

2025 WVLS PLAN-*draft*

Note: New language or priority activities to the plan are designated in **bold print**.

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENTS

(A). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(a) Written agreements to provide, to any resident of the system area, the same library services, on the same terms, that are provided to the residents of the municipality or county that established the member library, except for the group programming preference authorized under s. 43.15(4)(c)(4), and to provide for the interloan of materials among all participating public libraries, as evidenced by agreements with those libraries.

2025 ACTIVITY RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT

1. Provide a copy of the agreement WVLS has with each public library and its supporting municipality to DLT by January 15, **2025**.

RESOURCE LIBRARY AGREEMENT

(B). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(b) Backup reference, information, and interlibrary loan services from the system resource library, including the development of and access to specialized collections, as evidenced by a written agreement with the library.

2025 ACTIVITY RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT

1. Provide a signed copy of the WVLS/MCPL agreement for **2025** to the DLT by January 15, **2025**.

NOTE: There is no "c" in Wis. Stats. 43.34(2).

REFERENCE, REFERRAL, AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN (ILL)

(D). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(d) Referral or routing of reference and interlibrary loan requests from libraries within the system to libraries within and outside the system.

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Ensure that interlibrary loan participants have access to accurate ILL statistics.
2. Encourage all member libraries to subscribe to appropriate interlibrary loan communication channels.
3. Participate in state level agreement with major book jobber(s) which allow publicly supported WVLS libraries of all types to purchase library materials at maximum discounts.
4. Monitor statewide ILL activity and communicate relevant service changes with member libraries.
5. Monitor usage of BadgerLink and WVLS subscription-based electronic resources provided for member libraries and patrons.

6. Provide authentication services for BadgerLink and WVLS databases offered to the public by fully utilizing vendor authentication processes where possible.
7. Monitor Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) recommendation to implement a statewide discovery layer and participate in decision-making processes.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Provide reference and interlibrary loan referrals for member libraries.
2. Encourage all member libraries to participate fully in interlibrary loan as lenders and borrowers.
3. Encourage all participating ILL libraries to follow interlibrary loan procedures and protocols established by the system and WI Department of Public Instruction's Library Services Team.
4. Guide libraries as needed through WISCAT system upgrades and changes in statewide resource sharing processes.
5. Communicate statewide resource sharing changes and updates, provide training and support when needed, and act as a conduit for troubleshooting on behalf of all libraries (public/multitype) in the system area.
6. Monitor Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) recommendation to implement a statewide discovery layer and participate in decision-making processes.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

None indicated.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & CONSULTATION

(E) & (H) Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(e) In-service training for participating public library personnel and trustees and professional consultation services to participating public libraries. **Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(h)** Professional consultant services to participating public libraries.

Continuing Education

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Maintain live and recorded continuing education events on the WVLS Continuing Education web page with current WVLS and state-wide offerings.
2. Partner with Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) to provide continuing education and training opportunities to its member libraries.
3. Plan all continuing education opportunities in accordance with the requirements set forth in the *Certification Manual for Wisconsin Public Library Directors* published by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).
4. Sponsor or co-sponsor a minimum of thirty-six (36) contact hours of continuing education

opportunities annually for member library staff and trustees, as well as for library system staff and trustees.

5. Ensure that at least twelve (12) of the thirty-six (36) annual contact hours of continuing education are provided in-person at a location within a reasonable driving distance. ~~For safety, pivot to virtual online continuing education opportunities as the need arises.~~
6. Sponsor a minimum of nine (9) contact hours annually of continuing education opportunities relating to youth and young adult services.
7. Offer a minimum of six (6) contact hours of technology-related continuing education opportunities sponsored or co-sponsored by LEAN WI.
8. Coordinate, ~~or assist with organizing, the~~ Spring 2024-statewide webinar series ~~sponsored by Wisconsin's public library systems.~~
9. ~~Upon request,~~ Coordinate, and host a Staff Development Day for Marathon County Public Library, ~~and for the Merrill and Tomahawk public libraries.~~
10. ~~Based on a 2019 State Continuing Education Survey recommendation,~~ Continue to provide three pre-recorded/archived webinars throughout the year.
11. Survey member libraries to help WVLS assess continuing education and training needs. Evaluate and refine training opportunities, tools and resources offered to member library staff.
12. Host bi-annual gathering of public library directors.
13. Schedule listening sessions for staffs from all types of libraries, and Youth Services Information Exchanges (YSIEs) for all children's and YA staff, virtually or in-person.
14. ~~Provide online "Staying Together" discussions on topics relevant to public libraries as needed. (Moved to from ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF INFORMATION section.) In 2024, plan for discussions on technology best practices, security and privacy awareness, and data. Facilitate virtual discussion opportunities for library staff as needed or requested. Examples of topics for these discussions include library advocacy, library operations, and current local, statewide and national events.~~
15. Continue peer-to-peer mentoring program for new public library staff.
16. Assign and distribute ~~the 2023-2024 and~~ FY 2024-2025 ~~and FY 2025-2026~~ state/LSTA professional development grants.
17. Maintain ~~WVLS Scholarship program.~~ Promote ~~and evaluate WVLS scholarship opportunities, including but not limited to~~ scholarships available through the WVLS Wessler Scholarship, WVLS Special Projects Account, and state allocation of LSTA professional development grant funds. ~~Assess this program's impact on member library continuing education and training needs. and for the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference, Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) Conference, Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference, American Library Association (ALA) Conference and Public Library Association (PLA) Conference. (WEMTA Conference scholarship is reported under OTHER TYPES OF LIBRARIES on page 12.)~~
18. Offer grants to area library staff and trustees to attend the Wisconsin Library Association's Library Legislative Day.
19. Provide a robust and responsive menu of training opportunities, tools, and resources for member library staffs through production of *Digital Bytes*. ~~Continue to caption all productions.~~

