

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

September 15, 2025

## State Library Updates

### Information Literacy Training Modules

LibraryLinkNJ, in partnership with the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Department of Education, has released the first two modules of a new five-part learning series, *Information Literacy: A Guide for New Jersey Communities*. These on-demand learning modules are part of the IMLS-funded [Teaching Information Literacy initiative](#) spearheaded by the New Jersey State Library. Whether you are a librarian, educator, parent, or community leader, these free resources will help you communicate effectively with learners of all ages about this essential skill. The courses are free to access and do not require a login.

[Learn more about this initiative.](#)

[Get started with the modules.](#)

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### Research Ready: Resources for Supporting Teens

The NJ State Library is sponsoring a five-part series of one-hour virtual sessions to equip librarians with the essential tools and strategies to support teens' skills in conducting academic research. The series will be facilitated by Christine Jansen, Research and Instruction Librarian at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and moderated by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library.

[Learn more about the sessions and register for each one.](#)

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### Statewide Contract Changes to Zoom

The New Jersey State Library has migrated all accounts provided through our statewide contract from Zoom Workplace Enterprise Plus to [Zoom Business Meetings](#) Licenses. The most significant change to this contract is the elimination

of the Webinars add-on. Zoom Business licenses will allow organizers to schedule meetings of unlimited length, for up to 300 attendees. Users who currently have Webinars scheduled for September 2025 and later should follow [these instructions](#) to convert their Webinars to Meetings. Users can [review the full list of differences between Meetings and Webinars here](#).

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## The Four Pillars of Information Literacy in New Jersey - \*Dates have been updated\*

Join Jen Nelson, Linda Braun, and Ang Coxen, for a 4-part series of workshops designed to familiarize you with the core principles driving New Jersey's emerging K-12 information literacy student learning standards. [Sign up for one or all sessions](#).

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## Pilot Program: Information Literacy Learning Activities

The New Jersey State Library is looking for school library media specialists and/or classroom teachers interested in piloting the developing set of Learning Activities focused on Teaching Information Literacy in New Jersey. Individuals who attended the first or second series of [Pillars of Information Literacy workshops](#) will receive preference in selection. For more information about becoming a pilot participant, please [complete an online form](#). An informational webinar about the Pilot will be held on **September 17th at 3:30 pm**. Registration is not required. [Access the Microsoft Teams link here](#). Please contact Jen Nelson ([jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org)) for additional information.

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## Updates for the Freedom to Read Act

The model policies and forms, plus a compliance document, for the Freedom to Read Act are now posted on the [NJSL website](#). Information sessions on implementing the model policies will be held in October 2025; registration is not required. [Find the session dates on the website](#). Please contact Jen Nelson ([jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org)) with any questions.

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## Proposed Changes to N.J.A.C. 15:21 State Library Aid and Grants and 15:22 Library Network Services

The [proposed changes are available for public comment](#) and were published in the August 4, 2025, NJ Register. Comments may be submitted to Jen Nelson, [jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org) through **October 3, 2025**.

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# News from Around the State

## Capital Health Fall Schedule of Events

Capital Health believes good health is a community effort, and they want libraries to be part of it. Through their free, year-round lectures, they provide health information straight from medical professionals and specialists. Please share their upcoming fall programs with your patrons. [Access PDF of all Fall Programs](#). Class sizes are limited, so early registration is encouraged. Participants can register online at [capitalhealth.org/events](http://capitalhealth.org/events) or call 609-394-4153.

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## National Opportunities

### Increased Public Library Usage Shown by IMLS Survey Data

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released the latest data from its Public Libraries Survey (PLS). Since 1988, the PLS has provided an annual national census of America's public libraries. This year's data make clear that public libraries remain one of the most trusted and utilized institutions in American life. [Explore the FY23 PLS data files and benchmarking tables](#)

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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 in September, feel free to share within your communities.

- [New Rules for Fall Garden Cleanup](#) - September 17th @ noon
  - [Protecting Your Personal Information in Today's Digital World](#) - September 24th @ noon
  - [A Century of Cuban Music in New Jersey Online](#) - September 29th @ 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.

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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:

- [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](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)

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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