

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
March 3, 2025

State Library Updates

NJSL Presents Events - March

Our NJSL Presents Webinars are free and open to anyone interested in attending. Registration is required in advance and all webinars are recorded and posted to our [YouTube page](#) afterward. You can also check out event recaps on our [blog](#)! Here's what we have coming up in March, feel free to share within your communities.

- [5 Money Questions for Women](#) - March 4th @ noon
- [Psychology of Spending](#) - March 12th @ noon
- [Introduction to Finding Grants](#) - March 13th @ noon
- [Know the Bear Facts: The Truth About Bears in New Jersey](#) - March 18th @ noon
- [VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALK – New Jersey Women During World War II](#) - March 25th @ noon

Don't miss this opportunity to apply for a REV 250 Grant!

We are accepting applications for our **REV 250: Examining the Semiquincentennial through a Jersey Lens** grant opportunity. This grant will allow public libraries to design projects that highlight the people, places, and events that shaped our state, with awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$25,000. Grant options will include:

[Click here](#) to review the full guidelines, watch the recording of the informational webinar, and apply.

A [question and answer document](#) was posted on NJSL's website on February 10, 2025, and will be updated once per week through March 17, 2025.

Reframing Library Organizations: Implementing Strategic Foresight Tools to Create Future Ready Library Operating Systems

The CT State Library and partner TFSX are pleased to offer 3-day virtual professional development opportunities for organizational cohorts. **The New Jersey State Library Cohort will take place on August 5-7, 2025.** Through this opportunity, each cohort will train a team of staff members with foresight tools to lead their library. Strategic foresight is a framework that creates multiple future scenarios, envisioning outcomes and evaluating current and pending strategies to support decision-making and action in the present against a suite of possible futures. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Each cohort is closed and ONLY open to individuals within the indicated partnership (i.e. state library, county libraries, consortia, associations, or other library systems). Within the application, select the appropriate partnership session for which you are applying (select the New Jersey State Library Cohort).

[Click here to apply](#). Applications are due July 1st.

News from Around the State

Community Library Adult Literacy Grant Opportunity

The NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development has announced that the Community Library Adult Literacy & Career Pathway Grant Program (CLALCP) is now open and accepting applications. The purpose of CLALCP is to complement existing Adult Literacy Services by providing an additional avenue for adult literacy, including digital literacy and access as well as career pathway training throughout New Jersey public libraries. **A mandatory technical assistance webinar is taking place on March 13th.** [Click here to learn more and apply by March 28th, 2025.](#)

New Jersey Can Use IRS Direct File Program

Please let you patrons know that they can use IRS Direct File for the 2025 Tax Filing Season. The online tax filing tool, which is available to New Jersey residents for the first time, offers live chat support and provides taxpayers with a free, easy and secure way to file their federal and state individual tax returns – it is estimated that more than one million New Jerseyans will be eligible to use Direct File. Read the press release [here](#), and [access IRS Direct File here](#).

Thomas Edison State University Open House

Whether you are ready to earn your master's or doctoral degree, or a graduate certificate, or you want to finish an undergraduate degree at a distance, Thomas Edison State University (TESU) can help make that happen! Please join TESU admissions staff along with their academic deans and recruitment team for an Open House where you can have all your questions answered one-on-one. [Click here to view flyer](#).

An Update from the Office of New Americans, New Jersey Department of Human Services

The Office of New Americans (ONA) has been monitoring the various changes in federal policy to support those who may be impacted. Last month, they launched a [Know Your Rights page](#), which is updated regularly with additional resources and materials to inform the community about their rights from across different sectors. To ensure that public information is language accessible, the Know Your Rights materials are now available in 13 languages and additional languages will be added soon. The information is also available in other languages on the website through the “translate” button at the top of the page.

National Opportunities

Northeast Summit of Climate Adaptation for Library Facilities Upcoming Webinar

Join the Northeast Summit of Climate Adaptation for Library Facilities at their next webinar, "Breaking Bad: Conversations About Climate Change." Taking place virtually **Tuesday, March 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**, this webinar provides strategies for engaging in positive, nonconfrontational, and nonpartisan conversations about climate change, focusing on overcoming misunderstandings and confusion. Prof. Fernandez will also share communication tools developed by

the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative to enhance understanding and empathy. [Register here.](#)

Survey: Rural Library Services for Community Sustainability

This survey on Rural Library Services for Community Sustainability is intended to explore the current rural library services that have been expanding to meet diversifying community needs and their impact on local communities. This project is funded by IMLS, and any rural or small library can participate. The survey should take about 20 minutes to complete. The deadline for survey responses is **March 14, 2025**. To participate, [click here](#).

Professional Development Opportunities

Visit the State Library's [CE Training webpage](#) for a variety of Continuing Education training opportunities for New Jersey librarians, library support staff, and trustees.

[On-Demand Training Portal](#) in the LibraryLinkNJ LearningSpace and a list of [programs](#) currently being offered.

[Professional Development Links](#) and [Webinars and Other Training Events](#) from the NJLA Professional Development Committee.

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

[Click here for a monthly national list](#) CE and Professional Development opportunities.

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:

- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)
- [Inclusive Marketing for Libraries](#)
- [How to Fix a Creative Block in Marketing](#)

Download sharable social media graphics and videos from the [Statewide Digital Marketing Campaign](#).

Also, you can download marketing resources from State Library Vendors & Partners [here](#).

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