20. Caption or use captioning service for all WVLS-sponsored webinars (live and recorded) and for WVLS *Digital Bytes*.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Coordinate the 12th annual Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference (WWWWC) on January 24-25, 2024 for behalf of Wisconsin's library systems and their member libraries. public libraries in Wisconsin. The 13th annual WWWWC will be held January 22-23, 2025.
- ~~2. Upon request, coordinate, and host a combined Staff Development Day on behalf of the T.B. Scott Library (Merrill) and the Tomahawk Public Library.~~
3. 2. Schedule and host two in-person listening sessions for staff from all types of libraries.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Coordinate the 13th annual Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference (WWWWC) in January 2025 2026 for public libraries in Wisconsin on behalf of Wisconsin's library systems and their member libraries.
2. Coordinate a Spring full-day WVLS mini-conference for area library staff.

Consultation

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Attend relevant meetings, webinars, and conferences, and share what is learned.
2. Provide consultant services to WVLS libraries of all types in the areas of: public library administration and governance, intellectual freedom and challenges, adult services, building/remodeling, staff development, planning/evaluation/standards, collection development, marketing and graphic design, strategic planning, and legal issues. (See also sections on Youth Services, Inclusive Services and Technology.)
3. Enhance consultation services in the areas of data, strategic planning and library building, remodeling, layout and design projects.
4. Provide grant-writing guidance and support.
5. Monitor public library directors' progress toward certification and recertification. Provide updates to each director as needed.
6. Assist member libraries in the process of filing annual reports.
7. Meet with new and current directors in the system to orient them to system services and to provide an overview of library services in Wisconsin.
8. Encourage orientation and ongoing training for area library board members.
9. Ensure appropriate library system staff meet with newly hired key library staff to provide an orientation on system services related to their positions.

10. Facilitate participation of member library staff, trustees, and supporters in local, regional, and statewide advancement events, e.g., candidate forums, WLA Library Legislative Day.
11. Maintain WVLS/public library system information packets to new member public and county library board members and to new legislators in the WVLS service area.
12. Assist libraries in promoting their value to their communities.
13. Assist member libraries in working for and securing local and county funding.
14. Facilitate individual county library service planning processes when requested.
15. Support member library staff and trustee advocacy efforts at all levels – local, county and state.
16. Encourage members of the WVLS library community to develop a network of citizen library supporters who can be strategically deployed as needed.
17. Advocate on the state level for system and public library initiatives, as well as other items included in the Wisconsin Library Association's legislative agenda of significance to the entire library community.
18. Assist member libraries in providing timely reference assistance to those seeking voter registration and election participation information.
19. Inform member library staff, trustees, and supporters of pending legislation on the state and national levels that may affect libraries and explain how the proposed legislation might affect system and local library service.
20. Network with a variety of state, regional and local government agencies on behalf of member libraries.
21. Represent the interests of member libraries to the Legislature and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in the development of statewide library policy or services.
22. Cooperate with other agencies or organizations for the benefit of member libraries and area residents. Examples in 2022 2025 include, regional Aging and Disability Resource Centers, CESAs, Connecting Wisconsin Libraries group, WI Early Childhood Collaborating Partners (WECCP)/regions, Wisconsin Humanities and Workforce Development Boards (WBD)/regions.
23. Support member libraries' use of the Beanstack web platform and smart device application.
24. 23. Continue to Maintain lists of WVLS area adult services speakers, performers, and programs, and Book Club calendar to encourage the exchange of ideas, resource sharing, and collaborative booking.

