

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

October 27, 2025

State Library Updates

LCBA Feature: Maplewood Memorial Library

The latest New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act spotlight features the newly reimagined Maplewood Memorial Library. [Read about the major renovation and expansion](#) for the first LEED Gold-certified library in New Jersey. This project was supported in part by funds from the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, administered by the New Jersey State Library.

Teaching Information Literacy Webinar Series

Register now for the final two sessions of the five-part *Pillars of Information Literacy in New Jersey* webinar series.

Session 4: [Information Creation and Distribution](#) - Oct. 29th, 4 pm - 5:30 pm

Session 5: [AI](#) - Dec. 2nd, 3 pm - 4:30 pm

If you missed any of the first three sessions, the recordings are available on [the NJSL website](#).

Information Literacy Training Modules

LibraryLinkNJ, in partnership with the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Department of Education, has released the first three modules of a five-part learning series, *Information Literacy: A Guide for New Jersey Communities*. These modules are part of New Jersey's statewide initiative to integrate information literacy into K–12 education, and are designed to enable educators, families, and community leaders to work together in building strong information literacy skills. [Learn more about this initiative and get started with the](#)

[modules.](#)

Updates for the Freedom to Read Act - Last Info Session on October 30th

The model policies and forms, plus a compliance document, for the Freedom to Read Act are now posted on the [NJSL website](#). The final information session will be held on **Oct. 30th, at 4 pm**; [registration is required](#). Please contact Jen Nelson (jnelson@njstatelib.org) with any questions.

The Secret to Social Media Hooks

Stop the scroll! Want to grab your audience's attention in just 8 seconds (or less)? Our latest marketing blog reveals the secret to crafting social media hooks that stop thumbs mid-scroll and make your message stick. [Click to read](#).

News From Around the State

NJLA/NJASL 2026 Conference Proposals

[Program submissions](#) for the joint NJLA/NJASL 2026 Conference are open! Proposals will be accepted until end of day on December 7th. No extensions. Please reach out to the Conference chairs at conference@njla.org with any questions.

LibraryLinkNJ Fall 2025 Virtual Conference - Recordings Available

Recordings and materials from the LibraryLinkNJ Fall 2025 Virtual Conference are now available to view on [LibraryLinkNJ's Learning Space](#). Recordings are free to watch, and attached to each recording, you'll find any available slides, handouts, or supplemental materials.

Important Update for NJ SNAP Food Assistance Benefits

New Jersey was notified by the federal government that if the shutdown continues, November 2025 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may not be available on time.

It is unclear if SNAP benefits loaded on Families First EBT cards prior to October 31, 2025, will be able to be used after November 1, 2025.

Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) benefits should be available on time.

For updates, visit www.NJSNAP.gov or follow NJ Human Services on social media. Feel free to share the following flyers with your patrons.

- [English Flyer](#)
 - [Spanish Flyer](#)
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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, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Financial Aid Information Session](#) - October 29th @ noon
 - [Virtual Author Talk – On the Turtle’s Back: Stories the Lenape Told Their Grandchildren](#) - November 5th @ noon
 - [Introduction to Finding Grants](#) - November 6th @ noon
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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 training 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:

- [Refresh Your Library's Approach to Email Marketing](#)
- [How to Create Better Hyperlinks for Accessibility](#)
- [Spotify Playlists for Library Programs](#)
- [Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App](#)
- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)

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

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

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