



**State Library of Kansas
Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)
Five-Year State Plan
2023-2027**

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Introduction..... | 3 |
| Mission Statement..... | 6 |
| Needs Assessment..... | 6 |
| Goals for 2023-2027 | 7 |
| Goal 1: Lifelong Learning..... | 9 |
| Goal 2: Information Access | 11 |
| Goal 3: Institutional Capacity | 13 |
| Coordination Efforts..... | 14 |
| Evaluation Plan..... | 15 |
| Stakeholder Involvement..... | 15 |
| Communication and Public Availability..... | 16 |
| Monitoring..... | 16 |
| Assurances..... | 16 |
| Appendix..... | 17 |

Introduction

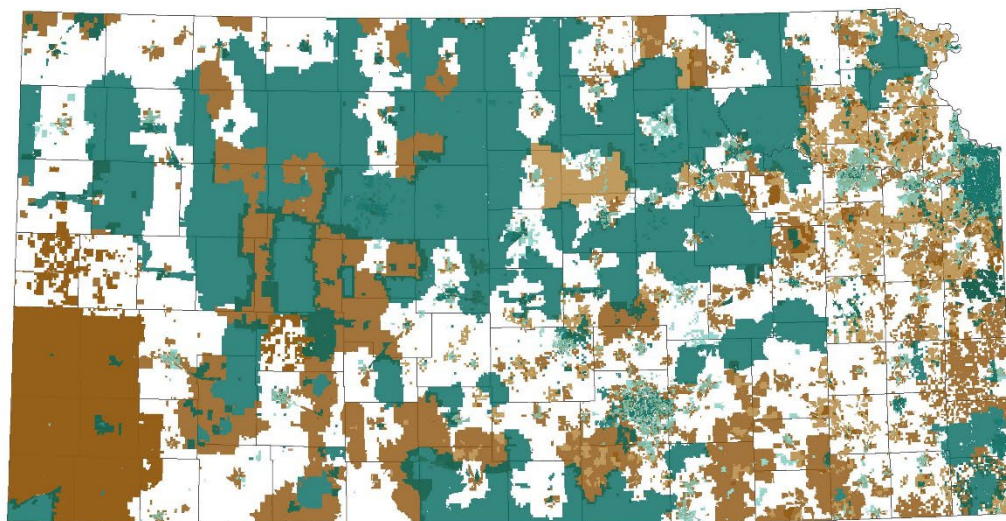
The State Library of Kansas (SLK) is the State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) designated to receive and manage the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funds for library programs and projects in the State of Kansas.

This document presents the LSTA Five-Year State Plan for Kansas that will be implemented during the 2023-2027 period (October 1, 2022—September 30, 2028).

The Kansas library community consists of a variety of different types of libraries, many of which collaborate and share resources to better serve their constituents, the residents of Kansas. SLK focuses LSTA funding on providing statewide services to all Kansas residents, regardless of location or type of library the patron uses. Most of these services are available to residents online, without the need to physically visit a library. This allows the user to access information and services anytime, anywhere.

Kansas is a mostly rural state with a population of just under 3 million. Kansas is 411 miles long and 208 miles wide, making it the 14th largest state in the country. Aside from school, academic, and special libraries, there are nearly 330 public libraries in the state serving over 2.5 million Kansans. 90% of public libraries serve a population of less than 10,000 and only 15 libraries serve populations greater than 25,000.