MARKETING

25. 24. Attend/Host meetings of the Public Library System marketing cohort to discuss opportunities for collaboration and cooperation.
26. 25. Upon request, consult with colleagues on presentation and public speaking skills.
27. 26. Develop tools that can be tailored by local libraries as needed, making it easier to create

awareness of their accomplishments, needs, or concerns, e.g., press releases, sample letters to officials, videos, infographics, social media templates, advocacy toolkits.

28. **27.** Purchase marketing resources for library-related events such as Library Card Sign-Up Month. Distribute resources to member libraries.
29. **28.** Assist member libraries to identify, implement, document, and publicize programs and services that (1) expand technology services for patrons with limited broadband access, (2) enhance workforce development assistance, and (3) provide a gateway to learning in all stages of life.
30. **29.** Provide website layout and design consultation services to LEANWI member libraries upon request. Continue to evaluate and refine curriculum and processes while onboarding interested NWLS and **Winding Rivers Library System** member libraries. Evaluate curriculum and processes to enhance training experiences for novice and advanced website staff.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Continue evaluation of WVLS orientation for new public library directors (described under no. 7 above).
- ~~2. As part of the WVLS orientation for new trustees and public library directors and staff, create a video that describes the services and support offered through LEAN WI.~~
- ~~3. Pilot WVLS Marketing Grant program for member libraries to develop/enhance a marketing plan or campaign.~~
- ~~4. Attend the national Library Marketing and Communications Conference and share highlights with WVLS staff, member libraries and Public Library System Marketing Co-Hort.~~
- ~~5. Secure funding for a 2024-2025 WVLS Innovation Grant for a member library to beta test the acquisition and installation of an outdoor Pickup Locker System.~~
2. Create an onboarding training program on staff culture/customer service for new WVLS and public library employees.
3. Create an onboarding toolkit that supports public library directors with their hiring processes.
4. Continue regional and statewide training in customer service launched in 2023 and modified in 2024.
5. Explore and possibly implement a new tool to use for publishing *Monday Mentions* and monthly *WVLS Newsletter*.
6. Provide area public library directors, as well as municipal and county clerks with data to complete annual processes for county reimbursements to home county libraries and libraries in adjacent counties.
7. Offer to complete county funding invoices and submit to county clerks on behalf of public library directors.
8. Provide libraries with LEAN WI website support to enhance website usability and accessibility.
9. Use information from DPI's [March 2023 Data Landscape Report](#) and **WILS Data Classroom project** to assess evaluate data driven decision making competencies skills among WVLS member library staff and stakeholders. Formulate Set training objectives and develop training curricula as appropriate and outreach goals and create relevant tools.

10. Host a hybrid in-person/virtual public library annual report training/kickoff event to review recent changes to the report and recommended processes. Offer event annually in December.
11. Assist with system-wide implementation of library passport challenge program.
12. Provide libraries with marketing and promotional materials for WVLS-provided databases.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Continue to implement and refine orientation process for new member library directors in conjunction with WVLS mentoring program, and with new trustees on library and county library boards.
2. Continue administration of the 2024-2025 WVLS Innovation Grant. (Described in no. 5 above.)

DELIVERY

(FM). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(fm) Electronic delivery of information and physical delivery of library materials to participating libraries.

Electronic Delivery of Information

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Produce/distribute annual statistical report and listing of system membership benefits.
2. Use a communications and marketing calendar to guide and coordinate communications methods to/from member library staff and trustees.
3. Publish monthly newsletter and encourage member libraries to contribute content. Feature content from libraries outside the WVLS area periodically.
4. Publish contributions twice monthly posts to the WVLS blog, *Digital Lites*, twice a month.
5. Create and share ready-made promotional marketing and infographic templates that promote library services and programs.
6. Enhance the WVLS website, and management/hosting strategy for internal and LEANWI member library use. Continue working with LEANWI partners to access current hosting practices and strategies for all websites.
7. Continue to Assess WVLS website for content, design/content presentation, and accessibility.
8. Maintain updated web-based *Directory of Libraries and Librarians* on WVLS website.
9. Enhance professional development section on the WVLS website to include changes to mentorship and new director orientation processes.
10. Maintain list of web-based continuing education programs to help area public library directors maintain their state-required certification.

