



# Michigan LSTA Fact Sheet 2024

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## LSTA Federal Funds in Michigan Serving All Michigan Residents

State Fiscal Year 2024/Federal Fiscal Year 2023  
(10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024)

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).

### How are LSTA funds used?

LM uses our annual allotment of LSTA funds primarily for statewide resources and programs that benefit school, public, and academic libraries and library users, and Michigan residents directly. The federal FY 2023 allotment was \$4,831,975. The premier statewide program is the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), a virtual library available 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hundreds of thousands of subscription magazine and newspaper articles, reference book articles, art images, eBooks, historical documents and images, and other full-text materials.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. Users can search the databases at [www.MeL.org](http://www.MeL.org).

**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. The program currently loans well over a million items a year.

**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. Users can find titles at [www.MeL.org](http://www.MeL.org).

**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. Users can do practice tests at [www.MeL.org](http://www.MeL.org) in LearningExpress.

**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 library staff.

**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 as well as an online reading support platform. 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 several 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. For federal FY 23, the Improving Access to Information grant was offered. 18 academic and public libraries received approximately \$346,00 for various projects.

**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 funding eligible as maintenance of effort falls, the LSTA allotment amount falls by the same percentage.

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

LSTA funding has 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**

"Thank you for adding this course to the Niche Academy. I have needed lessons in grounding in my position at the library...I look forward to more content."

"Thank you for opening the door to making all of the things we regularly do/feel accessible to caregivers and childcare providers. I do think this workshop helped to build confidence among myself and teammates, in terms of sharing developmental tips and working towards hosting our own workshops."

### **MeLCat**

"We are a small library in a rural area. Our patrons love having almost any title in book, audio or video format available through MeLCat."

"I am so pleased that MCLS, MeL, will be able to help our students, faculty, and staff during this time that our collections will be in storage for our renovation. I really appreciate this."

"MeLCat is invaluable to my teachers in our district -- we have been able to have novel studies and classroom reads ... MeLCat delivers the quantity and depth of materials that our library could never hope to provide all on our own. It's great being a small library with big friends!"

### **MeL**

"The huge amount of resources to help MS (Middle School) students when they say that they want to join the military. I feel I can actually show them ways to narrow that statement down to an actual career in the military."

"I've been able to find many small motor and automotive schematics through MeL eResources!"

"Business resources (are) valued by our Chamber members."

"This is a huge help to libraries like us that do not have a budget to offer these things to our patrons"

### **Summer Reading**

"It's always great to see families share literacy together. Our teen events were VERY successful this year. We received a lot of positive feedback from our teen families."

"My favorite part of the summer reading program is watching children meet and exceed their reading goals while falling in love with reading. Seeing the levels of pride and excitement is inspiring."