

Mohawk Valley Library System
Amsterdam Free Library
Central Library Services Plan, 2025 – 2026

This Central Library Plan for the Mohawk Valley Library System describes the services that will be funded through the MVLS Central Library Services Aid by the Amsterdam Free Library.

New York State Library Central Library Services Aid Guidelines

Effective November 3, 2021, Central Book Aid (CBA) and Central Library Development Aid (CLDA) are now combined into a streamlined, flexible State aid funding program called Central Library Services Aid (CLSA). The following guidelines are intended to supplement the provisions of Education Law 273(1)(b) while adhering to the provisions of [Commissioner's Regulation 90.4 Central library services aid](#):

1. Expenditures of CLSA funds should be consistent with the goals identified in the Central Library Plan of the library system's approved Five-Year Plan of Service.
2. CLSA funds should be used to acquire and make widely available library materials and information in multiple formats and to provide reference and information services (including staff costs) to all residents of the public library system's service area.
3. CLSA funds may be used to purchase adult, juvenile, fiction, non-fiction, foreign language or reference resources in any format.
4. CLSA funds may be used to support the required 55 open hours per week, including non-duplicative branch hours at the central library's main building or branch, but should not be used to supplant local library responsibility for the central library's minimum hours open per CR 90.2.
5. CLSA funds may be used for equipment, furnishings, and minor remodeling in the central library's main building or branch building.

Core MVLS/Amsterdam Free Library Central Library Services

Initiatives:

1. Central Library Aid (CLA) supports system-wide access to the shared Overdrive collections. In 2025, we will continue the practice of using CLA to fund the Overdrive access fee, content, and magazines.
2. CLA provides for the development and piloting of additional, new resources and services as determined by the member libraries. 2025 new resources will include Educate Station.

3. CLA supports a shared print collection that provides on-site and request-based access to high demand library books through the Ingram InDemand program.
4. CLA supports professional resources to help libraries and similar organizations have access to information on governance, management, and operations.
5. CLA supports professional development activities related to Central Library resources.
6. CLA supports staffing and supplies to assist the Amsterdam Free Library in serving users from throughout the MVLS service area.

Goals, Intended Results & Evaluation Methods

Goal 1: Library users within the MVLS service area have access to Overdrive e-resources

Activities: CLA pays for the Overdrive access fee, the e-magazine collection, and additional Overdrive e-content.

Timeline: Activities will take place throughout 2025 and 2026.

Intended Result: Library users have access to Overdrive e-resources. Libraries can reap economic savings through coordinated purchases and resource sharing.

Evaluation Method: Circulation statistics, request statistics, member surveys

Goal 2: Library users within the MVLS service area have access to additional e-content through pilots and trials of a variety of resources.

Activities: The Central Library Advisory Committee (CLAC) and member library directors will propose and agree on products to explore, trial and pilot.

Timeline: Education Station will be piloted in 2025. Other products will be explored as determined by the CLAC.

Intended Result: Library users have access to additional e-resources. Libraries can reap economic savings through coordinated purchases and resource sharing.

Evaluation Method: Circulation statistics, request statistics, member surveys

Goal 3: Library users within the MVLS service area have access to popular print materials in both fiction and nonfiction through the InDemand collection.

Activities: Requests and holds are used to select materials each month. Materials go to fill demand in member libraries, before returning to the Central Library.

Timeline: Materials are purchased and made available each month.

Intended Result: Library users have access to print materials, based on holds queues, requests and demonstrated demand.

Evaluation Method: Circulation statistics, request statistics, member surveys.

Goal 4: Libraries, library staff, and library users within the MVLS service area have access to information resources on governance, management, operations, and practice concerning libraries, public entities, and not-for-profit organizations, to help organizations thrive.

Activities: The CLAC and member library directors will identify appropriate pertinent resources and will build resources and information exchanges.

Timeline: These activities will take place throughout 2026 and 2026.

Intended Result: Libraries, library staff and library users will have the information they need to build effective organizations.

Evaluation Method: Circulation statistics, request statistics, member surveys

Goal 5: Central Library services will be valued, well used and understood by library users.

Activities: Central library resources will be publicized via notices to member libraries, websites and social media. CLA funding will ensure that library staff and the public will receive education on using these resources.

Timeline: These activities will take place throughout 2026 and 2026.

Intended Result: Library users will have the information they need to make effective use of central library resources.

Evaluation Method: Circulation statistics, request statistics, member surveys.

Approval

Approved by the Amsterdam Free Library Board of Trustees: _____

Approved by the MVLS Board of Trustees: _____