

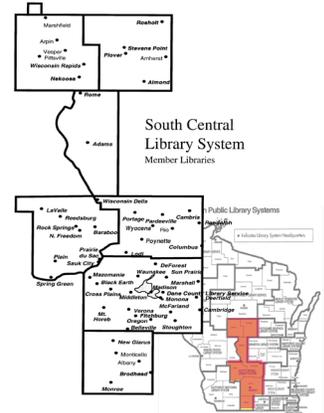


Libraries and Systems

South Central Library System

The South Central Library System (SCLS) is one of 16 systems in Wisconsin, and serves 54 public libraries and 854,074 residents in Adams, Columbia, Dane, Green, Portage, Sauk and Wood Counties. SCLS provides services like:

- Delivery (the red trucks that bring you materials from other libraries),
- LINKcat (the online tool through which you reserve library materials from your own library, or other libraries within SCLS),
- technology support for almost 1,450 library computers,
- youth services and outreach support,
- graphics/marketing/printing,
- continuing education for library staff,
- building design services,
- library administration/management/law support,
- web design services and support,
- cooperative purchasing.



A primary benefit of system membership is participation in the shared library catalog LINKcat. This online catalog makes the collection of each library available to the residents of all other LINKcat libraries. In 2018 about 10.1 million physical items and almost 1.1 million digital items were checked out by people who are registered patrons of our 47 LINKcat libraries. Other SCLS member libraries circulated nearly 447,000 physical items and nearly 53,000 digital items, bringing the 2018 total to more than 11.7 million. At a conservative estimate of \$20 average price per item, this direct traffic represents more than \$234 million in value to patrons for this service alone because they can borrow books instead of purchasing them.

Also valuable to libraries is the SCLS Delivery Service, which moves library materials from library to library within SCLS. In 2018, our red truck delivery service carried about 11.8 million items among SCLS member libraries making 21,180 stops over a distance of 355,000 miles. At a cost of \$896,000 in 2018, the cost to send an item from one library to another within SCLS is only 7.6 cents.

SCLS member libraries also have access to a robust continuing education program. In 2018, more than 2,245 staff members from all types of libraries attended the 53 continuing education programs SCLS offered. Many of these programs are webinars that are recorded for later viewing, and the 269 recordings in our archive have been viewed 11,269 times since May 2013. In 2018, SCLS also provided three sections of OverDrive Support Courses (online) and 8 in-person workshops for 149 SCLS library staff members.

Working together through system membership, the impact of library resources and services are enhanced and magnified to help serve all residents of the seven-county area. Systems and their member libraries have always been on the cutting edge with cooperative agreements and resource sharing which greatly reduce duplication of services.

The relationship between public libraries and the South Central Library System helps ensure that libraries are able to provide quality programs and services to their residents, which is the mission of our system. It is a dynamic relationship that has grown over the past 40 years, and one that will serve libraries well as we continue to work together to meet the needs of library customers.

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Serving libraries in Adams, Columbia, Dane, Green, Portage, Sauk & Wood Counties