

The purpose of the Funding Committee is to review the state and federal grants as well as local appropriations and to recommend improvements to ensure a minimum level of quality basic library service for all the people of Georgia.

Plan of work:

1. Review and analyze historical funding documentation for direction and trends.
2. Develop a plan of library service for the future including goals and objectives, plans for securing funding, and measures for success. A gap analysis will demonstrate the funding needs.
3. Define the equalization issues facing public libraries, using Standards and other measures, and work to obtain state and other funding to remove the inequities.
4. Develop an equitable number and division of state paid professional librarian positions in order to achieve a fair level of professional knowledge and ability to provide library services to patrons in every Georgia county.
5. Recognize that regional system administration requires separate funding for the services provided by contract to system members
6. Seek changes in Georgia law and provision of state funding to support financial and performance accountability, including the statewide mandate and support for responsive and timely audits for every system.
7. Identify a reasonable technology replacement schedule and work to implement it as a continuation item in the state budget.
8. Develop a separate state-funded travel budget that adequately reflects the mandatory and essential meetings that all librarians and directors must attend including Directors meetings, PINES/Evergreen training, youth staff training programs, accounting and management training, GALILEO and technology training, and others.
9. Maintain and expand the construction grant program to enable libraries to meet standards. This may include funding for major repairs and adaptation, bookmobiles, and other traditional and non-traditional library services.
10. Expand and enhance library services to people with disabilities, the homebound, and the economically disadvantaged.
11. Work with GPLS staff to provide statewide public library services that meet LSTA goals.
12. Obtain funding for GPLS consultants to do performance monitoring in every library system at least once every three years.
13. Develop a law or policy that specifies the obligations and responsibility of local funding agency(ies) for public library services for their citizens.