

Centennial State Libraries

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Colorado Answers FCC with Proposed Rule-Making on E-Rate

The FCC has released a National Proposed Rule Making for the E-rate program. This document provides an opportunity for schools, libraries, and other interested parties to make comments on specific issues raised in the NPRM, as well as other E-rate program issues. A primary theme of the NPRM was to gather suggestions on how to ensure that the E-rate program funds are utilized in an efficient, effective, and fair manner, while preventing waste, fraud, and abuse.

Five school districts and six public library representatives from around the state met with CDE staff to discuss a Colorado response. The school and library community agreed on changes in the program that would benefit Colorado. Rose Nelson of CSL sent the response, now posted on the local [E-rate](#) web site. You also can find it on the [FCC](#) site. Select the "search for filed comments" link. Thanks to those who helped prepare this collective response!

Library Digital Divide Study Released:

Charles R. McClure and John Carlo Bertot, from the School of Information Studies at Florida State University and Joe Ryan of Ryan Information Management have released a study that investigates the impact of LSTA grants, E-rate, and Gates grants in public libraries on the digital divide. The study team visited state libraries (Colorado was one), public libraries, library users, community leaders, and administrators in charge of LSTA and E-rate funds. The study, which was completed in January 2002, found that not one source, but the combination of funding from LSTA, E-rate, and Gates grants, made a critical impact on the development of a library's information infrastructure. Following are the key findings of the study:

- LSTA is a model-funding program for libraries:
- E-rate funding is essential to local operations, but needs fine-tuning.
- Remember the poorest counties and communities.
- Maintain sustainability-Who will be the next Gates in 2003?
- Understand situational factors.

The entire (176!) page study is online at the [Information Institute](#) as well as a shorter version in the March 2002 edition of American Libraries. "Study Shows New Funding Sources Crucial to Technology Services," pg. 57

Judges End Library Porn Filter Trial on Skeptical Note

Federal judges ended a two-week trial voicing concerns about whether the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) infringes on free speech rights. The law requires

libraries to install Internet filtering devices on public computers that would block access to web sites designated as harmful to minors, or lose federal technology funding. Those who want CIPA overturned claim that if libraries begin to block web sites, they will be denying patrons their First Amendment right to free speech. Chief Judge Edward Becker said, "We're stuck right in the heart of the First Amendment when we're talking about libraries." A major issue in the case is filtering software itself. Both sides of the argument recognize that there is currently no product that would block objectionable web sites without also blocking legitimate sites such as Planned Parenthood, Sports Illustrated and Salon.com. The three-judge panel will rule in early May and the case is expected to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

New on the Colorado State Library: Technology Resources Web Site

- [Gates Grants Page:](#)
Where can I find a Spanish Gates computer? See a list of all the Colorado libraries that received Spanish workstations. You will also find a list of titles on the Gates computers and information on how to lockdown menu items in Office 2000.
- [Library Automation Toolkit:](#)
Library cataloging options for small libraries

An Accessible and Valuable Web Page for Reference Librarians

The State Publications Library would like librarians to be aware of [COLORADO CAREER NET](#).

This web page is THE career source for Colorado.

- Includes links to publications such as: the "Career and Academic Guide: Preparing Today for Tomorrow", "A Job Hunting Guide for Colorado Citizens with Disabilities", "Planning Guide to Colorado Careers", etc.
- Resource links to "Colorado's Job Bank", "Colorado's Workforce Centers", "Video CD of over 130 Careers" and the "Occupational Outlook Handbook" and much more.
- Online Career Data allows the searcher to select an occupational field and learn about the job prospects and salary ranges.

Check it out to assist patrons seeking job and/or career information with one-stop-shopping.

New "Fast Facts" Compares Salaries for Public Library Personnel

["Fast Facts" from Library Research Service has published Issue No. 181 \(January 25, 2002\).](#) Using ALA's survey of librarian salaries for 2001, it shows salaries for directors of large libraries fail to meet those of their peers in the west/southwest although they exceed the national average. Beginning librarians in Colorado tend to do quite well.

Program Audit of CSL Finds Customer Satisfaction

A comprehensive overview and evaluation [audit of Colorado State Library programs](#), conducted in 2001 at the request of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting, is now online. Process included self-audits by program managers of basic service components, comparison to possible alternatives to current service delivery, and responses from the independent client group (libraries) on quality and need for services. Eleven needs appeared across all program audits, including priorities of student academic achievement; professional development of teachers/administrators; informed state-level decisions/enhanced learning by officials; and resource sharing. Current methods of delivering those services ranked well above any type of alternative method possible. In terms of client satisfaction, in the vast majority of cases, the percentages of respondents choosing Good or Excellent was at least 3/4ths of all those rating the dimension.

Early Childhood Publication Carries Online Literacy Resources

"Zero to Three," a publication focusing on the early years of life, devotes a portion of its web site to professional resources. A number of these address emergent literacy, including a recent article entitled "Bridges to Literacy: Early Routines that Promote Later School Success." To access, visit the ["Zero to Three"](#) web site and click on "Zero to Three Journal."

CTBL Awarded "Best of" Notice by Local Paper

[Westword's April 3 issue](#) featured its annual "Best Of's" and one was the Colorado Talking Book Library (CTBL). The newspaper says CTBL "was created to give disabled book-lovers more options. The government-funded program offers Braille books, taped books and playback machines." Congratulations!

In Memoriam: Patricia Hayden Hodgson


Aspen resident Patricia Hayden Hodgson recently passed away at the age of 53. She served as district librarian for the Aspen School District since the early 1990s. In that capacity she headed the K-12 library/media programs and significantly advanced the school district's technology programs, while continuing as high school librarian.

Presidential Approach to Education Now on Internet

The federal "[No Child Left Behind](#)" act is now on the Internet. The site includes downloadable brochures on teaching reading through phonemic awareness, advice to parents, etc.

For additional information, E-Mail: Bonnie McCune, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us

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