

## **Resolution in Support of the Minitex Library Services**

**Whereas**, Minitex provides invaluable library services that enhance access to a vast collection of resources for patrons and libraries across Minnesota;

**Whereas**, Minitex facilitates access to a collection of more than 10 million resources from Minnesota's public, academic, and special libraries, available to patrons and libraries in every corner of the state via MNLINK.org;

**Whereas**, Minitex supports eLibrary Minnesota, a collection of education and research online resources essential to the success of Minnesota learners from grade school through graduate school, which was searched 55 million times last year;

**Whereas**, Minitex contributes to the digitization of historical content from Minnesota's cultural heritage organizations, with the Minnesota Digital Library containing 60,000 items that depict history from all 87 Minnesota counties and are sourced from the collections of 204 historical societies, libraries, archives, and cultural organizations from across the state;

**Whereas**, Minitex supports Minnesota's statewide ebook collection, eBooksMN.org, which offers nearly 10,000 books to readers of all ages with no need for checkouts or returns and allows most Minnesota K-12 schools to add all 10,000 books to their local collections;

**Whereas**, Minitex supports library staff with continuing education to collectively meet the educational needs of Minnesota residents at every stage of life;

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that the Great River Regional Library Board of Trustees fully supports Minitex Library Services and recognizes the critical role they play as our partner in providing equitable access to information, fostering educational success, and preserving Minnesota's rich cultural heritage.

**Be it further resolved**, that the Great River Regional Library Board of Trustees commits to support advocacy for continued funding and support for Minitex Library Services to ensure these vital resources remain available to all Minnesotans.

**Adopted** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025 by the Great River Regional Library Board of Trustees

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Jayne Dietz, President

Attest:

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Melissa Fee, Secretary



## Minnesota's publicly funded library consortium

*Federal funding from the Library Services and Technology Act, provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, enables Minitex to collaborate with Minnesota's entire library community. We centralize processes, share resources and infrastructure, and leverage economies of scale to provide **high-quality services that save money and use public resources as efficiently as possible.***

### Interlibrary Loan

The rich resources of Minnesota libraries, available to patrons and libraries in every corner of the state, via our convenient online portal, [MNLINK.org](http://MNLINK.org). Thanks to the participation of most public and academic libraries in Minnesota, library patrons have access to a combined catalog of more than **10 million items**.



#### Southwest Minnesota Testimonial

*"The process of conducting my research has been greatly facilitated by the ability to request various newspaper microfilms (not digitized), which are subsequently sent to my local library. As a professional writer and researcher, I am immensely grateful for the prompt support provided by MNLINK, which offers an exceptional service throughout the state of Minnesota.*

### eLibrary Minnesota

This collection of education and research resources includes encyclopedia, magazine, journal, and newspaper articles, plus multimedia, primary sources, and more. These resources are essential to the success of Minnesota learners from grade school through graduate school and beyond. Last year, eLibrary Minnesota was searched **55 million** times.



#### Northwest Minnesota Testimonial

*"Minitex databases and digital resources are a game-changer for expanding the content we are able to provide to our students."*

#### Seven-County Metropolitan Area Testimonial

*Minitex ELM resources provide my health sciences students with opportunities to find out about how to open a private business. Without those free resources, we would have very limited access to business resources.*

## Ebooks Minnesota

Minnesota's statewide ebook collection for readers of all ages. [EbooksMN.org](http://EbooksMN.org) offers Minnesota readers nearly 10,000 books, with no need for checkouts or returns. And most Minnesota K-12 schools can add all 10,000 to their local collection with just the click of a mouse. Last year alone, student checkouts went up **25 percent**.



### Seven-County Metropolitan Area Testimonial

*"We had been subscribing to a very expensive ebook platform. After putting the Ebooks Minnesota collection into our district account, we were able to move away from it. Ebooks Minnesota allowed us to provide great options for students and put the savings toward other crucial resources."*

### Southeast Minnesota Testimonial

*"Our district now has an online schooling option and it is nice to be able to have a large library of ebooks for those students to access."*

## Minnesota Digital Library

Historical content from Minnesota's cultural heritage organizations, all in one place. MDL's 60,000 items depict history from all 87 Minnesota counties and are sourced from the collections of 204 historical societies, libraries, archives, and cultural organizations from across the state.



### Seven-County Metropolitan Area Testimonial

*"I just found an interview with my great-grandmother on my bubbie's side and great-grandmother on my zaide's side about Jewish life in St. Paul. I am enraptured. I never heard their voices, and here they are laughing together, the matriarchs of my whole family. I just wanted to share appreciation for this project and everyone on the team, whose efforts to make recordings from decades ago. I can find it on Google, access it on my phone, and share it with my cousins across the country instantly. Thanks for all your work."*

## Minitex

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## Contact Us

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Minitex is an information and resource sharing program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the University of Minnesota Libraries.

# HOW FEDERAL FUNDING BENEFITS MINNESOTA LIBRARIES AND RESIDENTS

## Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants to States Help Libraries Grow to Meet Community Needs

State and local funding for Minnesota libraries serves as the foundation for the delivery of quality library service to all Minnesotans.

Federal funding, while a smaller piece of the pie, builds on this foundation.

It contributes to innovative programming, equipment and training that helps libraries grow and meet the needs of their ever-changing communities.

## Distribution of \$3.18M allotment from LSTA Grants to States Program in FFY23

Minitex- ELM instruction, Resource Sharing

**\$1.69M**

Subgrants to Libraries and support Organizations

**\$.64M**

Staff salaries and operations

**\$.85M**

**\$1.69M**

### Minitex – eLibrary Minnesota (ELM) Instruction, Resource Sharing

- Minnesota State Library Services partners with Minitex to:
  - Maintain a statewide library catalog
  - Coordinate interlibrary delivery
  - Provide statewide access to databases and eBook collections
  - Develop a statewide digital archive

State Library Services, a division of the Minnesota Department of Education, partners with libraries to achieve equity and excellence in our collective work for Minnesotans. Minitex is a library organization located at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities.

**\$.64M**

## **Subgrants to Libraries and Support Organizations, State Library Services Statewide Programming**

### **Competitive Subgrants:**

State Library Services subgrants to libraries and library support agencies for projects that will benefit library communities and advance the goals outlined in Minnesota's library strategic plan.

### **Subgrant example:**

North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale Public Schools partnership with Washington County Library for community-wide social emotional learning

### **State Library Services Statewide Programming:**

Live More, Screen Less-Digital well-being training for library media specialists and paraprofessionals

CareerForce Corners partnership with Minnesota Libraries and the MN Dept. of Employment and Economic Development

eBooks Minnesota provides digital ebook access for all people in Minnesota, including public and school libraries

**\$.85M**

## **Staff Salaries and Operations**

Four State Library Services Library Service and Development positions

Five Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library positions

Operating costs for the Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library

## **Learn More**

Minnesota State Library Services - [education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/Lib/sls](https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/Lib/sls)

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grants to States Program

- This is the largest source of federal funding support for library services
- [imls.gov/grants/grant-programs/grants-states](https://imls.gov/grants/grant-programs/grants-states)

Minnesota's Five-Year Plan for the IMLS Grants to States Program

Contact Tamara Lee, MLIS, Minnesota State Librarian and Director of State Library Services and Expanded Learning Opportunities, 651-582-8311 or [Tamara.Lee@state.mn.us](mailto:Tamara.Lee@state.mn.us)

State Library Services is here to assist you in our collective work for Minnesotans. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions about Minnesota libraries, for assistance in connecting with the libraries in your districts, or with local data requests and research.