

Partnerships and Collaboration with United for Libraries

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. United for Libraries (United) will look for, and provide a written response in a timely manner to requests for, partnerships and collaborative projects that:
 - Match United's mission and roles in the library community, specifically related to and in support of Trustees, Friends Group, Library Foundations, and library advocates;
 - Conform to ALA policy and directives;
 - Provide a benefit to both United and the partner/sponsor through expanded services, new opportunities, increased recognition or similar benefits;
 - Contain a statement of the purpose, responsibilities, and expectations of the partnership for both United and the partner/collaborator.
2. A partnership is defined as a long-term project which includes the following considerations:
 - May require an ongoing relationship between United and the proposed partner generally lasting for more than one year;
 - Enables United to fulfill its mission and roles in the library community in new or expanded ways;
 - May require involvement of United staff, officers, and/or members to successfully carry out the project;
 - May require funding from either the partner and/or United;
 - May require significant recognition of the partnership;
 - Requires a written agreement to clearly define project costs, expectations, responsibilities, evaluation, and promotion.
3. A collaborative effort is defined as a short-term project which includes the following considerations:
 - Matches United's mission and roles in the public library community, but is not an expansion or new effort;
 - Is a one-time or limited project generally lasting one year or less;
 - Requires only limited involvement of United staff, officers, and/or members;
 - Requires no United funding, or requires only regularly approved United funding;
 - Requires limited recognition of the project through regular United mechanisms;
 - Does not require an extensive evaluation or report to the United Board or project partner.

Partnerships must be approved by the United Board. ALA Policy 9.1, "The Use of ALA's Name and Joint Relationships," will be consulted when vetting all potential collaborative arrangements and partnerships.

Collaborative arrangements may be approved by the United staff with notice to the United Executive Board.

Partnerships and collaborative arrangements must be in writing and on file in the United office.

Adopted by the United for Libraries Board of Directors in March 2020.