



State Library Aid Budget Request : \$123.1M

- New York State Education Law contemplates State Library Aid of \$102.6M for FY 2020-2021.
- State Library Aid in the FY2020-21 enacted budget was \$94.1M. An additional 20% has been withheld due to the ongoing pandemic.
- The Governor proposed cutting Library Aid an additional 7.5% in his Executive Budget.
- More than \$125M in statutory State Library Aid has been withheld since FY2007-2008.
- Increased aid is needed to support the foundational framework of New York State libraries, improving the lives of residents of all ages, abilities, and economic status.
- Persistent underfunding has disenfranchised millions of vulnerable New Yorkers who lack access to information resources and trusted, community-based information professionals.
- Information inequality plagues vulnerable, marginalized, and historically oppressed populations.
- According to a survey by the New York Library Association, libraries have incurred, on average, more than \$6,500 in COVID-related expenditures. (September 2020)

Reminders

Library usage and demand for services are surging statewide.

Libraries are a core component of our state's educational infrastructure.

Libraries are critical for access and equality.

Library systems are models of shared services.

For every state dollar invested in libraries, they return \$7 to their community.

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