

Options to Continue or Terminate EBSCO Discovery Service

Background information:

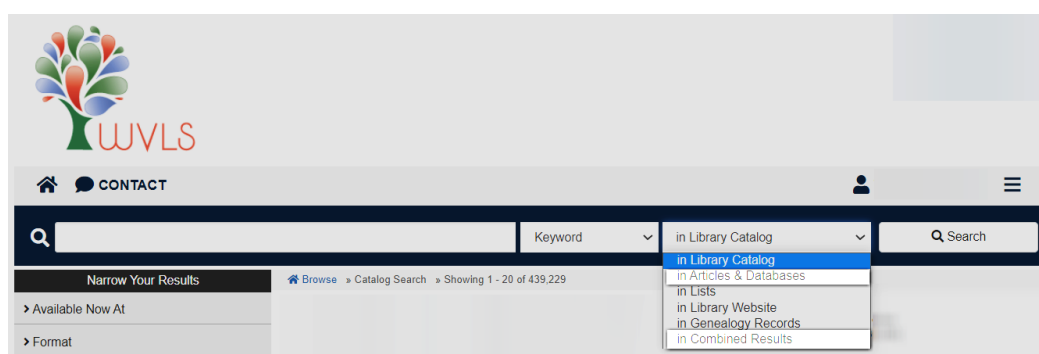
In June of 2021, V-Cat approved a recommendation to continue EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) through the service period of July – December 2021 and pursue short term invoicing options, if necessary, to maintain EDS through the launch of a new discovery layer. Per that recommendation, EDS was extended through the end of April 2022.

Opportunity:

With the implementation of Aspen and potential for EBSCO Host integration, we are now reconsidering the EDS end date.

Why? Prior to dropping EDS, we think it important to first consider whether integration of EBSCO resources would be beneficial to our library users for discovery of additional resources available in the EBSCO databases provided by Badgerlink. Keeping EDS longer will allow library staff to test and evaluate functionality of integrating EBSCO databases within the new Aspen discovery product.

We encourage libraries to see what the EDS integration in Aspen looks like by searching their aspen site selecting either the 'in Articles and Databases' or 'in Combined Results' from the menu.



When V-Cat was considering Discovery Layer products, Aspen informed us that EBSCO Host integration was in development and expected to be available in fall of 2021. In the fall of 2021, this was changed to the first quarter of 2022. Since then, we have learned that Aspen does not

have a firm start date for development of EBSCO Host integration. We are hopeful that Aspen will share an update prior to our April V-Cat Council meeting.

Until Aspen EBSCO Host integration available, EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) is necessary for searching EBSCO articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery catalog. Without continuing EDS, library users will not be able to search for EBSCO articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery catalog. However, V-Cat will be able to promote online databases of interest to library users through placards and links.

Three options for V-Cat libraries to consider:

1) Continue EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) through the service period of May 2022 - July 2022

- Gives additional time for V-Cat to consider the value of accessing articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery interface.
- Allows for additional transition time to create additional placards and links to optimize access to databases.
- Allows additional time for Aspen to develop EBSCO Host integration.
- It is likely that at the end of 4 months V-Cat would need to pursue an annual contract with EDS, or terminate EDS.
- Cost: \$5,215.35.
- Funds from Service Contracts or Special Projects.

2) Continue EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) through the service period of May 2022 – April 2023

- Provides additional time for V-Cat to assess the value of retrieving articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery interface.
- Allows for transition time to create additional placards and links to optimize access to databases.
- Allows considerable time for Aspen to develop EBSCO Host integration.
- Cost: \$14,604.80.
- Funds from Special Projects.

3) Terminate EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) at the end of April 2022

- Library users will no longer be able to search for EBSCO articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery catalog.
- Does not give sufficient time for V-Cat to consider the value of accessing articles and databases within the Aspen Discovery interface.

- Does not provide sufficient transition time to create additional placards and links to optimize access to databases.
- Does not give time for Aspen to develop EBSCO Host integration.
- No additional cost.

Recommendation:

If Aspen does not have a firm start date for EBSCO Host integration by the April 2022 V-Cat Council meeting, continuing EDS through July 2022 is recommended.