

## Why we need public libraries...

Public libraries provide a community hub for all kinds of resources for everyone:

- Free access to books and research materials
- Access to computers and internet and assistance with using them
- A safe and multi-purpose space for learning, work and meetings
- Educational and enriching programs for all ages

South Dakota's public libraries provide assistance to community residents in important areas:

1-to-1 assistance   Have programs   Making Plans   No Assistance

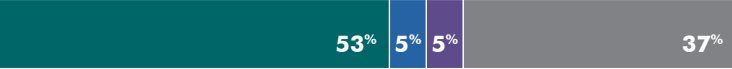
**Workforce development:** Assistance with job skill resources, job applications, resume writing



**Education:** Access to educational resources, homework assistance, test proctoring, materials for English language learners



**Consumer health:** Assistance with accessing health information and services, completing insurance paperwork



**Social services:** Assistance with accessing and filling out government forms, connecting people with needed services



SD Public Libraries Survey, 2017



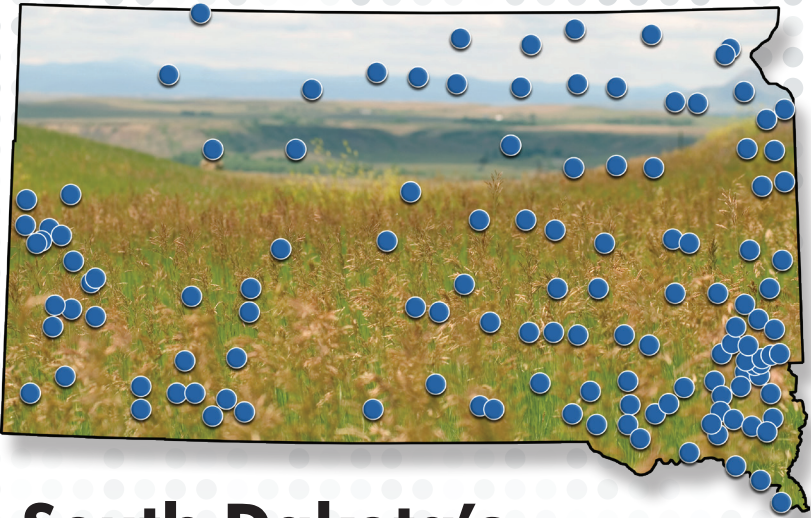
Is your library accredited?

<http://library.sd.gov/LIB/DEV/SDPubLibStandards-2017Guide.pdf>

## Start with the SDSL Public Library STANDARDS

Cover image: Prairie scenic photo from SD Tourism;  
Each dot represents a public library outlet.

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## South Dakota's Future Ready PUBLIC LIBRARIES



## The South Dakota State Library offers support and resources to your local public library:

- Training opportunities for library staff & trustees
- Consulting services: administration, trustees, grants, library standards, statistics, school/public library collaboration
- Ideas for summer reading programs and events for all ages
- Online digital resources covering subjects such as genealogy, business, health & medicine
- Resource sharing via SD Share-It interlibrary loan services
- Reference services for your library staff
- Braille & Talking Book Library materials and assistance
- Library news, opportunities and ideas through the Cornerstone e-newsletter, discussion lists, and social media

**We are here to help!**  
605.773.3131 - [library.sd.gov](http://library.sd.gov)

## SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY FACTS

- 83,000** South Dakota residents do not have convenient access to a local public library.
- 1,000** South Dakota K-12 students do not have access to a public or a school library.
- 41%** have SDSL certified library staff who upgrade their professional skills through continuing education.
- 25%** of SD public libraries are currently accredited through SDSL, demonstrating that they meet quality library service benchmarks.
- 16%** of SD public libraries have a MLS degreed librarian on staff.

# LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Space

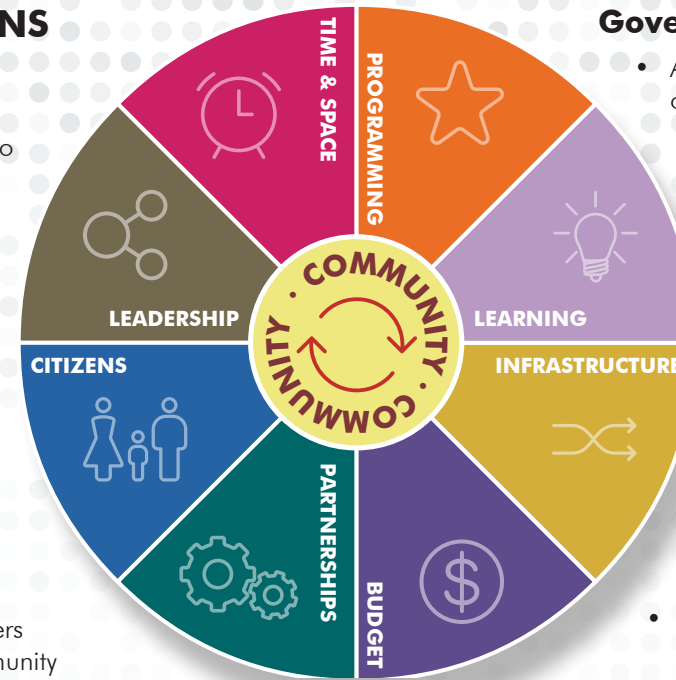
- Implement flexible spaces to accommodate individual exploration, group projects, and community events.
- Ensure accessibility to all residents in terms of hours of operation, layout, and atmosphere.
- Be the community living room and a safe and inspiring place for kids.

### Staffing

- Promote librarians as leaders beyond the library in community improvement plans.
- Encourage collaboration between public library and school library staff.
- Encourage librarians and staff to grow their professional skills and knowledge through SDSL staff certification program.

### Content and Access

- Develop programming that supports all ages and groups and interests.
- Have an interactive website with home/office access to library collections.
- Invest strategically in digital library collections.
- Support access to the library's digital collections and those provided by SDSL.
- Promote and support digital citizenship and citizen privacy.



## Governance and Infrastructure

- Address systemic issues that inhibit the development of high-quality library programming.
- Leverage funding to strengthen the public library.
- Survey the community about convenient open hours, service and programming interests.
- Appoint library board trustees who are engaged in the community and eager to keep informed on issues affecting libraries.

## Accountability

- Analyze library programs and services through usage data and program statistics.
- Communicate with local leaders, community groups and schools with regard to library support of your community's goals.
- Include library goals in community improvement plans.
- Use SDSL Accreditation Standards as a means of self-assessment to evaluate progress—then apply for accreditation!