Broadband Availability in Kansas, 2020

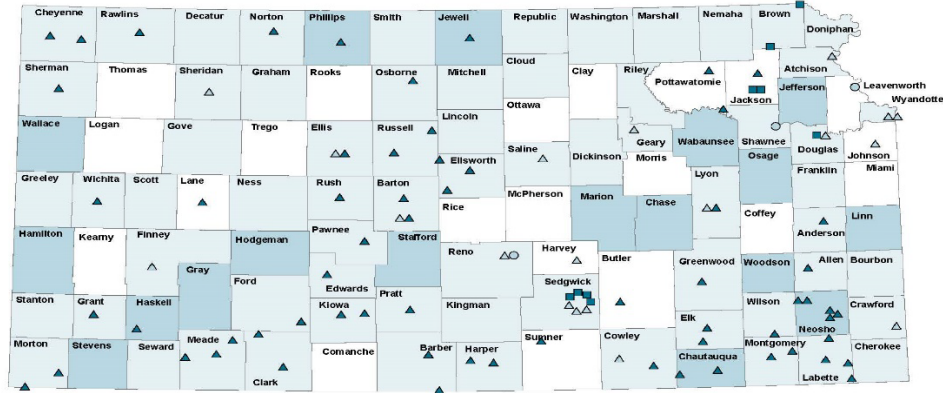


Source: Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas;
data from Federal Communications Commission (June 2020 V1).

Technology Type

- Optical Carrier/Fiber
- Cable Modem
- Asymmetric xDSL, ADSL2, ADSL2+
- VDSL
- Symmetric xDSL
- Other Copper Wire

Federally Designated Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) in Kansas, 2021



Source: Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas; data from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

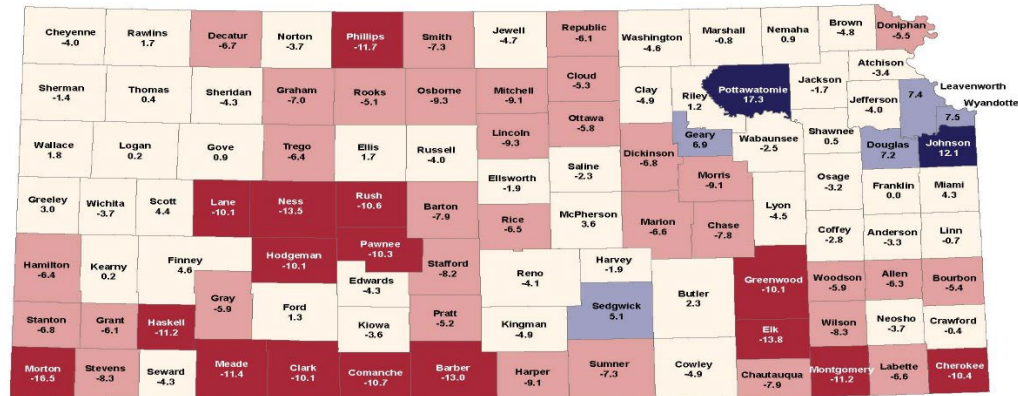
HPSA Counties

- Whole County Designation
- Low-Income Population Designation
- Not Eligible for Designation

HPSA Facilities

- Correctional Facility
- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Rural Health Clinic
- Indian Health Service, Tribal Health, and Urban Indian Health Organizations

Percent Population Change in Kansas, by County 2010 - 2020



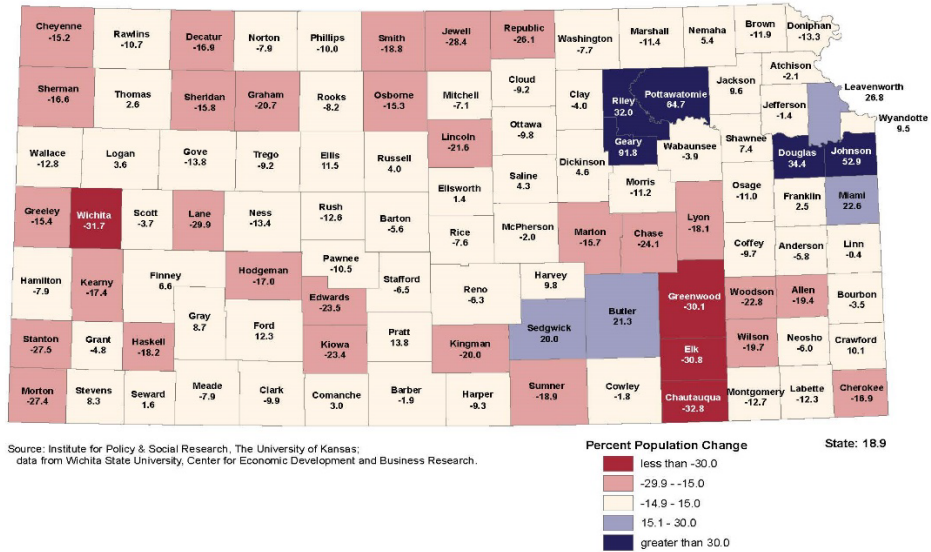
Source: Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas; data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Percent Population Change

