

**American Library Association (ALA)
Committee on Legislation
Federal Legislative and Public Policy Agenda for 2025**

Federal policymakers must uphold the programs and policies that enable libraries to meet their communities' needs for digital opportunity, information access, education, learning, and skills, while protecting the intellectual freedom and civil rights of library users and workers. We will remain steadfast in defending libraries, library workers, and the freedom to read, against political threats, including any attempts to criminalize the work of librarianship.

ALA's Committee on Legislation encourages ALA members and library supporters to advocate on the following library priorities in 2025. ALA will monitor and engage on these and other [federal issues](#) that affect libraries, and will join with partners and coalitions to protect and advance libraries of all types.

To meet this moment, it is essential that ALA members and library supporters continue to stand up for libraries. Please join in supporting ALA's advocacy by [signing up for advocacy alerts](#), [joining ALA or renewing your membership](#), [donating to ALA](#), and using [ALA's advocacy resources](#) to build effective relationships with decisionmakers.

Funding and Support

[Preserving federal funding](#) for library services is essential to ensuring that every community in America has strong libraries. Key issues for 2025:

Dedicated library programs: Protect key federal agencies and programs, including:

- The Institute of Museum and Library Services, including the Library Services and Technology Act, and in reauthorizing the Museum and Library Services Act;
- The Department of Education, including Innovative Approaches to Literacy and support for [school libraries](#);
- Library facilities that are modern, accessible, energy-efficient, and resilient to extreme weather; and
- National library programs, including the Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, National Agricultural Library, and the Federal Depository Library Program.

Library-eligible programs: Sustain agencies and programs that support libraries' roles in:

- K-12 and early education, including in reauthorizing the Every Student Succeeds Act;
- Higher education, including in reauthorizing the Higher Education Act;
- Economic and workforce development, including in reauthorizing the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#); and
- Other crucial community services, including through the National Endowment for the Humanities, Community Development Block Grants, and other applicable programs.

Library workers: Promote pathways to the profession and support for library workers, including through Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

IMLS Director: Ensure that any nominee to serve as the next Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services is well-qualified and will uphold the agency's crucial work.

Broadband and Digital Opportunity

Libraries in all parts of the country must be able to serve their users with fast and affordable [broadband](#), technology access, and digital skills training. Key issues for 2025:

E-rate: Protect the Universal Service Fund. Preserve E-rate as a flexible program for meeting libraries' local technology needs.

Internet access and digital opportunity: Preserve and expand resources for libraries to support Internet access and digital opportunity.

Content access and liability: Maintain [net neutrality](#) protections. Preserve liability protections for libraries, including Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act.

Copyright, Licensing, and Competition

Libraries rely on balanced and flexible [copyright policy](#) to enable vital library services. ALA supports a modern copyright system with effective user rights and limitations and exceptions to copyright. Additionally, libraries rely on fair licenses and market practices in order to provide access to digital content such as [e-books](#). Key issues for 2025:

E-books and digital content: Prevent unfair and anti-competitive practices that limit libraries' ability to meet their users' reading and information needs. Preserve libraries' rights under copyright limitations and exceptions.

Copyright Office: Maintain the Librarian of Congress' authority to manage and oversee the Copyright Office.

Government Information and Services

ALA supports policies that assist libraries in providing no-fee permanent public access to [government information](#) and services. Key issues for 2025:

Federal Depository Library Program: Advance the [Federal Depository Library Program](#) and update its statutory authorities.

Public access to research: Ensure public access to publicly-funded research and data.