

RESOURCE SHARING

Overview

The Library works cooperatively and participates in statewide, regional, and local sharing of resources. Current resource sharing initiatives within Colorado include AIRS, Aspencat, AskColorado, Across Colorado Digital Consortium, Colorado Library Card (CLC), Colorado's Historic Newspaper Project, Marmot, Nexus, Plinkit, Prospector, and SWIFT. Please consult our list of acronyms.

Colorado has a long history of resource sharing. Colorado libraries are a collaborative group in many ways, not just within the public library sphere, but also with school, academic, special libraries as well as community organizations.

It is important to be a lender as well as a borrower when participating in Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services. As libraries move towards allowing our patrons more independence in their library transactions, it is important for us to consider how to empower them in that process.

Resource Sharing Checklist

- 1. Participate in interlibrary loan service as both a borrower and lender.
- 2. Adopt and implement the Colorado Interlibrary Loan Best Practices (2004).
- 3. Use SWIFT or other electronic methods for requesting or supplying ILL materials.
- 4. Offer patrons the opportunity to initiate ILL requests electronically.
- 5. Participate in statewide resource sharing programs and services and promote these programs to library users.
- 6. Contribute resources and/or staff to support statewide resource sharing programs.
- 7. Participate in the Colorado Library Card program, offering reciprocal borrowing to cardholders of other Colorado libraries.
- 8. Participate in a centralized, shared bibliographic database.
- 9. Provide access to databases or electronic collections in compliance with licensing agreements.
- 10. Become a member of the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC), Colorado's one regional library system. (Membership is free.)
- 11. Participate in the state-wide courier service.