11. Create web bibliographies and tools on a variety of topics useful to WVLS member library staff and trustees on the WVLS web site.
12. Update resource packets for public library directors and WVLS trustees located on the WVLS website.
13. Share timely reminders and system, statewide and national library news via *Monday Mentions* email to the WVLS all-subscribers list.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Continue to improve the WVLS Statistics Booklet to make it more accessible and useful for member libraries and stakeholders. ~~by using examples from the DPI [March 2023 Data Landscape Report](#), information gathered from DPI Data Workgroup meetings, collaboration with other library partner services such as WILS, and general professional development resources.~~ Explore digital delivery options and possible coordination with the state data dashboard project.
2. Continue to update Sierra Training website page to improve navigation, searchability and training materials.
3. Explore the creation of a shared opt-in communication/messaging platform for library directors to communicate directly with each other, with and without WVLS staff interaction.
4. Use "click" counts for resources on Online Resources page to track WVLS and statewide/general online resources accessed by library website users.
5. See partnerships with other Wisconsin library systems to explore LSTA grant/other funding to support contracting with a web designer to custom build and support an events calendar and room booking platform designed specifically for libraries.
6. Develop an internship opportunity for website design, support, and management within the LEANWI website service (target spring or summer semester 2025).

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Continue to update Sierra Training website page to improve navigation, searchability and training materials.

Physical Delivery of Information

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Subsidize three courier stops per week to each member public library and V-Cat service site. ~~and "vendor sort" process~~ Subsidize a fourth stop to libraries that have a high volume of materials flowing through inter- and intra-system interlibrary loan networks.
2. Ensure local delivery service is available to member libraries at least five days per week.
3. ~~Request monthly volume statistics from courier provider and~~ Share yearly volume data with the WVLS Board of Trustees and member libraries.
4. Review and update delivery schedules, policies and procedures as needed, and post on the WVLS

website.

5. Communicate courier schedule changes and instructions for packaging courier items with member libraries and courier vendor when needed.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. ~~Explore processes that improve efficiencies and/or reduce costs of WVLS delivery services.~~
Continue daily sorting/packing of library materials going to WVLS member libraries and other libraries across the state. WVLS implemented this process in 2024.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

None indicated.

SERVICE AGREEMENTS

(G). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(g) Service Agreements with all adjacent library systems.

2025 ACTIVITY RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. File current copies of agreements WVLS has with all other Wisconsin library systems with Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Technology (DLT).

OTHER SERVICE PROGRAMS

(I). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(i) Any other service program/s designed to meet the needs of participating public libraries and the residents of the system area, as determined by the public library system board after consultation with participating public libraries.

Collection Development

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Provide access to electronic resources to meet the needs and demands of area library users and to back up the collections of member libraries.
2. Provide the resource library a collection development grant to expand the breadth and scope of its fiction and nonfiction collections.
3. Provide area library directors with usage reports for WVLS electronic databases and OverDrive collections.
4. Continue membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium to provide access to the Wisconsin Digital Library, and associated initiatives.

5. Subscribe to professional journals and route to interested member libraries.
6. Monitor usefulness of content available through WPLC membership and share member library feedback with the WPLC Board.
7. Maintain a professional materials collection and make titles available for loan to any library in the state.
8. Maintain the shared WVLS/IFLS/NWLS collection of makerspace resources.
9. Promote the WVLS collections of databases, makerspace items and professional resources to members throughout the year. Use WVLS communications and marketing calendar to guide this effort.
10. Share reader's advisory information with area libraries.
11. Share collection development information and resources with area libraries.
12. Continue the shared WVLS/IFLS/NWLS Digitization Program (Project IONh) that offers interested member libraries consultation, best practices, and support, and which provides member libraries opportunities to share their digitized collections with Recollection Wisconsin and the Digital Public Library of America.
13. Help member libraries with weeding and/or inventory projects.
14. Explore and pursue alternative funding to support the WVLS OverDrive Advantage account.
15. Investigate new digital resources that may be beneficial to member libraries.
16. To inform collection development practices, provide libraries with age and usage reports for physical materials collections in the V-Cat database.
17. Investigate, implement and support opportunities to reduce wait times on high demand items of interest to users of WVLS member libraries.
18. **Maintain a system-wide movie licensing agreement to enable public performance movie Programming for interested libraries. Conduct an annual review to assess cost effectiveness and invite additional participation.**

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. ~~Investigate an alternative digital educational resource to replace Gale Courses.~~ Monitor usage and relevance of Gale Presents: Udemy, the database selected in mid-2024 to replace Gale Courses.
2. Evaluate ~~contracts and usage for WVLS~~ subscription-based electronic resources ~~provided for~~ WVLS purchases on behalf of member libraries and their ~~patrons~~ users.
3. Encourage collaborative collection development by member libraries in selected subject areas.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Evaluate ~~contracts and usage for WVLS~~ subscription-based electronic resources ~~provided for WVLS~~ **purchases on behalf of** member libraries and their ~~patrons~~ **users**.
2. Encourage collaborative collection development by member libraries in selected subject areas.

