

PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS Sixth Edition:

**Using the NEW Standards to
Improve Your Library Services**

The Standards: A Brief Overview

The Standards are reviewed about every 5 years.

- *The last revision was in 2010*

A lot has changed in library services since the current format was developed.

- *Digital items, gathering spaces, programming, etc.*

These considerations called for a much more comprehensive review process.

The Standards: The Process

A task force of more than 32 library professionals from across the state, representing 15 systems.

– *Steering Group and 3 focus teams (Admin & Governance, Collections & Services, Access & Facilities)*

Groups were established in 2015 and process culminated after the Standards Revision Summit on April 5, 2017.

Final document was published in March 2018.

The NEW Standards!

What has changed--

- *More concise*
- *Technology has been incorporated into other categories*
- *Quantitative standards are more granular*
- *Added statutory and system membership requirements*
- *Tier structure*

Tiered Standards

- Tier One:** The minimum standard of service that should be available to all residents of the state; all must be reached
- Tier Two:** An expansion beyond Tier One; all of Tier One, then at least all but 2 of Tier Two (not in same category)
- Tier Three:** The highest standard of service; all of Tiers One and Two, then at least all but 2 of Tier Three (not in same category)

Questions?

How to Use the New Standards

The New Standards

- *How to find the Sixth Edition (2018) from <https://dpi.wi.gov/>*
- *A walking tour of the document*
- *A helpful [checklist](#)*

How to Use the New Standards

Self-evaluation tool

- *Identify areas of strength*
- *Recognize areas for improvement*
- ***Set goals and develop strategic plan***
- ***Provide data needed to assist in gaining community support***
 - ***Here is an example***

How to Use the New Standards

The New Standards

- *A few words about the Quantitative Standards*
 - *Where they are located*
 - *How they are calculated*
 - *What they are good for... and what they are not good for*

Service v. Municipal Population

- Service Population more accurately reflects the services that a library provides
- Any of the methods provided in Appendix C will work, depending on a library's unique situation
- Municipal population *might* be beneficial when discussing funding with the library's municipality
- **Trustees may wish to discuss this with the library director to determine the most appropriate population calculator**

Example: Hypothetical Public Library

- Municipal population = 10,000
- Extended service population = 19,500
- **Which would you use?**

- Municipal population = 5,000
- Extended service population = 5,500
- **What about this one?**

What's Next: A Web Interface

- Not in production yet; funds already available
- Snapshot of the library's current levels of standards
 - Compared to libraries statewide
 - Compared to “like” libraries
 - *What does “like” mean?*

Also:

- Space planning update
- Inclusive Services companion tool
- Glossary

Thank You!

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