

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
July 7, 2025

State Library Updates

Last Chance to Give Your Feedback: Freedom to Read Act Policies

The draft policies and procedures that the State Librarian, in consultation with the New Jersey Library Association developed are available for public review and comment. The documents are posted on the [NJSL website](#), your feedback is requested by **July 31, 2025**.

Please contact Jen Brenner (jbrenner@njstatelib.org) or Jen Nelson (jnelson@njstatelib.org) for further information or assistance.

News from Around the State

LibraryLinkNJ Fall Conference Now Accepting Program Proposals

LibraryLinkNJ invites you to explore the power and value of connection at their Fall 2025 Virtual Conference taking place **Tuesday, September 30th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Do you have something to share about the power of connection in the library world? Whether it's a presentation of your academic research into the value of connection, or an opportunity to share real-life tips for building connections in your library, community, or institution, consider submitting a program proposal. [Click here to fill out and submit the call for proposals form](#) no later than **Friday, July 18th** to be considered!

Rutgers Graduate Certificate in Maker Education

Offered by Rutgers Center for Mathematics, Science, and Computer Education in partnership with the Rutgers Graduate School of Education, this state-approved certificate program is designed to enable educators to create and run a makerspace, become proficient in maker-based projects, and explore maker-centered pedagogy for STEM-rich learning. This is a perfect opportunity for educators, librarians, media specialists, and those interested in STEM or STEAM. [Click here to learn more and apply](#) by **August 12th, 2025**.

National Opportunities

Digital Literacy Resources from PLA

Have you heard about [DigitalLearn.org](#), the digital literacy portfolio currently being offered by the Public Library Association? These online courses—available in both English and Spanish—are freely available to everyone and teach basic skills such as: getting started with email, navigating websites and commonly used apps, operating search engines, mastering cybersecurity, and more. Through a partnership with AT&T, PLA has been able to add and update courses, improve training materials, and include Spanish translations.

In addition to the video modules, libraries also have access to a range of [off-the-shelf training materials](#). Facilitator guides, scripts, presentation decks, and learner handouts are available to make it easy for libraries to conduct digital literacy workshops in both English and Spanish.

NJSL Presents Events

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 July, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Murder, Disaster, and Scandal in New Jersey](#) - July 8th @ noon
- [What Do You Want to Be when You Grow Up? Preparing for your Last Career and Active Retirement](#) - July 17th @ noon
- [Understanding Credit](#) - July 22nd @ noon
- [Introduction to Finding Grants](#) - July 24th @ noon
- [The Aging Eye](#) - July 30th @ noon

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](#) of 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:

- [Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App](#)
- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)
- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)

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](#).

Connecting people with information through libraries.

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)

