

**State Library  
Budget No. 250  
House Bill No. 1013**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025-27 legislative appropriation	26.75	\$7,692,794	\$2,804,212	\$10,497,006
2023-25 legislative appropriation	<u>26.75</u>	<u>7,015,484</u>	<u>2,499,073</u>	<u>9,514,557</u>
2025-27 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriation	0.00	\$677,310	\$305,139	\$982,449

**Item Description**

**New and vacant FTE pool** - The Legislative Assembly transferred \$107,552 for the new and vacant FTE pool line item for the State Library for estimated savings from vacant positions.

**Targeted market equity** - The Legislative Assembly provided \$128,000 from the General Fund for targeted market equity to bring eight employees in classification No. 102 closer to the market policy point.

**Unexpended library building improvements appropriation** - The Legislative Assembly, in Section 18 of House Bill No. 1013, allowed the State Library to continue \$150,000 appropriated from the General Fund for the 2023-25 biennium for library building improvements to the 2025-27 biennium.

**State aid to public libraries** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1,737,582 from the General Fund for aid to public libraries, the same as the 2023-25 biennium, and provided no more than one-half may be spent during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the biennium.

**Library vision project** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$237,500 from the General Fund for grants relating to the library vision project, the same as the 2023-25 biennium.

**Status/Result**

Through January 2026, the State Library estimated vacant FTE position savings of \$105,619. The State Library used \$34,718 for accrued leave payouts and other uses. The State Library had between 0.80 and 3.80 vacant FTE positions from July 2025 through January 2026 with an average vacant position rate of 2.37 FTE positions.

The State Library provided target equity increases to 8 FTE positions at a 102 classification on July 1, 2025, bringing the average salary to \$3,473 per month before legislative increases.

The State Library is working with the Office of Management and Budget to determine project costs for a renovation of the building's ground floor, including carpet and the replacement of various built-in work areas. The State Library anticipates completing the renovation during the 2025-27 biennium within the funding provided.

North Dakota Century Code Section 54-24.2-02 requires state aid grants to eligible public libraries be determined based on a formula that includes \$1 per capita for city libraries and \$1 per capita and \$5 per square mile for county libraries. Each biennium, no more than one-half of the legislative appropriation may be expended during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the biennium. During fiscal year 2025, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the 2023-25 biennium, funding available totaled \$868,791. Based on the state aid formula, libraries were eligible to receive \$1,131,967, resulting in funding of 77 percent of the formula amount for which public libraries were eligible. Library state aid grant funding available during the 2025-27 biennium totals \$1,737,582; therefore, one-half of the appropriation allocated to the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the biennium will total \$868,791. Library grant requests were due April 30, 2026, for fiscal year 2026 state aid grants.

In February 2026, the Library Coordinating Council awarded 24 grants in library vision programs totaling \$117,950. Grants were awarded to strengthen library networks (1 grant totaling \$1,462) and library collections and services (17 grants totaling \$71,857) and to enhance library workforce capacity (1 grant totaling \$9,675) and library facilities and technology (5 grants totaling \$34,956). The next round of competitive grants will be made available in June 2026.

**Grants to tribal libraries** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$50,000 from the General Fund for library vision grants to tribal libraries, the same as the 2023-25 biennium.

**Interlibrary loan bridge** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$450,000 from the General Fund to establish and maintain an interlibrary loan bridge. In addition to the General Fund, the State Library anticipated using federal funds authority to fully fund the loan bridge.

The State Library is accepting applications, through May 25, 2026, for library vision grants to support tribal libraries with spaces, resources, programming, and library operations. If funding remains, a second grant opportunity will be offered in fiscal year 2027.

A request for proposal for the interlibrary loan bridge was issued in February 2026. The State Library anticipates a contract will be executed in July 2026, and the project will take one year to complete. The State Library planned to use approximately \$200,000 of federal funding to establish the loan bridge but is partnering with South Dakota to reduce costs and may not use federal funds. The interlibrary loan bridge will make titles available in libraries across both North Dakota and South Dakota. The State Library anticipates ongoing costs will total approximately \$548,000 during the 2027-29 biennium.