

Great River Regional Library and Minitex



Minitex Strategic Initiatives

**Connect People
to Information**



Books and Materials
Technology
Access

**Connect People
to Lifelong Learning**



Student Success
Digital Equity
Continuing Education

**Connect People
to Resources**



Cooperative Purchasing
Outreach
Accessibility

**Connect People
to People**



Inclusiveness
Service
Partnership
Expertise

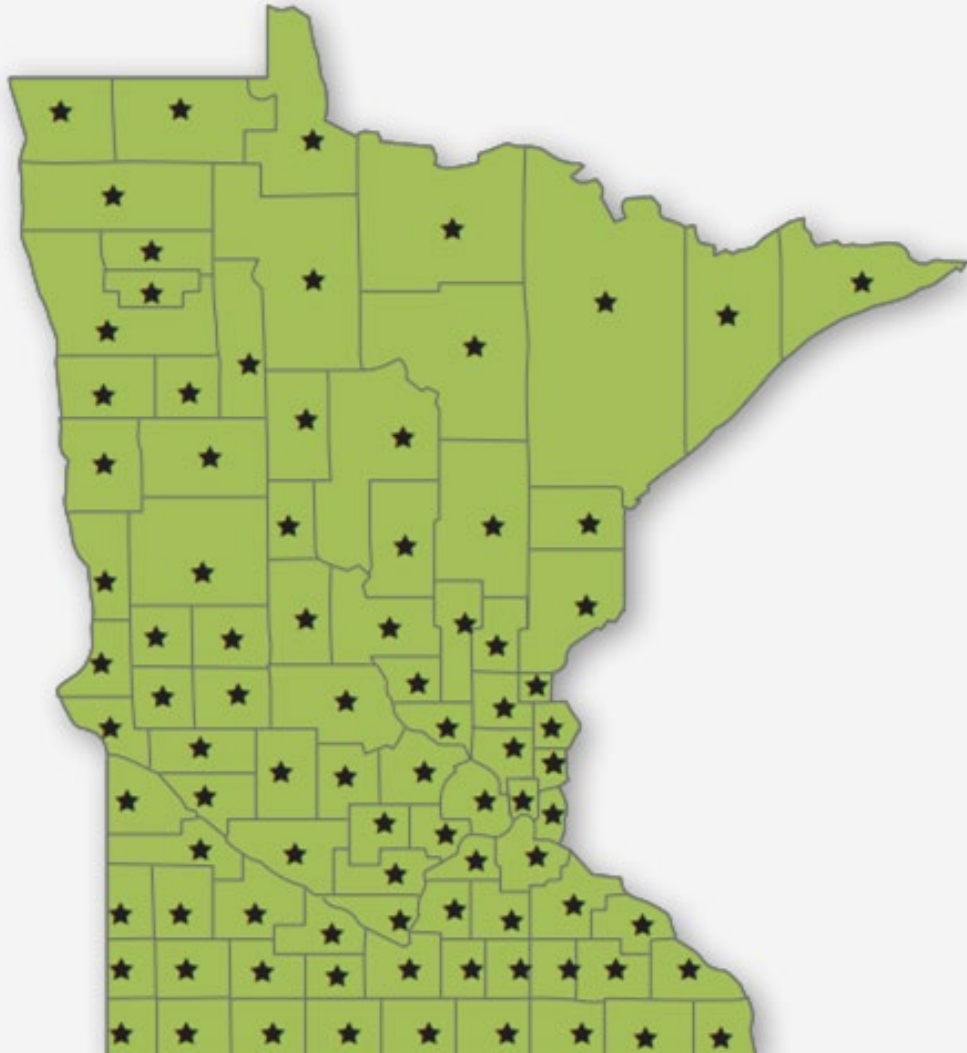
Original Pilot Libraries

Bemidji State College
Mankato State College
Rochester Junior College
Saint Cloud State College
Southwest Minnesota State College
St. John's University
St. Mary's College
University of Minnesota Duluth
University of Minnesota Morris
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Duluth Public
Rochester Public



