



*Serving the
People of
Illinois*

Reading & Writing Programs

- **Family Reading Night** — An annual event held statewide on the third Thursday in November to encourage families to spend quality time reading together.
- **Emerging Writers Competition** — A creative writing competition that provides a unique opportunity and outlet for recognizing new literary talent in the state. Winners receive cash prizes and have their works submitted for possible publication in Illinois literary magazines.
- **Letters About Literature** — A national reading and writing contest for students, sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book, in cooperation with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.
- **Read for a Lifetime** — The first statewide reading program for high school students that promotes reading for enjoyment.

For more information about State Library reading and writing programs, call **217-558-2065** or visit www.illinoiscenterforthebook.org.

Literacy Programs

The Illinois State Library Literacy Office provides adult literacy program services to enable Illinois citizens to fully participate in their family, work and community. The office administers grant programs that provide basic adult literacy instruction to enhance the reading, writing, math or English skills of participants. For more information, call **217-785-6921**.



E-News from the ISL

Keep in touch with what's happening at the Illinois State Library by subscribing to the weekly *E-News from the ISL* newsletter. To sign up, e-mail pmcguckin@ilsos.net with the subject line "Sign Me Up."

Visit the Illinois State Library

The State Library is located across from the Illinois State Capitol, within walking distance of downtown Springfield.

**Illinois State Library
Gwendolyn Brooks Building
300 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1796
217-785-5600
800-665-5576 (Illinois only)
www.cyberdriveillinois.com
(click Departments,
Illinois State Library)**

**Open Monday through Friday
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
except state holidays**

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Illinois State Library Services for the Public

State Library Cards

State of Illinois employees and retirees as well as public library card holders may obtain an Illinois State Library Card and borrow directly from the library's circulating collections. State employees also may borrow directly from 76 other Illinois libraries. To obtain a State Library Card, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/libcardapp.html.

Reference & Information Services

The State Library offers reference and information services online, in person and by telephone or fax. In-depth research is provided for state government employees.

- **Ask the Illinois State Library** — E-mail your reference questions to islinformationline@ilsos.net.
- **Telephone** — Call the Information Line at **217-782-7596**, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fax requests may be sent to **217-524-0041**.
- **Text a Librarian** — Text questions to **217-953-0575**. Begin messages with the keyword **ASKISL**, followed by a space, then the question. This service is intended for quick reference questions and is available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For questions requiring detailed responses, please e-mail or call.
- **Walk-in Reference** — The Reference Desk on the second floor of the State Library is available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m..

Library Catalogs

- **ISL Online Catalog** — Includes books, maps and other materials available at the State Library and the 76 other libraries in the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI).
- **KLAS Catalog** — The online catalog of the State Library's Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS) is available to participants in the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Program. More than 65,000 titles are available in audio and Braille format.
- **WorldCat** — Access the collections of thousands of libraries around the world.

Internet and Wi-Fi Access

The State Library offers public computers where patrons can access the Internet for research purposes. The library also provides free Wi-Fi for wireless users

Genealogical Resources

The vast collections of the State Library include census and military records as well as county histories and atlases. Most materials in the circulating collection are available for interlibrary loan. Researchers also may visit the library in person Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Government Publications

The State Library has an extensive, retrospective collection of federal documents, as well as all documents distributed through the Federal Depository Library Program. The Illinois Documents collection represents a historical representation of state government since Illinois was granted statehood in 1818. State agencies are required to deposit copies of their print and electronic publications with the State Library.

Illinois Digital Archives

The Illinois Digital Archives is a repository for the digital collections of the State Library as well as other libraries and cultural institutions in Illinois. Find photographs, slides, glass negatives, oral histories, manuscripts and letters, state and federal government documents, postcards, posters, videos, newspapers, maps and more at www.idaillinois.org.

Illinois Veterans' History Project

The Illinois Veterans' History Project was launched by Secretary of State Jesse White to create a permanent record of the names and stories of Illinois war veterans and civilians who served during war time. Illinois Patriots Information Forms are available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/public/veteransproject.html. Participants also may submit an oral history to be placed in the Illinois Digital Archives and the Library of Congress Veterans' History Project.



Route 66 Archives & Research Collaboration Network

The State Library is Illinois' representative in the eight-state Route 66 Archives & Research Collaboration Network (ARC), sponsored by the National Park Service. The mission of the Route 66 ARC is to make research and oral history materials accessible for the purpose of education, preservation and management of the historic Route 66 corridor. State Library resources include books, maps and periodicals; links to significant Route 66 collections in the Illinois Digital Archives; the personal files of the late Tom Teague, founder of the Route 66 Association of Illinois; and aerial photographs showing Route 66 as it existed in Illinois from 1937 to 1941. For more information, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/public/route66/home.html.

Talking Book & Braille Service

More than 29,000 people use the State Library's Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS), which is part of the Illinois Network of Talking Book and Braille Libraries. Eligible participants include anyone, regardless of age, who needs large print or who has macular degeneration, arthritis, dyslexia, cataracts, cerebral palsy, or any other type of visual or physical impairment that limits reading. Schools, nursing homes, hospitals and other organizations also may be eligible. For more information, call **800-665-5576, opt. 5**.