

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY SYSTEM

YEAR IN REVIEW

Advising

2000 hours spent with members on 283 site visits and 2400 advisory contacts

The MLS Advisor was exceedingly thorough and patient as we worked through what the source of our WiFi troubles was. She was able to narrow down, from among very many variables that the problem lay with our router. She suggested a preliminary fix and promised to follow up with us after consulting with another advisor. Which she did...a pleasure to work with.

- Public library director

BiblioTemps®

46 placements during five months of operation

Bibliotemps proved to be a terrific resource when our library needed to hire temporary staff for three professional positions, two of which required an arts background. We are thrilled with the high quality of the staff provided, and with how easy the entire process has been.

- Academic library director

Cooperative Purchasing

658 libraries participating with average discounts of 40% on supplies and 34% on materials

I found the MHEC registration very easy and was pleased at the wide variety of contracts now available to us - many of which will come in handy as we work on our new building project.... Looks like a good group to partner with.

- Public Librarian

Resource Sharing

Delivery: 14.2 million items

Mediated ILL and Journal Article Document Delivery: 33,400 requests

MLS provides an important service both from a financial and environmental perspective to the community. The ability to request materials throughout the system allows excellent use of resources. Books and movies can be requested allowing patrons to both save money from purchasing the items and to make the best use of resources and avoid waste. The recent changes in the system have ... made delivery of items virtually immediate except for all but the most requested new items.

- Library patron

MassCat

7,550,834 holdings in 68 libraries

[Because of MassCat] my school library and others can now participate in the kind of affordable resource sharing that guarantees equitable access to high-quality resources for all students, no matter how rich or poor their school district may be.

- School librarian

Online Content

30 million searches

These electronic resources are vital conduits of quality academic information that are accessed daily by our students as they work on undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral level research papers and projects. ... The quality academic databases provided via MLS and MBLC

The logo for the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) features the letters 'MLS' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are contained within a white square that has a thin blue border.

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are vital tools ensuring that our students and faculty receive reliable access to timely, scholarly, full-text information no matter their physical location on the planet.

- Academic librarian

Summer Library Program

97,000 participants in 322 libraries

We continue to be very pleased with the CLSP materials and artwork, which were all top quality. Everything shows a commitment to bringing the very best to our kids for a great summer reading program and the kids and parents in turn get excited!

- Public librarian

Training and Professional Development

270 events reaching 3500 participants

The Youth Service Advisors of MLS, the training offered by them, and of those they have brought in to facilitate, has been invaluable to me as a school librarian. Without these services, the students and teachers in my school would be at a disadvantage.... The e-mails, updates, and support that MLS gives cannot be measured easily, but I know that my students, teachers, and I would not be able to accomplish what we do without them.

- School librarian

Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012, MLS provided services valued at \$95,644,397, returning \$14.65 for every dollar invested by the Commonwealth.

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