October 21, 2025

Item 4

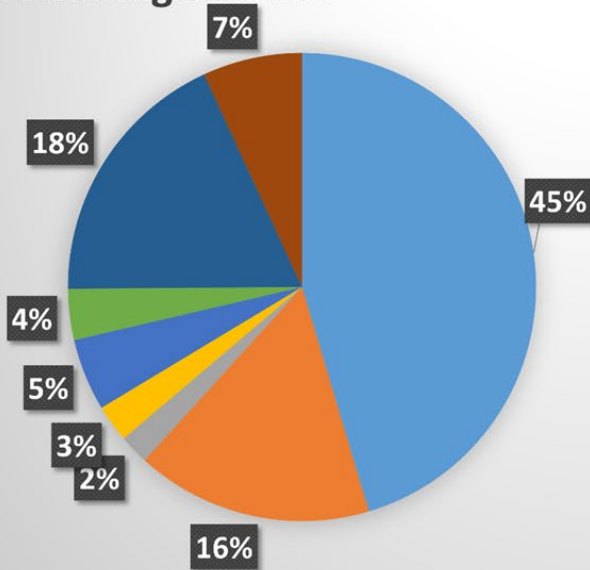


Resource Sharing Partners



Revenue

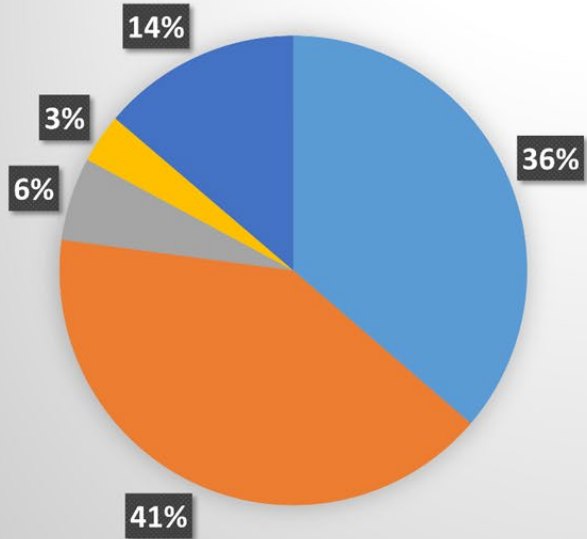
Minitex Funding Sources



- Office of Higher Education (\$6.61M)
- Grants: LSTA and MDE (\$2.38M)
- Cooperative Purchasing (\$0.30M)
- MNHS: Legacy Funds (\$0.38M)
- Contract Revenues (ND & SD) (\$0.72M)
- Others (\$0.51M)
- Reserves - Restricted (\$2.66M)
- Reserves - Unrestricted (\$1.00M)

Expenses

Minitex Funding Uses



- Interlibrary Loan (\$4.02M)
- E-resources & Support (\$4.52M)
- Outreach & Instruction (\$0.64M)
- MN Digital Library (\$0.38M)
- Admin & IT (\$1.52M)

October 21, 2025

Item 4

Policy Advisory Council



Statewide Resources



MINNESOTA
DIGITAL
LIBRARY



Patrons lining up to enter the second St. Cloud Public Library, St. Cloud, Minnesota. 1980?
Great River Regional Library

Statewide Resources



Statewide Resources



Image courtesy of Hennepin County Library



Bookmobile, Great River Regional Library, St. Cloud, Minnesota. 1973? Great River Regional Library

Cooperative Purchasing



Library Products

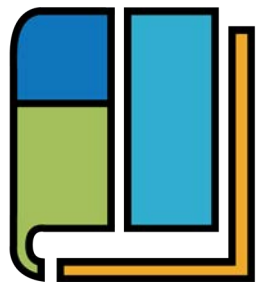
Cooperative Purchasing



E-Resources

Cooperative Purchasing

Statewide Resources



**EBOOKS
MINNESOTA**



Little Falls Public Library, Great River Regional Library, Little Falls, Minnesota. 1988-06. Great River Regional Library

