# About Georgia Public Library Service

Georgia Public Library Service empowers libraries to improve the lives of all Georgians.

We provide innovative, scalable library technology and services; staff training and best practices; access to grants; and more to create equity in library experience for patrons no matter where they live.



We also work with elected officials to ensure they understand the critical role that libraries play in meeting the immediate and long-term needs of citizens.

Georgia Public Library Service is the state library administrative agency and a unit of the Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.

#### **OUR SERVICES & PROGRAMS**

#### Georgia Library Public Information Network for Electronic Services (PINES)

PINES is the public library automation and lending network for more than 300 public libraries and service outlets. Anyone who lives in Georgia can get a PINES card. PINES serves patrons in all 159 Georgia counties, creating a statewide borderless library that provides equal access to information for all residents. Those with a PINES card have access to a shared collection of more than 11 million materials that can be delivered to their home libraries free of charge.

## Youth Services and Family Literacy

Georgia Public Library Service coordinates the annual statewide Summer Reading Program to encourage children and families to read during school vacations; this program is critical to prevent summer learning loss. Libraries also host literacy-based activities, and children receive rewards for achieving reading goals. More than 2.4 million children, young adults, and caregivers attend at least one of the 80,800 in-person or virtual programs offered to them by Georgia's public libraries throughout the year.

### Georgia Library Learning Online (GALILEO)

Georgia Public Library Service ensures that all Georgia public libraries and their patrons have access to GALILEO, the state's virtual library that provides online access to thousands of periodicals, journals, books, practice tests and family histories. Users also can access many resources wherever they have an internet connection.

#### Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

GLS is the statewide program that provides library services for the blind and those whose physical abilities require materials in digital audio formats or in braille. GLS serves Georgia residents through its library open to the public and materials distribution center. Library users who are not able to visit a library in person may obtain materials through the mail free of charge.

### Professional Consulting, Training and Facilities Support

Georgia Public Library Service provides a broad range of consulting and technical assistance such as resource sharing, marketing, facilities planning, and preservation and digitization of historical resources. Services also include consulting to library boards of trustees, recruitment and hiring of library administrators, and leadership in advocacy and governmental relations.

The agency also offers diverse training and continuing education courses for library professionals, from integrating technology into services to digitizing historic records.

#### **Grant Administration**

Georgia Public Library Service administers more than \$44.2 million in state and federal grant funds to public library systems and Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled and for the support of other statewide activities. Grants support salaries and travel for professional librarians, the purchase of books and materials. the maintenance and operation of facilities and the purchase and development of technology systems for library staff and users, so our libraries continue to meet the needs. of their communities.

#### Computer Networking and Technical Support

Georgia Public Library Service provides technical and network support for library broadband networks. In addition, we provide state funding and assist libraries in securing federal funding to keep them connected to the highest speeds available in their communities.

GPLS provides cloud hosting for public access computers and productivity software for library staff. We also provide technologybased outreach and education.



