

Montana Shared Catalog Libraries: Annual Operational Cost Scenarios under Current On-going Cost Formula.

On-going cost formula is based on:

- Title share (30%): Total number of titles. Libraries with less than 10,000 titles receive a break by subtracting 5,000 from their title count.
- Circulation share (10%): Based on annual circ count.
- Patrons share (30%): Total number of patrons. Libraries with less than 3,000 patrons are not charged.
- Total budget share (30%): This cost is 30% of the total budget but with smaller libraries (less than 8,000 titles and 1,000 patrons) paying a lesser share than the larger libraries. Example for FY2010: each larger library paid \$1,170.21 and each smaller library paid \$676.75 to cover 30% of the total budget.

Montana Shared Catalog Operational Budgets by Fiscal Year:

FY2009: \$222,407.05 (actual)
 FY2010: \$235,434.44 (actual)
 FY2011: \$251,100.00 (estimated)

Table One: MSC Libraries Average Annual Cost Comparisons

Library Size	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011
Small with no circ	\$625	\$680	\$730
Small with circ	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500
Medium with no or little circ	\$2100	\$2500	\$2800
Medium with circ	\$4500	\$5000	\$5000
Large*	\$30,000	\$32000	\$26000

* Note that in FY09/10, there are only 3 “large” libraries and that they cover nearly half of the annual cost for the entire catalog. Costs decrease for “large” libraries in 2011 due to the addition of another large library to the catalog.

Table TWO: MSC Libraries Average Annual Cost Comparisons with \$100,000 toward shared costs.

Library Size	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011
Small with no circ	\$356	\$388	\$416
Small with circ	\$627	\$741	\$855
Medium with no or little circ	\$1197	\$1425	\$1596
Medium with circ	\$2565	\$2850	\$2850
Large	\$17100	\$18240	\$14820

The potential annual cost savings is computed by reducing each MSC library's annual membership cost by 43% if \$100,000 is directed to the MSC's annual, shared costs. This is regardless of the library size or type. The reduction lowers to 37% if the expected influx of new libraries requires the hiring of an additional, fully funded staff person.

Commonly asked questions concerning the Montana Shared Catalog.

What is the Montana Shared Catalog.

- The Montana Shared Catalog is a voluntary consortium comprised, as of Jul 1, 2009, of ninety-nine libraries and branches. MSC libraries are found in 64 Montana communities, serving a combined population more than a half million with over 300,000 registered users.
- The MSC currently includes four academic libraries, 55 public libraries and branches, 29 school libraries, and 11 special library members, stretching across the state from Troy to Ashland and Darby to Froid. For a complete list of current member libraries go to:
http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Montana_Shared_Catalog/Members/memberlist-type.asp

What are the advantages of belonging to a library consortium such as the MSC?

- It provides the ability to share resources without sacrificing the individuality of each member library.
- Staff development, cooperation and interaction enhance the quality of service: Libraries helping libraries serve all patrons better.
- Provides access to resources that are cost prohibitive if working alone.
- Enhanced services with emphasis on access to new electronic resources.

- Members have access to a shared bibliographic database of more than 700,000 titles.
- Servers and support staff are in Helena, not a vendor hosting site where you're just a number waiting in line for service. The local MSC staff is dedicated to serving and supporting MSC members, not a worldwide customer base.

How much does it cost?

- The cost to join the MSC is dependent upon library size, number of unique titles, number of total items, number of patron records and how data will be migrated from your current system. Most, if not all vendor costs for initial setup, can be paid for thru LSTA grant monies after approved by the State Library Commission.
- The annual operating budget is prepared by the MSC Director, approved by the MSC Executive Committee and voted on by the membership during its annual Spring membership meeting. The current MSC operating budget can be found online at:
http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Montana_Shared_Catalog/Meetings/Meeting_Information/Spring2009/WorkingFY10MSCBudget.xls
- Annual vendor maintenance costs and MSC administrative costs are shared by all MSC members. Individual membership costs depend upon library size and annual circulation. Annual OCLC subscription, replacement of peripheral equipment, barcodes and supplies are other ongoing costs.

What services are provided through the Montana Shared Catalog? Membership in the MSC provides library users and librarians with the following:

- SirsiDynix "Symphony" Integrated Library System for Consortia
- E-Library Patron Access via Internet
- Yearly authority record maintenance
- SirsiDynix "Directors Station" used for obtaining and presenting statistics.
- NetLibrary collections and seamless integration into other online products
- Monthly uploads to OCLC for holdings maintenance in WorldCat
- Centralized system administration including server hosting and daily backup
- 24 x 7 system and software technical support
- State-of-the-art IBM production server and a development server for testing, training and redundancy
- New library training and bi-annual refresher training
- Networking with peers and colleagues

More information about the MSC, including test driving the user interface, links to the MSC Blog and a more comprehensive list of "Frequently Asked Questions" can be found on the MSC website at:

http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Montana_Shared_Catalog/default.asp