

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries  
August 14, 2023

## State Library Updates

### New Jersey State Library Update - August 2023

Please take a moment to review [a report](#) on NJSL's August 2023 updates, from State Librarian Jen Nelson.

### Last Call! Building Equity-Based Summer Initiative

BEBS is an IMLS [grant-funded national initiative](#) focused on assisting public library staff in gaining the skills necessary to work with systematically marginalized communities. The State Library is seeking five public libraries to participate in the second year of this three-year initiative. [Click to learn more.](#)

### Upcoming NJSL Webinars Highlighting Available Statewide Services

The New Jersey State Library is offering a number of upcoming webinars for NJ libraries, which will highlight some of the available statewide services. [Click here to register for upcoming webinars.](#)

- Statewide Reference Services Through the Newark Public Library - **Aug. 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**
- HeritageQuest Online Introduction - **Sept. 7, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.**
- Get to Know the Updated Gale Presents: Peterson's Test and Career Prep - **Sept. 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

## NJSL Proposed Library Construction Bond Act Amendments Open for Comment

Designed to remove unnecessary burdens on grantees in planning and executing legislatively approved projects, the New Jersey State Library has proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 15:24-2.5, 2.6, and 4.1. The proposals are available for comment, [click here to view](#). Please forward any written comments by **September 3, 2023** to [inelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:inelson@njstatelib.org) or by U.S. mail.

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## Community Center Digital Connect - A Capital Projects Fund Grant Opportunity

On July 25, 2023, the State Library held a Technical Assistance webinar about this grant opportunity. Slides from the presentation can be found [here](#), and the recording can be viewed [here](#). Additionally, Question & Answer Documentation can be found [here](#).

[Click here](#) to access the grant webpage, where application materials and other resources can be found. **Applications are due September 25.**

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## Save the Date: Disaster Preparedness and Community Resilience Webinar

Part of a series, this webinar on **September 26th** with the Sustainable Libraries Initiative will feature library practitioners who will discuss how they have prepared both libraries and communities for the impacts of climate change. [Click to learn more.](#)

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## ACP Connects NJ

The State Library [officially announced](#) its partnership with the NJ Department of Health, to launch ACP Connects NJ, a program designed to help build awareness and participation in New Jersey for the [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#). There's still time for your library to let us know you're interested in hosting an [ACP Connects NJ](#) event. Contact Andrea Levandowski for information about signing on to be a host site: [alevandowski@njstatelib.org](mailto:alevandowski@njstatelib.org).

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## Save the Date: Northeast Virtual Summit on Resilient Library Facilities

Save the date for the Northeast Summit on Climate Adaptation for Resilient Library Facilities set to take place on **November 8th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The keynote speaker is Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Executive Director of the Mid-Hudson NY Library System, and the full agenda will be released in September when registration opens. [Click to learn more.](#)

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## Save the Date: Experienced Directors Summit

The New Jersey State Library and LibraryLinkNJ are partnering to present the Experienced Directors Summit at Hunterdon County Library on **November 15th, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Registration will open in October. [Click to learn more.](#)

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## News from Around the State

### Assistance Available for Electronically Stolen Benefits

The Department of Human Services Division of Family Development (DFD) has assistance available for electronically stolen benefits for households that participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, and the General Assistance (GA) Program. [Click here for additional details.](#)

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### Helping Adult Learners

The New Jersey Department of Education is offering an opportunity for adult learners to achieve their State-issue high school diploma at more locations, such as public libraries. If you'd like to look into administering GED testing at your library, [click to learn more.](#)

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## National Opportunities

### Updates from the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Attention all public library staff who played an active role in administering 2023 summer library programming! Please fill out the [Collaborative Summer Library Program \(CSLP\) summer reading survey](#) by **September 8th, 2023**. If you're

interested in sharing your thoughts on the suggested summer reading program themes for future years, feel free to attend virtual listening sessions on **August 24th and September 8th**. [Click to learn more and register.](#)

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## Professional Development Opportunities

Check out the upcoming LYRASIS CE opportunities on their [calendar here](#).

[Click here for a monthly national list](#) of NJSL and National CE and Professional Development opportunities for librarians, trustees, and library staffs.

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## Library Marketing Resources

If your library is looking for marketing tips, best practices and inspiration, check out our [Marketing Blog](#) updated monthly. Here's our most recent blog posts:

- [Introducing Instagram Threads](#)
- [Design Tips for Social Media Graphics](#)
- [Busting Social Media Myths](#)
- [How To Be A Better Blogger](#)

Download marketing resources from State Library Vendors & Partners [here](#).

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