

## Oregon State Library State Library Assessment FAQ

***Why is the State Library supported by an assessment?***

The 1993 Legislative Assembly created the State Library assessment in an effort to reduce the Library’s reliance on General Funds and to spread the cost of the Library across all funds.

***What does the assessment support?***

The assessment supports the entire budget of the Government Research Services division of the Library and a portion of the Administration division budget. Other divisions of the library are not supported by the assessment.

***What services are provided to agencies in return for their assessment payment?***

Services include the *State Employee Information Center* website ([library.state.or.us](http://library.state.or.us)), research assistance from professional librarians, document delivery from the Library collection or other libraries via interlibrary loan, distribution of state agency publications to depository libraries, cataloging and archiving of state agency publications in print and electronic formats, electronic mailing list service, maintenance of the search box on the *Oregon.gov* website, the State Library eSurvey service, and the *State Library eClips* daily news briefing service and other current awareness services.

***How many Library staff provide these services?***

In 2009 - 2011, the Government Research Services division includes 21.84 FTE staff.

***How much has the Library assessed and how much has it spent in recent biennia?***

This table shows the Library assessment and expenditures on our service to state agencies since the 1995-97 biennium.

<b>Biennium</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Increase</b>
95 - 97	\$4,004,666		\$3,836,756	
97 - 99	\$4,154,028	4%	\$4,123,612	7%
99 - 01	\$4,917,476	18%	\$4,701,034	14%
01 - 03	\$5,183,652	5%	\$4,800,999	2%
03 - 05	\$5,390,220	4%	\$5,405,216	13%
05 - 07	\$4,970,798	-8%	\$5,379,226	-0.5%
07 - 09	\$6,148,835	24%	\$5,725,781	6%
09 - 11	\$6,169,016	0.3%		

***How much is the assessment proposed for the 2011 - 2013 biennium?***

A base assessment of \$6,547,993 is proposed to maintain our services at their current level. This amount would support a budget for Government Research Services and related administration costs that is a 6.1% increase over this biennium, allowing for inflation factors and personal services increases. Additionally, the assessment includes a policy package to preserve historical and rare documents at the State Library. This \$250,000 package results in an assessment of \$6,797,993, a 10.2% increase over the current biennium.

***Is the Library requesting any policy option packages that increase the assessment?***

Yes. As mentioned above, there is a policy option package to preserve historical and rare documents at the State Library. This package would fund one additional FTE to provide the necessary expertise in preservation and conservation. The balance of the package will be used to purchase supplies and equipment necessary for the preservation work. Aspects of this project will include:

- Stabilization of rare and fragile documents in the collection
- Repair of damaged materials
- Training of existing staff on best practices for ongoing maintenance of the collection
- Where possible, digitization of high-demand materials to allow online access and reduce wear on the physical collection
- Creation of a long-range, sustainable preservation program to ensure permanent public access to library materials

***How is the Library assessment allocated to agencies?***

By statute (ORS 357.203), two-thirds of the total assessment is allocated proportionally by FTE and one-third by use of the Library in the prior biennium.

For the 2011-13 assessment we used seven different use factors, measured in the 2007 – 09 biennium:

- Client services (contacts with Library staff for research assistance, training, etc.)
- Documents delivered
- State Employee Information Center website registration
- Use of premium databases on the State Employee Information Center
- Creation and maintenance of electronic mailing lists
- Agency publications distributed to depository libraries
- Use of current awareness services.

Each of the factors is weighted to reflect relative cost and effort.

***Who should I contact if I want more information about the Library assessment***

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