Budget Request
Increase Per Pupil Rate for Library Materials Aid (LMA)

What are Instructional Materials Aids?
- Instructional materials aids include library materials, textbook, software, and hardware aids.
- These aids are critical for reducing inequitable access to educational technology.
- These aids are not reimbursement-based, but allocational based on a certain amount per pupil.

What is LMA used for?
School library materials eligible for reimbursement include audio/visual and printed materials that meet the following criteria:
- Are catalogued and processed as part of the school library or media center for use by elementary and/or secondary school children and teachers
- Are expected to last more than one year after use
- Are ineligible for aid as textbooks

Examples of materials eligible for LMA include:
- Paperback books
- Hardcover Books
- Periodicals
- Pamphlets
- Musical Scores
- Videos
- Audio Recordings
- Maps/Globes
- Charts

History of LMA
There were moderate increases to LMA during the first 5 years of its inception. Unfortunately, aid has not been increased since 2007.


Current LMA
- Currently, up to $6.25 per pupil attending public or nonpublic schools within a school district’s boundaries can be reimbursed by the State.
- Aid is calculated by multiplying $6.25 by the number of enrolled pupils.

NYLA Budget Request
- District costs for library materials have increased substantially over this time. When purchased by a school library, the average cost of a new hardcover children’s title is $21.31.
- Updating the per pupil allocation for each of the instructional materials aids, including LMA, to reflect inflation would benefit students in and out of the classroom.
- The New York State Board of Regents has recommended increasing LMA to $10.55/pupil and tying future adjustments to inflation.
- NYLA supports the Board of Regents’ proposal, but requests a further increase of the per pupil rate from $6.25 → $11.00