Professional Development

AI
Cataloging
ELM
Consumer Health
Information Cohort



Storytime in the children's room of the St. Cloud Public Library, St. Cloud, Minnesota. 1970 - 1978. Great River Regional Library

Interlibrary Loan - MNLINK

[Contact Us](#)
[Try it!](#)

MNLINK provides statewide access to electronic resources, including journals, images, and ebooks, as well as physical materials held in libraries. By connecting users to resources beyond their local collections, MNLINK ensures equitable access to knowledge across Minnesota.



490,000 statewide requests

2,200 help questions answered



Borrowing

83% requests filled

(19,864 / 23,998)



Lending

70% requests filled

(20,625 / 29,840)



AskMN

Contact Us

Try it!

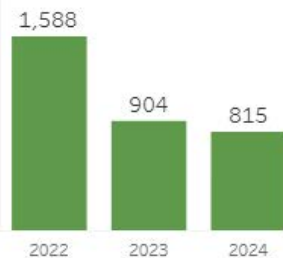
AskMN is an online reference service staffed by librarians 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Participation ensures that your patrons can receive expert assistance even when your library is closed, while also helping your staff manage their time and priorities more effectively.



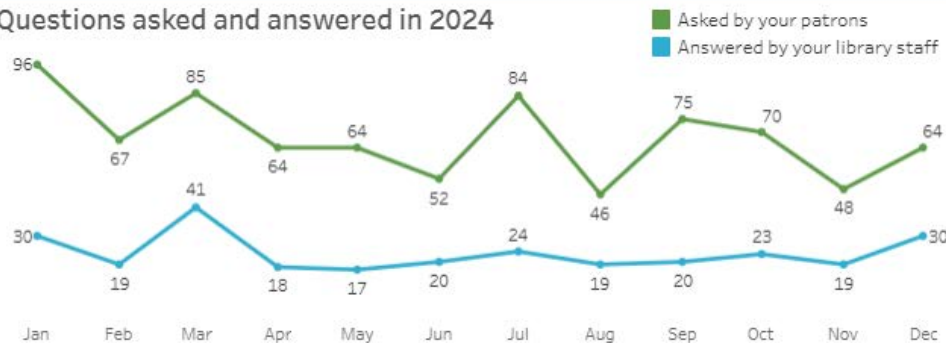
+ 30,000 answers annually

+ 35 MN libraries

Questions asked at your library



Questions asked and answered in 2024



In 2024, your library staff answered **197** of your patrons' **815** questions. That's **24%** of their questions.

The rest of your patrons' questions were answered by:



Your library staff answered **83** questions for patrons outside your library.



That is a time savings of 106 hours!

506 questions answered for your patrons by other librarians
 - 83 questions your librarians answered for the cooperative
 x 15 minutes per question

eLibrary Minnesota

[Contact Us](#)[Try it!](#)

eLibrary Minnesota (ELM) is a statewide collection of research and information databases available to all Minnesota residents through their school, public, academic, and state government libraries, or directly via the ELM Portal at elibrarymn.org. The collection includes encyclopedias, magazines, journal..

eLIBRARYMN

53 million statewide searches

+30 databases

\$1,071,929 Estimated cost avoidance for your library.

Public library databases and costs for an organization of your size to purchase on your own:

MasterFile Complete	\$150,979.66 (\$0.30 per user)
Business Source Premier	\$101,458.67 (\$0.20 per user)
Academic Search Premier	\$57,075.32 (\$0.11 per user)
Britannica Library	\$52,886.51 (\$0.11 per user)
Britannica Academic Edition	\$52,886.51 (\$0.11 per user)
Applied Science & Technology Source	\$52,655.89 (\$0.10 per user)
CINAHL Complete	\$50,548.96 (\$0.10 per user)
Gale in Context: High School	\$46,735.00 (\$0.09 per user)
LearningExpress Library	\$40,279.84 (\$0.08 per user)
Consumer Health Complete	\$31,538.12 (\$0.06 per user)
Gale in Context: Middle School	\$31,306.00 (\$0.06 per user)

[ELM Cost Estimates Explorer](#)

ELM data, calendar year 2024.