Youth Services

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Provide member libraries with access to expertise and consulting to assist them in planning, developing, and evaluating youth and young adult services.
2. Partially subsidize a performer at member libraries' summer reading programs.
3. Meet virtually or in-person with youth services staff from member libraries to determine grants, focus of CE workshops, and directions for future projects. (See also Continuing Education, no. 11., page 3)
4. Assist member libraries in marketing youth and young adult activities.
5. ~~Maintain a system-wide movie licensing agreement to enable public performance movie programming for interested libraries. Conduct an annual review to assess cost effectiveness and invite additional participation.~~
6. ~~Host annual "dine-around gathering" following the annual Children's Book Fest hosted by the Rhinelander District Library. This unique opportunity brings together public library youth services staff and school media specialists to discuss priorities for the WVLS youth services program.~~
7. **5.** Partner with the DPI/DLT Public Library Youth and Special Services Consultant and other system youth services consultants to implement and promote early literacy and other statewide initiatives.
8. **6.** Facilitate collaborations on youth and young adult services.
9. **7.** Assist member libraries in the development of coding and STEM/STEAM/STREAM programs for children and teens.
10. **8.** Maintain the WVLS Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE) Facebook page to encourage the exchange of ideas and resource sharing.
11. **9.** Feature member library youth services spaces during virtual or in-person YSIE gatherings.
12. **110.** Include Youth Services Librarians in WVLS Scholarship opportunities.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. ~~Attend the National ALSC (Association for Library Services to Children) Institute and share what is learned with youth services colleagues. If funding is available, offer a scholarship for a youth services colleague to attend this event as well.~~
2. **1.** ~~Continue WVLS initiative implemented in 2024 to~~ support and partially subsidize member libraries'

activities in the Summer Math Adventure program, a coordinated effort between the WI Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Mathematics Council.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Attend the National ALSC (Association for Library Services to Children) Institute and share what is learned with youth services colleagues. If funding is available, offer a scholarship for a youth services colleague to attend this event as well.

INCLUSIVE SERVICES

(K). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(k) Promotion and facilitation of library service to users with special needs.

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Through a partnership with Northern Waters Library Service, provide member libraries with access to expertise and consulting to assist them in planning, developing, and evaluating inclusive services, guided by *What Does it Mean to Be Inclusive? A Statement from the Division of Libraries and Technology* and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's *Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide* and the American Library Association's *Accessible Communication Styles* and *Virtual Accessibility* toolkits.
2. Maintain collection of professional materials on inclusive services.
3. Share Inclusive Services information and resources via WVLS communications channels (blog, email, newsletter).
4. Maintain current and relevant Inclusive Services resources and tools on the WVLS website.
5. Participate in regional Inclusive Services collaborations with member libraries, appropriate agencies, and other systems.
6. Support member library outreach efforts to extend services to underserved populations.
7. Provide Inclusive Services continuing education opportunities for member libraries.
8. Create 1-3 *Digital Bytes* training videos related to Inclusive Services.
9. Attend the annual Toward One Wisconsin Conference and share highlights with member libraries and WVLS Board of Trustees.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Incorporate EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) topics in member library discussions held throughout the year.
2. Target consulting and support on topics outlined in the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's *Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide*. In 2023, Target member libraries' awareness of resources and checklists in "Chapter 4: What the Library Has to Offer" relating to library collections, programming, and services.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Target consulting and support on topics outlined in the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's *Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide*. ~~In 2024, continue to~~ Target member libraries' awareness of resources and checklists in "Chapter 4: What the Library Has to Offer" relating to collections, programming, and services.

OTHER TYPES OF LIBRARIES

(L). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(I) Cooperation and continuous planning with other types of libraries in the system area which results in agreements with those libraries for the appropriate sharing of library resources to benefit the clientele of all libraries in the system area.

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Sponsor the WVLS Library Advisory Committee (LAC) and schedule at least two meetings annually. Plan a discussion at each LAC meeting around broad library-related challenge or need and encourage feedback from members.
2. Consider all types of libraries whenever proposals for grants and other special system projects are developed.
3. Provide consultant services to all types of libraries in the WVLS area - reported under requirement S43.24(2)(e).
4. Provide reference and interloan services to all types of libraries in the WVLS area.
5. Invite libraries of various types to attend and host WVLS continuing education events.
6. Encourage libraries of all types in the WVLS area to join WVLS' listservs as appropriate for their positions, to subscribe to the WVLS newsletter, and to browse the WVLS blog *Digital Lites*.
7. Announce available grants for area libraries of all types to consider.
8. Initiate discussions with other types of libraries to determine if/how collaborative efforts might improve services to patrons/library staff/trustees in the WVLS library community.
9. Partner with all types of libraries in the WVLS area to provide workshop, training, discussion and resource sharing opportunities for area libraries.
10. Build on existing collaborative efforts by participating in statewide committees, workgroups and organizations. Continue representation on the informal Connecting Wisconsin Libraries – School and Public Libraries Committee.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. ~~Offer scholarships to attend the Wisconsin Educational Media & Technology Association (WEMTA) Conference to public or school library staff who have not previously attended.~~

None indicated.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

None indicated.

LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY AND RESOURCE SHARING

(M). Wis. Stats. 43.24(2)(m) Planning with the division and with participating public libraries and other types of libraries in the area in regard to library technology and the sharing of resources. By January 1, 2000 and every 5th January 1 thereafter, the public library system shall submit to the division a written plan for library technology and the sharing of resources.

Technology / Network

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Facilitate continued development and expansion of "LEAN Wisconsin" (LEANWI), a technology resource sharing partnership between multiple systems, and "Libraries Win", the joint technology services platform it hosts and maintains. Maintain joint LEANWI Library System Long Range Strategy and Operational Technology Plan.
2. Facilitate strategic growth within the LEANWI partnership and lead efforts of technology collaboration with other library systems and organizations.
3. Maintain strategic and operational awareness of federal, state, and regional programs and efforts intended to support and empower library technology services, including Universal Service Administrative Company School and Library Program (USAC SLP – erate), TEACH Wisconsin, ~~BadgerNet~~ TEACH Network, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC), and others.
4. Lead vendor relationship management and strategic procurement efforts for LEANWI partners, member libraries and other interested library systems.
5. Assist member libraries within the LEANWI footprint with technology consultation, long range strategic planning, and operation planning. In ~~2024~~ 2025, ~~revise~~ review and continue improvement of network equipment asset inventory and mapping information for each library.
6. Coordinate in-person and remote meetings with public library directors and technology managers of LEANWI member libraries to establish and maintain working relationships, engage in technology assessment projects with their respective libraries, and facilitate collaborative efforts between libraries.
7. Strengthen Libraries Win integrated services:
 - Lifecycle Procurement utilization and Capital Procurement Assistance support.
 - Printer device and print management services coordination and support.
 - Mobile Hotspot hardware and data plan management services coordination and support.
 - Website platform, development, and maintenance support.
 - Statistical data aggregation, warehousing, analytics, presentation, and preservation support.
 - Operational data storage, backup, and preservation support.
 - ~~Improve member library awareness of, and documentation and process support for,~~ Promote existing and new system technology service offerings to member libraries: currently such as Princh print management and Pharos public computer timing software, hot spots, videoconferencing. Identify new services that address library technology needs for internal functioning and public services.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Priority (annual) - Assess LEANWI and Libraries Win service stacks, evaluating and reporting on service take rates, prioritization for continuity, depth of staffing, etc., and work with administration of LEANWI partners to inform long range technology strategy, operational technology planning, and annual system planning.
2. Priority (annual) - Explore and develop new service opportunities to benefit member libraries. Continue aggregation, realignment, and consolidation (ARC) project evolution.
 - Enhance processes for coordinating service-level and system-level planning requiring technology resources and support.
 - Coordinate with administration and service area teams across LEANWI partners to broaden awareness of technology resources currently utilized and identify common long-term goals and technology resource needs.
 - Expand long term efforts to consolidate common technology resources with broader scope across service areas.
 - Develop and promulgate unified guidance with consistency across LEANWI partners.
 - Develop documentation for procedures and best practices shared across LEANWI partners for both internal and library-site-specific processes.
3. Provide proactive support ~~with~~ for libraries' technology asset management to help establish standard and routine processes until process become routine.
4. Provide timely acquisition, deployment and support of equipment procured through WWLS.
5. Create distinct IP ranges for each library location to improve Aspen functionality and accuracy of database usage statistics. NOTE: Will be completed by the end of 2024.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Priority (annual) - Assess LEANWI and Libraries Win service stacks, evaluating and reporting on service stack rates, prioritization for continuity, depth of staffing, etc., and work with administration of LEANWI partners to inform long range technology strategy, operational technology planning, and annual system planning.
2. Priority (annual) - Explore and develop new service opportunities to benefit member libraries. Continue aggregation, realignment, and consolidation (ARC) project evolution.
 - Enhance processes for coordinating service-level and system-level planning requiring technology resources and support.
 - Coordinate with administration and service area teams across LEANWI partners to broaden awareness of technology resources currently utilized and identify common long-term goals and technology resource needs.
 - Expand long term efforts to consolidate common technology resources with broader scope across service areas.

- Develop and promulgate unified guidance with consistency across LEAN WI partners.

