

Preparation of School Librarians

POSITION:

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) supports the position that, in addition to meeting state certification requirements, school librarians hold a master's degree or equivalent from a program that combines academic and professional preparation in library and information science, education, and technology. The graduate degree is earned at a college or university whose program is recognized by appropriate bodies such as the American Library Association (ALA), the American Association of School Librarians/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), or state education agencies. The academic program of study includes directed field experience coordinated by a college/university faculty member and takes place in an effective school library program under the direct supervision of a certified, full-time school librarian.

BACKGROUND:

In order to address the critical need for a reading-rich environment in the ever-changing information landscape, the preparation of school librarians is vitally important. As technology has become a crucial element of teaching and learning, school librarians as educators and information specialists play a key role in the success of schools.

DEFINITIONS:

- **Information Technologies:** Modern information, computer, and communication technology products, services, or tools, including the Internet, computer devices, and other hardware, software applications, data systems, and other electronic content (including multimedia content) and data storage.
- **School Librarian Instructional Role:** [Instructional Role of the School Librarian Position Statement](#)

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

American Association of School Librarians. 2010. ALA/AASL Standards for Initial Preparation of School Librarians.

www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aasleducation/schoollibrary/2010_standards_with_rubrics_and_statements_1-31-11.pdf (accessed May 20, 2016).

American Library Association. February 2, 2015. Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies.

www.ala.org/accreditedprograms/sites/ala.org.accreditedprograms/files/content/standards/Standards_2015_adopted_02-02-15.pdf (accessed May 20, 2016).

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. June 12, 2015. CAEP Accreditation Standards.

www.caepnet.org/~media/Files/caep/standards/final-board-amended-20150612.pdf?la=en (accessed May 20, 2016).

DISCLAIMER:

The position taken by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) represents the organization and cannot be applied to individual members or groups affiliated with the association without their direct confirmation.

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