The ELM Cost Estimates Explorer button links to a document that shows how we calculated costs for the datab..

Thank you!

Maggie Snow
msnow@umn.edu





1300 West St. Germain • St. Cloud, MN 56301 • 320-650-2500 • griver.org
Serving Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, & Wright Counties



October 21, 2025

Dear Board of Trustee,

"I wanted to share with you about a book club my 10-year-old son hosted this summer. He found the book club bag at the library and begged me to host! Between him, his siblings, and his friends, he had 11 kids all the way from 8th grade to kindergarten participate... I love that he had the opportunity to do this and made it a great summer club for all the kids, with a little help! Thanks for offering these kits."
– Alayna, Elk River

Each year, numerous individuals find inspiration at their local library. With your generous support, Great River Regional Library is able to foster a culture of literacy. **Your contribution directly enriches the library's collection, enabling us to provide popular book club kits.** These kits, as Alayna's son's experience shows, are instrumental in fostering friendships and community through shared reading experiences.

"I love my book club! I've read over 140 books in 12 years, made good friends, and enjoyed great discussions. I have also read books I wouldn't have found without the club."
– Kathy, Waite Park

We love hearing stories from fellow library users about how they enjoy the materials and kits they checkout from their local library! **Make the library collection, including book club kits, vibrant for the community.**

"The book club kits [are my favorite]! Our club has been going strong for almost six years thanks to these kits!"
– Carrie, St. Michael

As a leader of the library system as a Board of Trustee, we ask you to consider your board commitment and investment in this effort. Please consider supporting the library with your tax-deductible gift and return it in the envelope provided. Call me at (320) 650-2532 to talk more about the importance of our Year-End Campaign.

Sincerely,

Breanne Fruth
Communications and Development Coordinator

Name _____
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____
Phone _____

Yes, I will support the library with a gift!
☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$25 Other \$ _____
☐ Please do NOT mail a thank you letter for this gift.
☐ Remain anonymous? ☐ Contact about a planned gift.



Please return this form and your donation (*Payable to GRRL*) in the enclosed addressed envelope.
Prefer to donate online? Visit us at griver.org/support-the-library or scan the code!

Information you provide here is protected under Minnesota Data Practices Statutes. Providing this information is strictly voluntary and will be used for GRRL financial accounting and to support GRRL fund development activities. It will be available only to authorized library personnel and contracted vendors. Name, address and amount of gift is considered public information. The personal information collected must be released pursuant to a court order or request by MN state or legislative auditor.

On behalf of library users ... Thank you! Office use only: Rec'd _____ Amt _____ Ck # _____ Init _____

Apart from direct gifts, charitable giving comes in many different forms and offers a variety of benefits. You may choose to give using one of these options:

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA

If you are 73 or older, you can gift a QCD using your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA, potentially lowering your taxable income.

Donor-advised Fund (DAF) Contribution

Make a grant recommendation through your DAF account by notifying your DAF’s charitable sponsor to distribute funds directly to Great River Regional Library.

Legacy Gift

With the help of an attorney, you may include a bequest for the library within your will.

Your planned gift will allow future readers to enjoy their public library for years to come.

Great River Regional Library system serves six counties with 33 library locations in Central Minnesota.

Your support can help our library with:



Collection
Development

Expand our collection of books to reflect community interests and needs.



Events and
Programs

Provide free programs to support community members in lifelong learning.



Technology and
Equipment

Increase school and workforce readiness through online services and resources.

1-833-GET-GRRL

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griver.org/support-the-library

Great River Regional Library
Attn: Accounting Dept.
1300 W. St. Germain St.
St. Cloud, MN 56301



Let us celebrate your birthday with you!

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MM / DD / YYYY