Serving Ohio Since 1817

Vision

A Smarter Ohio

The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

Mission

The State Library of Ohio ensures a smarter Ohio by managing the delivery of services through three channels:

- Directly, by building and managing quality collections and providing hands-on service to state government
- Cooperatively, through collaborative efforts and information sharing networks within the library community
- Virtually, through online and on-the-go access to expert assistance, digitized resources, and a vast selection of electronic materials

State Librarian Beverly Cain

State Library Board

Stephen Wood, President
John Myles, Vice-President
Melissa Hendon Deters
Krista Taracuk
Jennifer Thompson McKell

Cleveland
Wauseon
Cincinnati
Columbus
Chillicothe

The State Library of Ohio 274 East First Ave., Suite 100 Columbus, Ohio 43201

Open
Monday – Friday
8 am to 5 pm

Online and on-the-go at library.ohio.gov

Contact the State Library of Ohio at 614-644-7061
800-686-1532(Ohio only)
refhelp@library.ohio.gov

Patrons often use the State Library of Ohio to research information about congressional hearings and reports, U.S. and State of Ohio legislative history, statistics, facts about the state of Ohio, geological information, military rosters, state institutional and agency reports, census data, and more.

Government & State Employees

Provides access to print and online journals, magazines, newspapers and eBooks, job & library skills training, and resources and materials in the OHIOLINK catalog

Provides work-related library use assistance, research help and reference services

Serves as Ohio's only full regional depository for federal documents and the depository for Ohio state agency documents

Provides services to borrow materials from other libraries, delivery and pick-up of library materials to offices, meeting space with video conferencing capability, and free parking

Partners with state agencies to help residents access their government services through public libraries

Ohio Libraries

Leads collaboration and partnership with Libraries Connect Ohio—to ensure all Ohioans continue to have access to high quality, relevant, and reliable online resources and publications, at no cost to libraries, schools, universities, and residents

Oversees the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant program for Ohio

Administers the Serving Every Ohioan Library Center (SEO). SEO supports a resource sharing consortium of 89 Library systems at nearly 201 physical locations throughout 46 counties across Ohio

Coordinates The Ohio Digital Library

Collects and makes available statistics about Ohio public libraries for analysis, long range planning and comparison

Assists in staff training and development of programs and services for library staff & customers

Ohio Residents

Manages a unique collection of library materials which may be borrowed by the public on a walk-in basis. Collections include government and business documents, and management, education, health and criminal justice books and materials.

Coordinates the Ohio Talking Book program for Ohio's blind and physically disabled residents including children and veterans of war

Answers reference, research, and general "How do I find" questions

Contributes funding to the Ohio Web Library—online resources and publications available to all Ohioans through public, university, special and school libraries

Provides access to basic to grade level, business, and computer skills training; college placement and vocation specific eBooks and test prep; and assist job seekers with resources to explore careers, search for jobs, create resumes and cover letters, improve interviewing techniques and more

Provides access to specialized online publications and research resources not included in OhioLINK and the Ohio Web Library

Provides funding for KnowltNow24X7, a statewide Ask a Librarian service staffed by librarians at the State Library, and public and university libraries throughout Ohio

Provides access to current and historical state and federal government documents (print & digital), and access to borrowing eBooks, DVDs, audio books, and other materials from OhioLINK and Search Ohio member libraries

Provides technology training via the SEO Mobile Technology Training Center