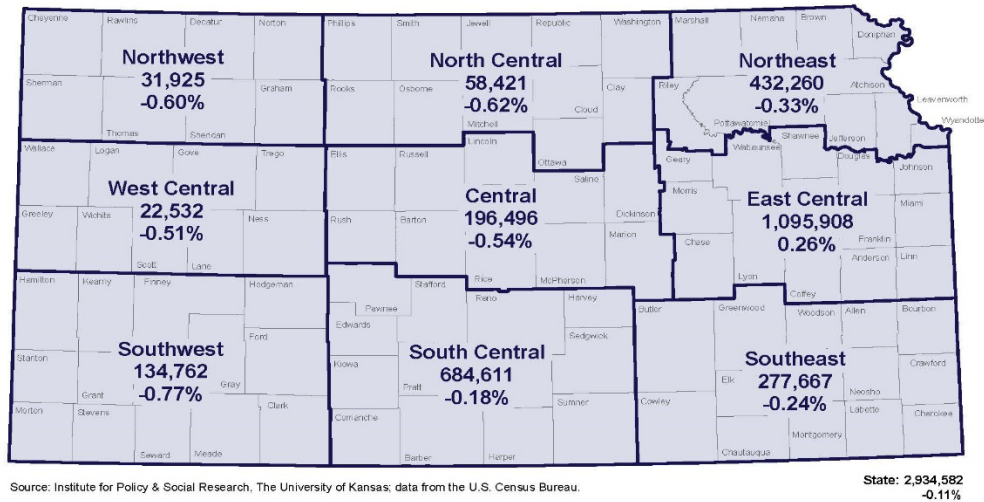
- less than -10.0
- 10.0 - -5.0
- 4.9 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- greater than 10.0

State: 3.0

**Projected Percent Population Change in Kansas, by County
2015 - 2045**



**Population of Kansas by Region, July 1, 2021
and Percent Change, 2020-2021**



There are seven Regional Library Systems which were established in Kansas in 1965 to help local libraries provide library services to all residents of the state. With joint planning and financing of library services, the systems improve existing library service and utilize what federal funding becomes available. Originally the systems only served public libraries, but over time their roles have expanded to include school, academic and special libraries. Each system adapts its service to the needs of the libraries it serves, therefore there are services offered in one area that are not offered in another. However, they come together to work with the State Library to develop goals and determine plans for improving library service throughout the state.

SLK submits this Five-Year Plan with the assumption that the state will receive approximately \$1,900,000 annually. Throughout the Five-Year Plan, the State Library will engage in continual evaluation with input from stakeholders to ensure LSTA funds are used effectively for the projects of most benefit to the Kansas library community. Any increase or decrease to LSTA funding may require adjustments to the breadth of some objectives and the timing of the delivery of some products and services. Any necessary actions will involve the appropriate groups of stakeholders.

Mission Statement

The mission of the State Library of Kansas is:

To deliver the highest level of library service to all Kansas residents through direct and indirect services.

Agency Philosophy:

The State Library of Kansas believes in full and equitable access to library information for all Kansans by:

- *Providing statewide services whenever economically feasible and efficient,*
- *Assisting librarians to meet unique needs of their community members, and*
- *Providing excellent service to our users. State Library services are delivered with respect, fairness and confidentiality and employees are committed to developing partnerships which will benefit all Kansans and will enhance the quality of life for Kansas residents.*

Needs Assessment

The process used to develop the 2023-2027 LSTA Five-Year State Plan gathered data from several sources and synthesized the data into common needs that emerged across data sources. The primary data sources used to determine Kansas library user needs include:

- A close review of the Evaluation of the 2018-2022 LSTA State Plan by The Docking Institute of Public Affairs.
- Input from the six regional focus groups of representatives of library stakeholders that met in December of 2021, specifically to discuss use of LSTA funds across the state during 2018-2022.
- Review of the Regional Plans submitted to the SLK Board, in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-2552, to determine shared goals of the regional library systems and the State Library.

In addition to the most recent five-year evaluation, and the formally organized activities to gather complementary data and advisory input, various State Library programs generated data as part of their regular day-to-day operations. In managing those programs, State Library staff often received feedback

or input from libraries on the status and implementation of those projects. State Library personnel then reviewed data from all sources and identified the common needs that align with the IMLS goals.

The demand continues for access to information products in a variety of formats and media that meet the needs of Kansas residents. Statewide resources, such as licensed databases, downloadable audiobooks and ebooks and other electronic products, remain important services of the State Library as Kansas residents recognize and utilize this one-stop information service. Sharing of resources throughout the state is an essential means of providing library services for Kansans. Utilizing the Kansas Library Catalog, librarians can quickly locate and share books and other material across the state.

The State Library also identified a need for an ongoing statewide awareness campaign to increase knowledge about and use of LSTA-supported statewide initiatives supporting services for learning and access to content. Marketing the services and programs of the state library to both librarians and residents alike is a high-level need. The development of more marketing materials to promote statewide services was a repeated request noted in our most recent evaluation. The need for ongoing, purposeful training to enable librarians to be aware and proficient in both promotion and use of the extensive amount of statewide information products is essential. Training librarians alongside end users is an opportunity for a more efficient use of resources.

The needs identified and incorporated into this plan have been prioritized and ordered to match the Kansas library community areas of need.

Goals

The State Library of Kansas's Five-Year Plan was developed to address the purposes and priorities of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Those are:

Purpose of LSTA (20 U.S.C. § 9121)

1. Enhance coordination among Federal programs that relate to library, education, and information services;
2. Promote continuous improvement in library services in all types of libraries in order to better serve the people of the United States;
3. Facilitate access to resources in all types of libraries for the purpose of cultivating an educated and informed citizenry;
4. Encourage resource sharing among all types of libraries for the purpose of achieving economical and efficient delivery of library services to the public;
5. Promote literacy, education, and lifelong learning, including by building learning partnerships with school libraries in our Nation's schools, including tribal schools, and developing resources, capabilities, and programs in support of State, tribal, and local efforts to offer a well-rounded educational experience to all students;
6. Enable libraries to develop services that meet the needs of communities throughout the Nation, including people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, individuals with disabilities, residents of rural and urban areas, Native Americans, military families, veterans, and caregivers;
7. Enable libraries to serve as anchor institutions to support community revitalization through enhancing and expanding the services and resources provided by libraries, including those services and resources relating to workforce development, economic and business

- development, critical thinking skills, health information, digital literacy skills, financial literacy and other types of literacy skills, and new and emerging technology;
8. Enhance the skills of the current library workforce and recruit future professionals, including those from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, to the field of library and information services;
 9. Ensure the preservation of knowledge and library collections in all formats and enable libraries to serve their communities during disasters;
 10. Enhance the role of libraries within the information infrastructure of the United States in order to support research, education, and innovation;
 11. Promote library services that provide users with access to information through national, State, local, regional, and international collaborations and networks; and
 12. Encourage, support, and disseminate model programs of library and museum collaboration.

Grants to States (20 U.S.C. § 9141)

1. Expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats (including new and emerging technology), in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such individuals' needs for education, lifelong learning, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy and other types of literacy skills;
2. Establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries and entities, as described in 20 U.S.C. § 9134(b)(6), for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services;
3. (A) Provide training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, and advance the delivery of library and information services; and (B) Enhance efforts to recruit future professionals, including those from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, to the field of library and information services;
4. Develop public and private partnerships with other agencies, tribes, and community-based organizations;
5. Target library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills;
6. Target library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 9902(2) of title 42) applicable to a family of the size involved;
7. Develop library services that provide all users access to information through local, State, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks; and
8. Carry out other activities consistent with the purposes set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 9121, as described in the State library administrative agency's plan.

To address these objectives and meet the needs of Kansas libraries, the following three goals are selected as the focus of the Five-Year Plan for the state:

Goal No. 1: Lifelong Learning

The State Library will continue as the leadership agency that designs, facilitates, and supports efficiencies, cooperative projects, and information products to ensure robust resources and access for all state residents.

Goal No. 2: Information Access

The State Library will continue providing a comprehensive statewide resource sharing environment to ensure that all state residents have access to information resources to assist them in their personal, educational, and professional growth.

Goal No. 3: Institutional Capacity

The State Library will assist librarians across the state in providing technologically advanced and high-quality library services.

Goal No. 1: Lifelong Learning

The State Library will continue as the leadership agency that designs, facilitates, and supports efficiencies, cooperative projects, and information products to ensure robust resources and access for all state residents.

Kansas residents need access to information and services that reaches all Kansas residents, especially those in rural communities. Rural areas and very small libraries need online access to a variety of resources and information that may be readily available from non-library sources, e.g., health information is available to individuals in the Kansas City area from a wide variety of medical providers but a resident in Colby, KS may not have such access.

The State Library of Kansas has successfully introduced numerous initiatives that connect library users with library resources for access in the library, from home, at school and in the workplace.

Project 1 of 2: Statewide Databases

As it relates to the statewide databases this goal is designed to meet the information and research needs of elementary, middle school, high school, and college students; assist public libraries to meet the information needs of lifelong learners; and provide reference information to professional librarians in all types of libraries across the state.

The Statewide Services Division of the State Library will continue to work to provide authenticated access to Kansas residents with the least number of barriers possible. The division will also handle vendor pricing and contract negotiations, facilitate training to librarians, and analyze usage data to ensure the needs of Kansas residents are being met.

SLK will monitor trends in discovery services and assess feasibility for implementation in Kansas to increase access to library resources. Discovery services will be implemented if fiscally and technically feasible; pilot projects may be supported to test feasibility in certain environments.

The knowledge and expertise of librarians and information professionals in the state will be sought to plan for, introduce, improve, and distribute information products and related technologies, and make them accessible for use by residents and library staff.

Outcome:

Kansas residents will have a variety of databases and digital resources available for educational, professional, and personal development that meets many of their information inquiries.

Timeline:

State Library will continue to manage the periodic review and licensing of statewide databases to ensure that those selected meet the needs of residents and library employees. Under the coordination of the Director of Statewide Services at the State Library, database continuing education opportunities will be offered as warranted throughout the Five-Year Plan.

Project 2 of 2: Statewide Literacy Projects

The State Library is committed to promoting literacy, lifelong learning, and access to library materials throughout the state. On-going support for a Statewide Summer Reading Program, part of the national Collaborative Summer Reading Program, provides funding for public library staff training statewide, and the purchase of materials and supplies to implement the programming. This enables local libraries to offer events throughout the summer months for Kansas residents of all ages. The State Library works with the Regional Library System Kansas Library Consultants Youth Group (KLCY) for the implementation of the statewide Summer Reading Program. Only through partnerships can the Summer Reading initiative continue to be a success in both our urban and rural areas. The assistance provided for this grant is sometimes the difference between no summer reading in an outlying rural library and a viable and enriching program for Kansas residents of all ages.

Additional statewide literacy projects include Kansas Reads to Preschoolers and the Kansas Notable Book Award. SLK may provide and/or continue to provide subgrants or other assistance for projects that improve literacy skills to meet user needs in their communities. Other additional literacy projects will be dependent on available resources and funding.

Outcome:

Kansas residents will benefit from quality learning opportunities and the critical role libraries play in the success of education.

Timeline:

Support for the Statewide Summer Reading program has been on-going for many years and is expected to continue annually.

Goal No. 2: Information Access

The State Library will continue providing a comprehensive statewide resource sharing environment to ensure that all state residents have access to information resources to assist them in their personal, educational, and professional growth.

Access to resources in a variety of formats is important for personal independence and enjoyment and awareness of government information. Through our State Library Division of Talking Books, eligible blind and physically disabled Kansas residents have access to books, materials, and information in accessible formats. Access to these outreach services helps develop independent and informed residents. These residents are then better able to participate in society and become more aware of current issues and news.

As state government agencies issue fewer paper documents, the State Library will strive to acquire born-digital state documents and create digital versions of documents in print form. The State Library collects and catalogs print, as well as electronic publications of the state government of Kansas to secure and provide access to the significant records of the work of state government, now and in the future. The intent is to preserve long-term access to the publications and information of state government. The State Library will continue to create, maintain, expand, and promote the Kansas Government Information (KGI) Online Library, an online collection of state government publications.

Libraries are committed to making reading material available in a variety of formats, including downloadable ebooks and audiobooks, to all members of the community. The State Library is committed to ensuring equity of access for all Kansas residents at no cost. This has a positive effect on the Kansas economy because individuals who borrow reading material from their libraries have more disposable income.

Project 1 of 4: Talking Books

Through our State Library Division of Talking Books, eligible Kansas residents who are blind, physically disabled, and/or print disabled have access to books, materials, and information in accessible formats. Patrons and state agencies can also be provided Braille copies of documents. Locally produced audiobooks focus on Kansas titles including most of the Kansas Notable Books and Kansas Reads to Preschooler titles.

Outcome:

Knowledge of and use of Talking Books enriches lives and help Kansas residents achieve personal independence. SLK will offer library services to those unable to read or use standard printed materials because of temporary or permanent blindness, visual impairment, physical impairment, or reading disability.

Timeline:

Talking Books is a major on-going project for the State Library of Kansas.

Project 2 of 4: Statewide Resource Sharing

The State Library will continue to identify Kansas library collections that are not represented in the Kansas Library Catalog and make librarians aware of the value of inclusion and/or aware of the value of being represented in the catalog via Z39.50.

By identifying library catalogs that support the Z39.50 communication standard, patrons can perform real-time searching and see a display of item availability.

Outcome:

Kansas libraries will continue to locate, request, and share resources using management software for discovery and resource-sharing among libraries with automation systems, operating on a strong statewide technology infrastructure.

Timeline:

The Kansas Library Catalog is a major on-going project for the State Library of Kansas.

Project 3 of 4: Kansas Government Information Online Library

The library will capture born-digital state documents to provide long-term access. These documents are added to the Kansas Government Information (KGI) Online Library (a web-based collection) which makes documents secure as well as findable. Library staff performs original cataloging on these unique items, providing Kansans and others outside of Kansas with access to these rich resources. Delicate and fragile documents are being added to this online collection, providing digital access to older documents that ensures their usage does not damage them and increases their discoverability. The State Library will catalog print and electronic state documents into an international shared, library catalog, and the State Library's local catalog. Metadata for the Kansas Government Information Online Library collection will continue to be created in a manner that follows best practices.

Outcome:

The public will have long-term access to historic and fragile Kansas documents when items are digitized and cataloged in the KGI Online Library.

Timeline:

Monitor trends in content and its accessibility, encouraging the implementation of and training in new or improved resources, services, and best practices to support services for learning and access to content when fiscally and technologically prudent.

Project 4 of 4: Digital Collection

The State Library will continue to provide statewide access to a variety of downloadable services and training in use of the resources. Because the Kansas Library eCard is a necessary component providing access to the statewide downloadable collections, a continued focused awareness campaign and training opportunities for librarians will be provided so they may understand this. SLK will continually scan the environment for potential new vendors and/or explore future changes to individual vendors and add services that provide more access to content for Kansas residents if fiscally possible.

Outcome:

Kansas residents will have access to relevant, useful, and technologically stable downloadable services which provide ebooks and audiobooks for both personal and educational use.

Timeline:

Monitor trends in content and accessibility, encouraging the implementation of and training in new or improved resources, services, and best practices to support services for learning and access to content when fiscally and technologically prudent.

Goal No. 3: Institutional Capacity

The State Library will assist librarians across the state in providing technologically advanced and high-quality library services.

Assisting libraries to build capacity in their own libraries is important to the State Library. The Kansas Library Catalog (KLC) helps librarians and Kansas residents to access information through electronic networks and encourages resource sharing among libraries of all types. The KLC is the statewide online catalog administered by Statewide Services staff of the State Library of Kansas. Interlibrary borrowing is an important service in Kansas libraries. Data shows an increase in returnable interlibrary loan transactions and ILL transactions are expected to continue to see strong demand in fulfilling patrons' information needs. The KLC is a major component to interlibrary loan transactions.

Children who do not read during summer break often return to school in the fall reading at a lower grade level than when they left for summer break. This is often referred to as the "Summer Slide." By financially supporting the Summer Reading Program, the State Library of Kansas helps alleviate this negative phenomenon.

A strong and effective program of continuing education of librarians includes a steady supply of timely, relevant offerings as well as access to online training opportunities which can be used at a time and location convenient to Kansas library employees. Kansas librarians should know that they work in an environment where learning never stops. It is important for the State Library to identify and deliver training opportunities which provide professional support that assist librarians, staff, trustees, and others in effectively improving services, understanding technologies, and developing policies.

Collecting statistics and data regarding the resources, programs, services, and public library usage is important to tell each library's story regarding the impact made in the community. Annually, each Kansas Public Library completes an annual statistical survey. This data collected is useful to researchers, journalists, the public, and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels.

Project 1 of 2: Continuing Education

The State Library provides training to librarians of all types, primarily in the online environment, regarding all aspects of the statewide services offered. In addition to trainings, staff will prepare and disseminate documentation and other tools that increase the knowledge of offerings for all Kansas

residents. Access to updated professional development resources is important but also costly. The State Library maintains a curated collection which is available statewide for the benefit of all librarians.

Outcome:

Library employees in the state will report increases in their levels of knowledge, skills, and abilities regarding statewide services.

Timeline:

Training and other professional resources provided to Kansas librarians is an on-going project for the State Library of Kansas and will continue.

Project 2 of 2: Public Library Statistics

The State Library will generate and distribute an online survey allowing for libraries to report local spending and other statistical information. Data includes information about library visits, circulation, size of collections, public service hours, staffing, electronic resources, operating revenues and expenditures and number of service outlets.

Outcome:

Data collected statewide for Kansas public libraries allows for its usage by federal, state, and local officials, professional associations, and local practitioners for planning, evaluation, and policy making.

Timeline:

Statewide data compiled annually becomes part of the Institute of Museum and Library Services Public Library Survey.

Coordination Efforts

The State Library of Kansas may coordinate with other state agencies and outside organizations to enhance resources, programs, and activities, and will leverage state and other sources of funding to enhance the federal investment made through LSTA funds but do not replace any federal or state investment in elementary and secondary education.

The State Library will continue to participate in efforts for continuing education training at the State level through partnerships with the seven Regional Library Systems in Kansas. SLK will also facilitate no-travel online training capabilities by providing access to and use of online web conferencing software to further reduce the travel costs and time requirements of continuing education.

The State Library of Kansas participates in the Kansas Statewide Training Action Team (STAT) through quarterly meetings and other means to ensure all state agency trainers are aware of offerings and pass on that knowledge to state employees. The Kansas Department of Administration provides a listing of training opportunities available to state employees. Featured on-demand, no cost trainings are the State Library of Kansas offerings available through the statewide subscriptions to LearningExpress Library/Job and Career Accelerator and Universal Class. Self-paced course and software tutorials are highlighted.

To expand the collection of state government agency materials within the Kansas Government Information Online Library, the State Library of Kansas will continue to collaborate with the Kansas State

Historical Society to identify and obtain documents not existing in the SLK collection. Scanned state government publications are added to the searchable online collection and access provided to all.

State Library of Kansas Crosswalk

| IMLS Focal Area | State Goal | IMLS Intent | Project |
|--|--|---|--|
| GOAL 1: LIFELONG LEARNING | The State Library will continue as the leadership agency that designs, facilitates and supports efficiencies, cooperative projects and information products to ensure robust resources and access for all state residents | Improve users' general knowledge and skills | Statewide Databases |
| | | Improve users' formal education | Statewide Literacy Projects |
| GOAL TWO: INFORMATION ACCESS | The State Library will continue providing a comprehensive statewide resource sharing environment to ensure that all state residents have equitable access to information resources to assist them in their personal, educational and professional growth | Improve users' ability to obtain and/or use information resources | Talking Books |
| | | Improve users' ability to discover information resources | Statewide Resource Sharing |
| | | Improve users' ability to discover information resources | Kansas Government Information Online Library |
| | | Improve users' ability to obtain and/or use information resources | Digital Collection |
| GOAL THREE: INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY | The State Library will assist librarians across the state in providing technologically advanced and high quality library services | Improve the Library's Workforce | Continuing Education |
| | | Improve Library Operations | Public Library Statistics |

Evaluation Plan

The following methods will be used to monitor progress toward meeting plan goals:

1. All statewide and local projects funded through LSTA will include an evaluation plan that will be used to evaluate the success of projects established in the State Plan. Projects that include components of public and library staff instruction; content creation, preservation, description, or lending; and planning and evaluation will be evaluated using outcomes-based assessment questions built into the State Program Report.
2. Statewide Services staff will review the overall effectiveness and impact of LSTA-funded programs in addressing the goals at the conclusion of every grant cycle.
3. The State Librarian, LSTA Coordinator and Statewide Services staff will monitor the need for an amendment to this five-year plan based on the library environment, change in funding, and other concerns that may affect plan implementation.
4. The evaluation of the full five-year plan will be conducted by an independent evaluator and will encompass retrospective assessments, process assessments and prospective analysis or other areas as identified by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Stakeholder Involvement

The State Library contracted with The Docking Institute of Public Affairs, Fort Hays State University, to produce the LSTA Five-Year Evaluation Report for 2018-2022. This document served as the basis for the LSTA Five-Year State Plan 2023-2027, the present document.

Through analysis of feedback received during the evaluation process, the State Library then developed the draft of the Five-Year State Plan for Kansas. The State Library will ensure the execution of the Five-Year State Plan is coordinated with the strategic planning, priorities, and collaborative plan of the State Library and the regional systems. The State Library welcomes library users to comment on the LSTA program and individual projects as outlined in the goals and activities previously mentioned in this Plan. Various committees and task forces may plan and evaluate specific LSTA projects or initiatives. Proposal review teams will also call upon professionals in the field, outside experts, and representatives of the public as appropriate to review all or parts of the LSTA program.

Based on a variety of circumstances it may be necessary to make significant changes to the State Plan in the coming years. These proposed changes will be submitted to the IMLS and appropriate stakeholders.

Communication and Public Availability

When notification from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) of the approval of the Kansas State Plan is received, the plan will be published on the SLK website. An email notifying Kansas libraries of its availability on the website will be sent. The goals and action steps of the plan will be highlighted at the Kansas Library Association conference held in October 2022, and other meetings during that time.

The 2018-2022 LSTA Evaluation Report will be posted on the SLK website to document progress in meeting plan goals.

Monitoring

Identified State Library of Kansas staff will be responsible for continuously tracking and evaluating implementation and maintenance of the Five-Year State Plan and produce reports that coincide with the preparation of the annual State Program Report (SPR) to IMLS. This will include collecting required financial reports, narrative reports, onsite monitoring for programs and the collection of necessary feedback as it relates to Project Outcomes required by IMLS for certain activities and beneficiaries.

Assurances

The following are the required certifications and assurances and are attached in the following appendix:

1. Five-Year Plan Assurances
2. Assurances of Non-Construction Programs
3. State Legal Officer's Certification of Authorized Certifying Official
4. Internet Safety Certification