ILS Administration

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THIS REQUIREMENT:

1. Host V-Cat Council meetings and V-Cat committee meetings.
2. Develop and monitor V-Cat budget.
3. Review V-Cat By-laws, participation agreements, and contracts.
4. Maintain awareness of the organizational structure and funding mechanisms of other ILS consortia in the state for best practices and optimized governance.
5. Convene the V-Cat Steering Committee to assist staff in developing the annual V-Cat budget, and reviewing V-Cat bylaws.
6. Work to encourage cooperative and participatory V-Cat membership that adheres to the set V-Cat guidelines and procedures.
7. Remain alert to the impact of V-Cat as it relates to members' collection related policies and practices.
8. Monitor unmediated interloan between V-Cat participants.
9. ~~Seek opportunities to expand V-Cat Membership.~~
10. ~~Assess and evaluate member libraries' satisfaction with the effectiveness of V-Cat to support continuous improvement of V-Cat. (Practice and Collaboration)~~
11. 9. Provide qualified, trained staff devoted to the management and support of the shared Integrated Library System (ILS).
12. 10. Manage the shared ILS database.
13. 11. Offer library profile customization services for V-Cat members.
14. 12. Offer training opportunities and resources using a variety of delivery methods.
15. 13. Work with V-Cat committees to normalize V-Cat policies, procedures, and practices among member libraries.
16. 14. Provide effective and efficient way method for member libraries' holdings to be added to the database.
17. 15. Work with member libraries to establish preferred practices and procedures for entering patron records, bibliographic records and item holding records in the V-Cat database in accordance with currently accepted library cataloging and classification practices.
18. 16. Ensure that bibliographic records, item records, and patron records item status for materials in the V-Cat database are searchable through standard protocols.
19. 17. Ensure access to reports to assist member libraries in managing ILS data.

20. 18. Provide V-Cat consortium members with statistical data generated by the ILS as required for the DLT Public Library Annual Report, using standard definitions supplied by DLT.
21. 19. Periodically assess and evaluate member libraries' satisfaction in the following areas: with ILS support, the online catalog, discovery products, and training needs. **(Vendor Products and WVLS Support)**
 - V-Cat Governance
 - V-Cat Resource Sharing
 - V-Cat Collaboration
 - WVLS Support and Training
 - Vendors and Products
22. 20. Explore, and encourage libraries to consider, enhancements to the ILS, including peripheral ILS-related products and technologies, to improve V-Cat experience for consortium members and library patrons.
23. Encourage libraries to consider new ILS enhancements, including peripheral ILS-related products and technologies, investigate group pricing options, and assist with implementation and training as needed.
24. 21. Work with the V-Cat Council and its committees to implement enhancements to the ILS, including peripheral ILS-related products and technologies. Assist with implementation of enhancements to the ILS, including peripheral ILS-related products and technologies, and provide training to libraries when needed.
25. 22. Explore collaborative options with other library systems in Wisconsin to improve ILS services and support.
26. 23. Assess and evaluate V-Cat from the user's perspective to support continuous improvement of V-Cat. **(User Experience)**
27. 24. Participate in Innovative Users Group (IUG) and other professional organizations.
25. Periodically conduct a strategic planning process to clarify V-Cat's vision and mission and develop goals and outcomes that align with that mission.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Continue to develop sufficient local funding of V-Cat to ensure the stability of its operation and to alleviate the risk in the event of changes to regional library systems in Wisconsin. (Relates to ILS Administration no. 2 above.)
2. Continue database clean-up projects to strive toward standardization of records and record fields. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18, and 20 above.)
3. Refine current processes used to generate reports from ILS data, including those required for the DLT Public Library Annual Report. Continue to further automate report generation and data visualizations. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, 24 and 25 above.)
4. Develop and promote training using a variety of delivery methods, published in an academic year schedule to allow our librarians plenty of time to plan to attend. (Relates to ILS Administration

nos. 6, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 21-23 above.)

5. If applicable, continue ILS migration process. Re-negotiate current ILS contract or negotiate a new service contract with another ILS/Next Gen ILS and/or continue migration process. (Relates to ILS Administration points 12, 21-26 10, and 19-21 above.)
6. Investigate cataloging practices of other consortia and compare with WVLS practices. Develop a plan to implement best practices, including automated tools to assist with record creation and review, as appropriate. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 6, 10, 12, 14-18 and 16 above.)
7. If applicable, continue to take steps to merge the WVLS/V-Cat and Northern Waters Library System/NWLN library system databases and respective ILS consortia.
8. 7. Pursue mechanisms to reduce member library staff time spent on routine tasks. Examples include:
 - Schedule and coordinate centralized batch record update changes.
 - Schedule and automate circulation notice delivery.
9. 8. Simplify procedures for resource sharing among member libraries. (Relates to ILS Administration no. 15.)
9. Conduct a strategic planning process to clarify V-Cat's vision

