



Because information is changing quickly, WVLS will send out an email each weekday around 9 a.m., featuring new developments for our member libraries related to COVID-19.

1) What's New on the COVID-19 Webpage since 9 a.m. on 3/18

- Status of Member Libraries- Feel free to email Jamie (jmatczak@wvls.org) if you are closed but offering any kind of service (curb-side, appointment, virtual, etc), or if these services change, so the webpage can be updated.
- Demmer Library Plan of Service (attached, on WVLS COVID-19 webpage)
- Google Doc Linking WI Public Library System COVID-19 Updates (attached, on WVLS COVID-19 webpage)

2) Minitex and Suspended Service

[Minitex has suspended service as of March 17](#). They have asked that WISCAT libraries **do NOT ask for renewals on their loaned materials**. Patrons may keep items until we all open up again for delivery.

Please remember to share information with ILL staff in your libraries that do not have regular access to email and [contact us](#) with any questions you may have.

-Christine Barth, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator

3) Services Your Library Can Provide From a Distance

- Online and telephone reference services and assistance
- Online programming, particularly in support of students and families impacted by school closures
- Increased access to electronic materials (additional titles and extended borrowing)
- Outreach and community engagement via social media
- [Read more](#)

4) What Employers Need to Know About H.R. 6201: The Families First Coronavirus Response Act

On March 14, 2020, the House of Representatives voted 363-40 to pass H.R. 6201: Families First Coronavirus Response Act—a relief package that, among other things, contains several provisions affecting employers. The Senate has not yet scheduled a time to vote on the bill, although it is expected that a vote will occur this week. [Read more.](#)

5) WAAL Conference Canceled

From WLA: We regret to inform you that the 2020 WAAL Conference scheduled for April 16-17, has been canceled due to concerns about COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

This unanimous decision was made by the WLA Board and WAAL leadership in light of the developments over the last few days, including elevated warnings from the CDC and WHO, growing travel restrictions worldwide, and increasing numbers of requested cancellations from presenters. We are now in the process of evaluating and determining next steps, including whether a rescheduled event may be possible yet this year.

6) Macmillan Embargo to End This Friday

Read the short article from Library Journal and see the brief letter from John Sargent, CEO of Macmillan Publishers included below.

[Some Good News! Macmillan is Returning to the Ebook Pricing Model That Was In Effect on October 31, 2019 & Lowering Some E-Book Prices on a Short Term Basis.](#)
Library Journal, March 17, 2020

7) Recent Orders from Governor Evers

- Gov. Tony Evers issued Emergency Order #7 waiving work search requirements and modifying the availability requirements for **unemployment insurance (UI) benefits** for workers impacted by COVID-19. The order is available [here](#).
 - Emergency Order #7 waives the requirement that UI claimants conduct at least four weekly work search actions during the COVID-19 emergency. This section of the order is retroactively effective to March 12, 2020. This order also ensures that claimants who are otherwise eligible but out of work due to COVID-19 are considered available for work and therefore eligible for benefits.
 - The order goes into effect immediately and will remain in effect for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - [Gov. Evers](#). Orders scaling down of all child care settings. [Order](#).

8) Financial Resources to Help Get Through COVID-19

The coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, is impacting households, communities, and businesses. A new national survey shows that 1 in 5 households in the US have already had their income cut or stopped altogether. The frequently asked questions below highlight some common financial challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The answer to each question has links to government websites and the types of assistance that might be available. We will be adding additional information as new policies and resources are put into place. [Read more](#).