



North Suburban Library System

Fact Sheet

WHAT are Illinois Library Systems?

- In 1967, the Illinois General Assembly legislated to create regional library systems to provide essential support for Illinois libraries.
- The North Suburban Library System is one of nine regional systems that support academic, public, school, and special libraries in a specific geographic region.

HOW are Illinois Library Systems funded?

- Illinois Library Systems are funded in the form of an annual grant from the Illinois General Assembly to the Secretary of State's office.
- Funding has been flat for 19 years, and in August the Illinois Library Systems' budgets were cut 16.5%.

WHO does the North Suburban Library System serve?

Population: 2.05 million
Counties: Lake (all), Cook (north/northwest suburbs), portions of Kane and McHenry
Communities: 83 communities over 960 square miles
Libraries: 49 public, 537 schools, 24 academic, 70 specials

WHY do libraries and taxpayers depend on the North Suburban Library System?

In the past year, the North Suburban Library System:

- Delivered over **5 million** items to libraries, free of charge, so that taxpayers could get materials to help them with their daily lives. (Statewide total: **28 million**)
- Organized group purchases that saved our libraries **up to 98%** of the cost of popular electronic resources that taxpayers could use via the Internet 24/7.
- Trained **over 2,800** library staff members to help them offer the latest technologies and the best service possible to their users.

What does this all mean? →→→→→

NSLS + \$2,055,581 = ROI of over \$20 million

FACT:

→ Without these services and the many others Illinois Library Systems provide, libraries would not be able to offer Illinois taxpayers the high quality programs and services they have come to expect.

FACT:

→ After having flat funding for 18 years, the FY10 budget for Illinois Library Systems has been cut 16.5%. The North Suburban Library System budget is \$2,055,581, but we have only received 58%. We need full funding!

FACT:

→ If Systems did not exist, NSLS libraries would have to pay over \$20 million to obtain the services taxpayers are demanding.

FACT:

Illinois legislators are looking for greater efficiency in government. Library Systems are one of the best examples of economic efficiency in the state.