



LSTA

in Massachusetts

Millions of Massachusetts residents benefit from federal LSTA funding.

New Americans learn English and become US citizens, kids and teens avoid the summer slide and do better in school, everyone (not just people who can afford to pay) has access to digital content and learns to distinguish real news from fake, residents get millions of items that their own library doesn't have, and Massachusetts' rich cultural heritage isn't just being preserved, it's being digitized so that the entire world can access it. It's no accident that year after year, Massachusetts is named one of the smartest states in the country. We care about education and LSTA funding keeps our library system strong so that learning never stops.



Massachusetts Libraries
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

SUMMER PROGRAMS

462,749

CHILDREN, TEENS, AND ADULTS

participated in
summer reading
programming

in just **8 weeks**
across the state -
a new **record** high.

Preventing summer learning loss*

- 50-67% of the achievement gap for children living in poverty is the result of summer learning loss.
- By the end of 6th grade children who lose reading skills over the summer are two years behind their classmates.
- Reading just 4 books over the summer can prevent summer learning loss.



“The Boston Bruins being involved is such a great draw especially for boys – and boys are a target audience as they tend to be reluctant readers”.

- Massachusetts Public Librarian

* From various sources; see
<http://guides.masslibsystem.org/slp/summerresearch>



STATEWIDE



Expanding residents' access; saving money

The Commonwealth Catalog gives residents access to millions of items that their own library network doesn't have. Residents simply request items through ComCat and they're delivered right to the residents' local library for pick-up, usually within a few days.

Last year residents
borrowed **6.3**
million items

through the statewide resource sharing system (which includes ComCat). This also helps local libraries save money because they don't have to purchase every item a resident needs. (commonwealthcatalog.org)

Preserving and digitizing our cultural heritage

With the goal of making Massachusetts historical treasures accessible to everyone no matter where they live, the MBLC's Town-wide Preservation, Assessment and Identification grant connects public libraries with historical societies, churches, town archives and other local organizations to identify significant humanities collections including prints and photographs, archives and manuscripts, sound recordings, textiles and more. The community develops a plan to preserve the items and prepares them for digitization. Digitized items are uploaded to the Digital Commonwealth (digitalcommonwealth.org) and the Digital Public Library of America (dp.la) where everyone can enjoy them.



SERVICES

Providing reliable online research

Through statewide databases, all Massachusetts residents have access to reliable information that can't be found through a Google search.

Residents searched databases more than **16 million** times last year.



Collections

Ending the digital lockout

The Commonwealth eBook Collections (CEC) was created in response to the overwhelming call from Massachusetts residents for more digital content. Because of vendor lending restrictions and high prices, local libraries had limited access to eBooks in a way that does not exist for print materials. In order to break this digital lockout, the CEC was developed to allow for statewide sharing of digital items and fair pricing for eContent.

Residents **borrowed more than 160,000** from the CEC last year.

Gateway to library services

Mass.gov/libraries is the one stop, easy way for residents to access all statewide services, including digital content, research databases, digitized collections, eBooks and newspapers. It also connects residents to ESOL and citizenship programs, GED and HiSET preparation classes, and early literacy programs at their local libraries.

GRANTS TO LIBRARIES

Federal grants for local needs

In 2017, the **MBLC awarded \$468,102** in **42 grants**

to public, academic, school, and special libraries and library networks for use in meeting specific local community needs.

Direct grants to libraries included:

STEM/STEAM= Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math

Serving Teens and Tweens

Preservation of Library and Archival Materials

School Library Incentives

Serving People with Disabilities

Conversation Circles (for learning English)

Digitizing Historical Resources

Innovative (explore new ways to meet residents' needs)

Citizenship Corners and Expanded English Language Services for New Americans

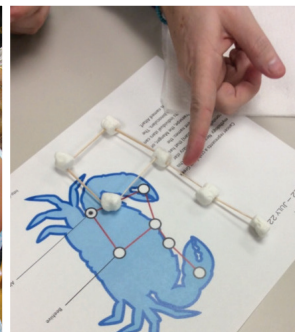
Mind in the Making (interactive learning for children aged 0-6)

Financial Literacy

Framework for Health Literacy

For FY2018, Massachusetts receives **\$3,283,698**

in **LSTA funding** to support statewide library programs and services and for the Direct Grants to Libraries Program.



Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

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mass.gov/libraries
(consumer portal)

mass.gov/mblc
(agency site)

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For more information about how MBLC uses federal
LSTA funds to benefit all Massachusetts residents, visit

mblc.state.ma.us/grants/lsta/index.php

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INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES