



TO: Montana Shared Catalog Members Council

FROM: Montana Shared Catalog Team

SUBJECT: SirsiDynix New Product Information

DATE: April 15, 2025

The MSC staff recommend the MSC Members Council consider purchasing two new SirsiDynix products. The total annual cost for both products would be \$47,000; and if the members vote to purchase the new products a 6% total cost increase will cover a portion of that expense and MSL will cover the remainder. Please see the MSC FY26 Budget & Cost Share Draft and the FY26 Budget Memo for more details regarding costs.

Included below are specifics for each of the two recommended products:

BLUEcloud Analytics Private Suite Add-On (aka Private Intelligence Server)

Cost: \$11,964.00 – this amount would be added to MSC’s annual SirsiDynix invoice going forward

This product would enhance our current [BLUEcloud Analytics](#) product. MSC librarians and the MSC admins use this heavily already due to the improvements over Workflows reports. BCA is where Sirsi’s reporting development is focused and as they start to release backend upgrades in the near future that should give us access to additional useful and timely data – we anticipate that MSC’s usage will increase even more. The Private Suite Add-On would put the MSC’s data on a dedicated server and offer the following benefits immediately:

- Give MSC admin team more access in BCA for user management and configuration – eg reset librarian passwords etc more smoothly
- Give MSC admin team better subscription and scheduling management – eg easily rerun a subscription, or transfer a subscription after library staff change
- Better performance during regular use (library staff running reports)

There are some other enhancements that are in development for the BCA PrivateSuite that would also benefit MSC members when they are released – eg a new, more user-friendly web interface

Unlimited Web Services Connectors and SIP License

Cost: \$36,000 – this amount would be added to MSC’s annual SirsiDynix invoice going forward; it would replace our existing Unlimited SIP License which is currently around \$20,000 annually, so the overall increase after the first year would be \$16,000 annually. There would be additional one-time costs for new connectors.

SIP is the connector that allows 3rd party products and vendors to connect to our system. It is used for patron authentication and library automation machines. This includes services like Overdrive (MontanaLibrary2Go), Hoopla, Kanopy, self-check machines, Envisionware public access computer management systems, material sorters, and many others. The MSC currently has over 120 SIP connections in active use daily. SIP is an old protocol and has several technical limitations. Web Services connectors are the new standard for these types of connections, offering additional security and more options and service possibilities.

Many vendors are currently working to replace their SIP connections and we expect that trend to continue. For instance, Overdrive is informing customers that they are moving to a Web Services connector and would like to schedule this change for the MontanaLibrary2Go libraries. It would allow for new features like not having to manually update a patron barcode in Overdrive when they get a new number.

Each individual Web Services connector also includes a one-time implementation fee that we would expect to be covered by the library or libraries utilizing the 3rd-party vendor. This cost is typically under \$1,000 and generally only applies once per 3rd-party vendor.