



# Michigan LSTA Fact Sheet 2021

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## LSTA and Other Federal Funds in Michigan Serving All Michigan Residents

State Fiscal Year 2021/Federal Fiscal Year 2020  
(10/1/2019 – 9/30/2021)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides funds through the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018, including the Library Services & Technology subchapter (LSTA) to the states. In Michigan, the Library of Michigan receives the funds to improve library services to state residents. LM funds projects based on the goals of the LSTA legislation and the goals of Michigan's IMLS approved Five-Year Plan. The LSTA legislation and the current Five-Year Plan are at [www.michigan.gov/lsta](http://www.michigan.gov/lsta). LM also received funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in 2021.

### How are LSTA, CARES Act and ARPA funds used?

In accordance with the legislative priorities of the CARES Act, LM completed distribution of \$902,397 in CARES Act funds to libraries through grants for personal protective equipment and other safety supplies and for digital inclusion supplies such as hot spots, laptops, etc. LM also funded the creation of online learning modules for library staff to allow required training to continue during the pandemic restrictions and provided workforce development collection support.

In 2021, LM received an allotment of \$4,171,573 in ARPA funds. In accordance with the priorities of the ARPA legislation, LM awarded grants to individual libraries for equipment to improve safety and library services and to statewide library organizations to provide eContent and technology to libraries to support the need for virtual content and services.

LM uses LSTA funds primarily for statewide resources programs that benefit school, public, and academic library users, and Michigan residents directly. The federal FY 2020 allotment was \$4,597,286. The premier statewide program is the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), a virtual library available at [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org), anytime, anywhere to all Michigan residents. MeL, other major statewide programs, and grants include the following.

### Michigan eLibrary (MeL)

**Databases** – The MeL databases contain hundreds of thousands of subscription magazine and newspaper articles, reference book articles, art images, eBooks, historical documents and images, and other full-text materials. Content ranges from PreK-12 levels to professional and research levels in science, medicine, education, technology, humanities, arts, social sciences, law, and genealogy. Spanish language materials are available for PreK-12 students and translation is available in magazine and newspaper databases to support learners who are learning or speak other languages. State funds also support early literacy resources.

**MeLCat** – The statewide library catalog and resource-sharing network. Users can search the catalog from [www.MeL.org/melcat](http://www.MeL.org/melcat) or directly from their participating local library catalog. Michigan residents are using MeLCat to

easily identify and request convenient, quick, and free delivery of materials from other participating Michigan libraries to their own library for pick up.

**eBooks** – A collection of thousands of non-fiction and reference electronic books for K-12 students and teachers, college-level academics, and professionals. Topics include science, computers, business, education, and humanities among others.

**Tests, Tutorials & Workforce Development** – A comprehensive, interactive site with occupational, licensing, and academic practice tests and tutorials for K-16 and job seekers, from the GED to the GRE.

**Training and Support** - A robust collection of materials designed to support easier independent use of MeL eResources in two ways. First, engagement specialists connect with Public Library Staff and Educators for training sessions. Second, content is created to support self-directed learning, practical applications, and promotion of eResources.

## Other Major Statewide Programs

**Continuing Education for Librarians & Trustees** – LM supports training both by LM staff and partner organizations, such as conferences, workshops, topical learning cohorts, and webinars. LM provides a range of online continuing education resources for librarians and trustees, as well as continuing education stipends, giving library staff the opportunity to learn new techniques and methods to reach underserved residents. LM maintains a Library Science collection for use by the Michigan library community and provides law, trustee, and financial manuals for libraries.

**Early Literacy Support** – High-quality, resource-filled summer reading manuals from the Collaborative Summer Library Program are provided to public libraries, saving the libraries both staff time and money. Support for the Ready to Read early literacy program also helped provide quality early literacy programming and training to children's librarians as they work with families in their communities.

**Digitization Support** – LM participates in statewide digitization efforts such as the Michigan Digital Preservation Network, Michigan newspaper digitization work at CMU's Clarke Historical Library, support for Making of Modern Michigan and Michigan Memories projects, and grants funding local history and special collections work.

**Grants** – LSTA funds three grant programs. The Public Library Services grants are small summer programming grants for public libraries in the areas of technology, children & teen programs, and literacy. The Improving Access to Information grants are one-year grants for public and academic libraries to increase capacity to provide access to library collections and information. The Collaborative Library Services grants are one to three-year grants for collaborative community projects for public, academic and school libraries. However, due to pandemic related closures, ongoing Collaborative grants were funded, but new applications were not accepted.

**Technology Support** – Michigan participates in Ploud, a nation-wide collaborative to provide high quality, easy to use web sites for public libraries, giving their communities online access to statewide resources. LM also provides consulting support for public libraries to participate in the federal E-Rate program.

## How does Michigan receive LSTA funds?

Congress funds the Library Services & Technology Act annually through an appropriation to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS then allocates the funds through a formula with a base amount per state plus a per capita amount. To receive LSTA funds, the State of Michigan must both match the federal funds and maintain a level of effort through state or private funds.

Matching funds may be state or private and must equal approximately 50% of the federal allotment. States must meet the matching requirement to receive the allotment.

Maintenance of effort is determined by a three-year average of state funds appropriated to the State Library. These funds must be spent on libraries in a way that supports the purpose of the LSTA Act. In Michigan, that funding is primarily state aid to public libraries. If the three-year average of state aid to public libraries falls, the LSTA allotment amount falls by the same percentage.

### **What is the impact on community members in Michigan?**

LSTA, CARES Act and ARPA funding have a profound impact on improving outcomes in Michigan for students, professionals, and lifelong learners as the comments the Library of Michigan receives attest to.

#### **Continuing Education for Librarians**

“I just wanted to say a big thank you for supporting the Facilitator’s Toolbox training. I attended both sessions and I have to say I was pleasantly surprised at how much I got out of it. It just goes to show you can teach an old dog new tricks! I’m hoping it continues and more sessions offered in the future as I would love for many of my staff to attend.”

“As we’re marking a one year of COVID anniversary, I can’t imagine what my life would have been like over this past year without these meetings (LM Directors meetings). It started as a source of vital information and connection, shedding light in overwhelming darkness and confusion. It has morphed to be also a place of calm, of humor, and of being seen and heard.”

#### **Early Literacy**

“Trainings like this are great! Regardless of how many times I’ve attended ECRR (Every Child Ready to Read) workshops, I always feel inspired afterward. There’s always a new idea, takeaway, perspective, and confidence boost.”

#### **Grants**

“I cannot stress enough what a HUGE difference the grant programs provide to our patrons--both this grant and the Public Services grant we received this summer. Our library is small, and our participation/checkout numbers small as a result, but the impact for each individual is massive. Dare I say life-altering in some cases..”

#### **MeL**

“I learned MEL provides these services for free. I immediately utilized the services as I was planning to spend \$1500 to purchase a mailing list and utilized the A-to-Z database instead. Secondly, I utilized the Gale database to insert market size for a pitch competition. Lastly, I believe librarians are the greatest resource and asset of the library. Our presenter was phenomenal.”

“I am particularly excited to check out the free publications you shared with us. I had no idea of the expansive breadth of publications offered! Amazing!”

#### **Workforce Development Collection Support**

“WBTP’s box arrived yesterday--what a beautiful collection! THANK YOU to the Library of Michigan for providing WBTP with such an array of helpful information for job seekers of all ages.”

#### **Technology Support**

“Overall, this service (Ploud) is an amazing offering to tiny libraries. It not only addresses a critical need, it also provides an uplifting learning opportunity.”