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. Continue to develop sufficient local funding of V-Cat to ensure the stability of its operation and to alleviate the risk in the event of changes to regional library systems in Wisconsin. (Relates to ILS Administration point 2 above.)
2. Continue database clean-up project to strive toward standardization of records and record fields. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, and 20 above.)
3. Refine current processes used to generate reports from ILS data, including those required for the DLT Public Library Annual Report. Continue to further automate report generation and data visualizations. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 8, 19, 20, 22, 24 and 25 above.)
4. If applicable, continue ILS migration process. (Relates to ILS Administration points 12, 21-26.)
5. Continue to investigate cataloging practices of other consortia and compare with WVLS practices. Implement best practices, including automated tools to assist with record creation and review, as appropriate. (Relates to ILS Administration nos. 6, 12, 14-18.)
6. If applicable, continue to take steps to merge the WVLS/V-Cat and Northern Waters Library System/NWLN library system databases and respective ILS consortia.

Priority activities for 2026 will be determined following a 2025 V-Cat strategic planning process.

ADMINISTRATION

2025 ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. Ensure the library system operates in accordance with Chapter 43 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*.
2. Ensure the library system operates in compliance with other Wisconsin laws, such as laws relating to open meetings, ethics, and public records.
3. Ensure the library system operates in compliance with federal laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.
4. Ensure that all meeting announcements, agendas and minutes are publicly available to all member libraries.
5. Ensure the library system board has written bylaws that outline its purpose and its operational procedures and address conflict-of-interest issues. The bylaws are reviewed at least every three years.
6. Ensure the system does not expend more than 20% of the state aid projected to be received in the plan year for administration.
7. Monitor statutory changes and court decisions related to library and system operations and recommend policy changes needed to maintain legal library and/or system operations to the board.
8. Create a long-range plan that addresses the needs of member libraries.
9. Offer each WWLS trustee access to a supported computer or tablet. Provide end user support on the use of this technology to access board information in digital form.
10. Provide current financial and statistical reports for review at each library system board meeting.
11. Ensure that the library system board reviews and approves bills at each library system board meeting, in accordance with applicable laws and policies.
12. Maintain awareness of available grants and other outside funding sources.
13. Apply for and implement grants from LSTA and other grant sources that benefit the system and its member libraries.
14. Maintain required statistics for system planning and reports to WWLS Board and DLT.
15. Provide for staff and trustee participation in appropriate continuing education activities.
16. Adopt a set of personnel policies outlining the conditions and requirements for employment of system staff, which are consistent with state and federal regulations and relevant court decisions. Ensure the library system board reviews personnel policies on a regular schedule, including after any significant change in employment law.
17. Monitor system property, liability and health insurance needs.
18. Provide for independent audit of WWLS' financial statements and file copy with DPI **by June 1**.
19. Participate in SRLAAW and SOMBAW.

20. Maintain and monitor use of reserve funds.
21. Review status/storage of 'old' records in context of the WVLS records retention policy and/or as mandated by applicable legislation.
22. Maintain WVLS inventory of office equipment and supplies.
23. Investigate and implement opportunities for reducing costs/staff time needed for materials handling, resource sharing, technology support and office functions.
24. Pursue opportunities to collaborate with libraries and public library systems to improve services and maximize efficiencies.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2025).

1. Participate in DPI-sponsored Public Library System Redesign initiatives. Share updates with WVLS member libraries and trustees as necessary.
2. ~~Implement data aggregation processes helpful to WVLS staff and member libraries. Continue participation on DPI Data Workgroup, which began in mid-2023, to learn about and collaborate in state-wide data initiatives. Use information from DPI's [March 2023 Data Landscape Report](#) to assess data driven decision making competencies among WVLS member library staff and library stakeholders. NOTE: Covered under CONSULTATION on page 6.~~
3. 2. Develop WVLS Planning Survey and share with member libraries in the first half of 2024 2025.
4. 3. ~~Present draft 2024 WVLS Disaster Plan to the WVLS Board in September. Submit 2025 WVLS Disaster Plan to the WVLS Board of Trustees for approval.~~
5. To mitigate service disruptions, ensure documentation and assigned backups for routine office and service functions.

Indicate new or priority activities relating to this requirement for the plan year (2026).

1. ~~Participate in DPI-sponsored Public Library System Redesign initiatives. Share updates with WVLS member libraries and trustees as necessary.~~
2. ~~Implement data aggregation processes helpful to WVLS staff and member libraries. Continue participation in DPI Data Workgroup, which began in mid-2023, to learn about and collaborate in state-wide data initiatives. Use information from DPI's [March 2023 Data Landscape Report](#) to assess data driven decision making competencies among WVLS member library staff and library stakeholders. NOTE: Covered under CONSULTATION on page 6.~~
3. 1. With LEAN WI partner ILS consortia leadership, explore RFID options at scale and develop pilot or full implementation models for grant supported project proposals.