



MEMO

To: 2023 Public Library Standards Task Force Members
From: Tracy Cook, Lead Consulting Librarian and Cara Orban, Consortia Director
Subject: Changes to degree requirement for library directors
Date: August 14, 2023

Currently Admin Rule 10.102.1160 (7) states “Directors of libraries that serve over 25,000 people have a Master of Library Science or equivalent degree.”

MSL has been asked to reconsider this rule. We would like to discuss the following questions with the task force members.

- Do library directors need a Master of Library Science degree specifically in order to complete their duties or is there an equivalent degree that is acceptable? What would be considered an equivalent degree?
- Do library directors need a Master of Library Science degree if staff of the library have the library science degree? If so, what staff positions should be considered and/or how many staff should have the degree?
- Do library directors need a degree or should work experience be considered as a substitute for a degree? If work experience should be considered, what type of experience and/or number of years is needed? What other work factors may be considered?
- Are there other options the task force would like to consider for this administrative rule?