

MSL Certification Policy



Drop-In Session #2 – February 4, 2026

Contents

Meeting Recording	1
Agenda	1
Discussion Drafts	1
Summary	2
Next steps	3
Questions?	3

Meeting Recording

- Recorded on February 4, 2026
- [Watch the Video](#)
- [ASPeN Event](#)

Agenda

- Introductions and welcome
- Purpose of the meeting
 - to gather feedback about changes, answer questions, and capture any ideas or suggestions from the library community.
- Brief description of the changes with a walk through the documents and how they relate to one another.
- Discussion - attendees and subcommittee members
 - Any questions about the proposed changes, documents, or process?
 - Any feedback about the proposed changes, documents, or process?
 - Any suggestions or things you would like us to consider?

Discussion Drafts

- [Certification Policy Draft - Version 2](#)

MSL Certification Policy



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Summary

- **Key Points Discussed**

- Purpose of the session and timeline.
- Focus on library directors and removal of staff/trustee tracks (for now).
- Course catalog and approval process details.
- Flexibility for retroactive credit.
- Transition timeline (effective July 1, 2026).

- **Major Concerns & Suggestions**

- Clarify initial track requirements.
- Maintain face-to-face training opportunities.
- Address local training credit and blanket approvals.
- Avoid repetitive courses; keep catalog fresh.
- Ensure staff access and clarify pre-approval for in-person sessions.
- Refine policy language.
- Address local training flexibility.

Key Changes Proposed

1. **Focus on Library Directors**

- Certification tied to state aid; limited resources mean priority is directors.
- Staff and trustee tracks removed for now but may be revisited later.

2. **Course Catalog & Approval Process**

- Catalog will be **curated and updated regularly** to ensure relevance.
- Anyone can **suggest courses** for addition to the catalog.
- Approval criteria (draft):
 - Learning outcomes align with CE competencies.
 - Presenter has subject expertise.
 - Course benefits multiple libraries.
 - Supports public library standards.

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3. Flexibility for Timely Opportunities

- If a librarian takes a valuable course before approval, they can **submit it for addition to the catalog**.
- If approved later, credit will be granted upon approval.
- Goal: Encourage librarians to help build a strong catalog.

4. Transition Timeline

- New policy starts **July 1, 2026**.
- Credits earned before June 30, 2026 remain valid.
- Current certificates remain valid until expiration.

Next steps

- Continue to gather feedback.
- Subcommittee will report at the February 11 Commission meeting.
- Policy adoption planned for April or June Commission meeting.

Questions?

- [Tracy Cook](#), Lead Learning and Consulting Librarian
- [Colet Bartow](#), Continuing Education Coordinator