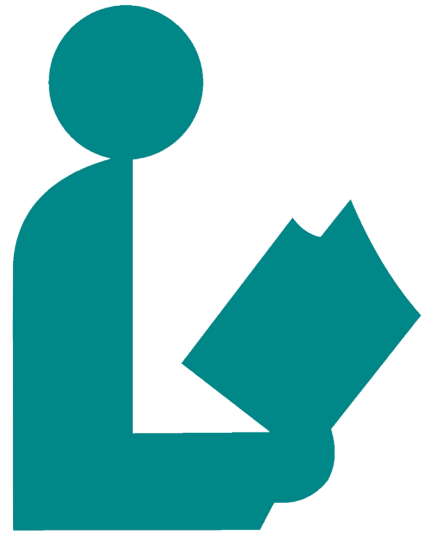


LIBRARY FUNDING IN MICHIGAN

The state of Michigan has 397 public library systems and each has its own unique funding mechanisms. However, the majority of public libraries rely on three main sources of revenue.

Millages, **State Aid to Libraries**, and **Penal Fines**.

Most library funding is local and while the majority comes from millages, around 12% of libraries do not have any type of millage and are mainly funded through municipal appropriations. Most libraries also receive Personal Property Tax Reimbursement Funding. Some libraries receive Renaissance Zone payments. Funding also comes from service contracts, wind, solar, and casino revenue agreements. Other funds from things like donations, fundraisers, or grants typically make up only a small portion of library budgets.



MILLAGES

Approximately 80% of all library funding in Michigan comes from dedicated property taxes (millages) approved by voters on ballot initiatives.

Some libraries have unvoted millages (up to 1 mil) approved annually by city governments, while others have millages authorized via charter sections.



STATE AID

State Aid to Libraries accounts for approximately 5-10% of library operating income. Established by the State Aid to Public Libraries Act 89 of 1977, this funding is allocated annually by the state and administered by the Library of Michigan.



PENAL FINES

Penal fines in Michigan are constitutionally mandated funds collected from criminal law violations and allocated exclusively to public libraries. These fines are a crucial funding source, especially for smaller and rural libraries, accounting for 3% to 70% of their budgets.



MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION