



# STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

## DES MOINES OFFICE

1112 E. GRAND AVENUE

DES MOINES, IA 50319

800.248.4483 OR 515.281.4105

## Public Library Definition

---

### DEFINITION, SERVICE and FUNDING ELIGIBILITY:

1. For the State Library's purposes, a "public library" is defined as an entity which meets all of the following criteria:
  - a. It is a city library established by municipal ordinance per Iowa Code section 392.1 and amended according to Iowa Code Section 392.5 (3).  
  
or it is a county or district library established per Iowa Code chapter 336.
    - i) A city library's ordinance shall be on file with the State Library.
    - ii) A county or district library's abstract of votes from the county auditor's office shall be on file with the State Library.
  - b. It shall be operated and maintained, in whole or in part, with local financial support derived from taxation per Iowa Code section 256.69.
  - c. It shall have an organized collection of print or digital resources, or a combination of such resources, suitable to persons of all ages and accessible to the public.
  - d. It shall have paid staff to provide and interpret such resources as required to meet the informational, cultural, recreational, and/or educational needs of the public.
  - e. It shall have regularly-scheduled hours during which it is open to the public.
  - f. It shall have the facilities necessary to support such a collection, staff, and schedule. The library may provide services through a single public outlet or through any combination of outlets.
2. Public libraries in Iowa meeting the criteria in section 1 are eligible to receive consulting and participate in programs of the State Library.
3. To be eligible to receive funding from the State Library, public libraries in Iowa must participate in the State Library's Enrich Iowa Program (Direct State Aid, Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement, and Open Access).