washington that is specifically designated by law to assist libraries and to ensure that residents of the entire state have access to library and information services. State Library staff members work in partnership with statewide advisory committees to plan and implement programs, and to provide training, grants, and consulting services aimed at the development, improvement, and enhancement of all public and non-profit libraries in the state.

### **3rd Legislative District: Direct Services to Local Libraries**

Libraries in this district have received \$20,954 as a result of Washington State Library services and programs during the past year:

#### [The Washington State Library Subsidized Local Libraries \(subsidy is matched by the local library\) \(\\$20,954\)](#)

##### **Ask-WA (\$602)**

This program is a statewide virtual reference cooperative that provides online reference services to library patrons through chat, email, and instant messaging (IM) technologies. This statewide network is tied in to a global network through QuestionPoint, providing access to 24/7 online reference services for every participating library. Subsidies cover the cost of providing this service.

- Spokane Community College

##### **Downloadable Audiobooks (\$12,061)**

Library users throughout Washington State can download audiobooks through their participating local library. The Washington State Library portal includes helpful resources and documentation, promotional materials for libraries, and more.

- Gonzaga University
- Spokane Community College
- Spokane Public Library

##### **Statewide Database Licensing (SDL) (\$8,291)**

This program provides the ProQuest and eLibrary online database collections to public and nonprofit K–12 school, public, academic, and special libraries in Washington. Through SDL and their local library, Washington residents have online access to the information contained in more than 3,300 full-text journals and to other sources, including CultureGrams, seven Washington and five national newspapers.

- Gonzaga University
- Spokane Community College
- Spokane Public Library

Nonprofit schools also received subsidies through the Washington State Library

#### [The Washington State Library Provided Training to Local Library Staff](#)

Thirteen (13) individuals received training on subjects including: serving diverse populations and underserved customers; database searching; computer and network maintenance; as well as technology and virtual reference services. Training was delivered in-person and online.

*Library systems may span more than one legislative district. The amount listed reflects the total benefit received by the library system regardless of legislative district.*

## Return on Investment in the Washington State Library in 2011

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- For every \$1.00 of Washington State Library funding required for Maintenance of Effort (approximately \$1,850,000), Washington State receives approximately \$1.81 of federal LSTA funding in return. In 2011, the Washington State Library received \$3,351,575 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to invest in Washington libraries of all types.
- The Washington State Library partnered with NoaNet, a public utility district nonprofit in Washington State, in two successful US Department of Commerce broadband grants. As a result \$138,800,000 was awarded to NoaNet to enhance broadband capabilities in many parts of the State. Up to 104 public and tribal libraries will receive enhanced broadband to serve their communities. Further, the Washington State Library was awarded \$1,500,000 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to use toward public library match requirements in the Department of Commerce Broadband grants.
- The Washington State Library was awarded \$515,867 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to further the reach of our Renew Washington grant program. As a result, a total of 7 public and academic libraries were awarded funding to assist job-seekers, the unemployed, and those retooling, to re-enter the workforce.
- The Washington State Library has been awarded \$625,424 for the National Digital Newspaper project from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This project will digitize 100,000 pages of microfilmed Washington newspapers from 1870 to 1922 and make them available online.

## Recognition and Honors for Washington State Library Programs

- The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library was selected by the federal National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) as the Network Library of the Year for 2009. This award commends a regional library for excellence, innovation, and special achievement in providing library service to citizens who are unable to use standard print materials because of visual or physical impairment.

## Selected 2011 Statewide Projects, Programs, and Services

- To benefit Washington State citizens in these economic hard times, Washington State Library staff:
  - Launched a Renew Washington grant cycle that helped libraries address the needs in their communities, providing access to employment-related information, resources, and services.
  - Constructed a nationally recognized Hard Times Resource Guide web portal to connect people to resources in the areas of employment and job seeking, housing and homelessness, finances, health and sustenance.
- The Washington State Library served the needs of marginalized populations:
  - The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library provided statewide library services to those who are sight-impaired or who have difficulty using print materials.
  - Branch libraries of the Washington State Library provided service to individuals in state correctional and mental health facilities.
- The Connecting the Dots project forged a new partnership between the Washington State Library and the University of Washington's Information School, which will strengthen public libraries' efforts to participate as essential partners in the early learning movement in Washington State.

## 3rd Legislative District

Libraries in this district include school libraries and:

- Gonzaga University
- Spokane Community College
- Spokane Public Library
- Washington State University

### WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY



*Washington*  
**Secretary of State**  
SAM REED

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[www.sos.wa.gov/library](http://www.sos.wa.gov/library)



Library Services and Technology Act

[www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov)

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