

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:

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.

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 American Association of School Librarians (AASL) assumes no responsibility for the practices or recommendations of any member or other professional, or for the policies and procedures of any program. School librarians function within the limitations of licensure/certification, state board of education policies, and/or institution, district, or school policy.

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