

# RAILS Report

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## Deals and Discounts

### Free Community Engagement Calendars

[Burbio.com](#) is a free and fully automated community events platform that streams all of a town's activities—library, school, government, and nonprofit events—in one place and allows residents to personalize event feeds, add to their digital calendar, and receive updates. Burbio partners with the library that uses it as a tool for promoting events and building communities. The library introduces the service to patrons and invites other nonprofit/community organizations to use the service. Burbio handles all onboarding. For more information, [register for a webinar](#), log into the [Deals and Discounts](#) page on the RAILS website to read the Burbio informational sheet, or check out this short [video](#).

### CARLI E-Resources Brokering Service

On July 10, 2019, Leila Heath, RAILS Library Resources and Programs Manager, attended the first meeting of CARLI's advisory group on e-resources brokering for non-CARLI members. Representatives from the Illinois State library, CARLI, Illinois Heartland Library System, and several public libraries discussed the proposal. RAILS agrees that the proposal holds much promise, especially for increased and improved collaboration among our organizations to serve all our libraries—specifically to get them better discounts and access to resources. RAILS requested another conversation to nail down specifics on pricing structure and transparency, the coordination of each organization's efforts, and RAILS' role in promoting and communicating with our members.

## E-books

### Publisher Restrictions on Library E-books

Publishers' licensing models for library e-book lending are becoming more restrictive. There's a trend away from perpetual access towards time-limited licenses, and in late July Macmillan announced that a library may purchase one copy of a new title in e-book format, after which there is an eight-week embargo on purchasing additional copies. Such restrictions impact library e-book consortia particularly hard.

The American Library Association has [denounced Macmillan's new policy](#) and urges librarians to advocate for purchasing and lending models that are reasonable and flexible. ALA has also released a [template](#) to assist organizations that want to oppose the embargo. The Illinois Library Association supports the ALA statements.

### Axis 360/eRead Illinois

Baker & Taylor updated the Axis 360 app in July. The update incorporates new technology for the reading mechanism within the app. Not only did this update fix several persistent issues, it also paves the way for more advanced updates to Axis 360 in the future.

### BiblioBoard

BiblioBoard created a unique instance of our collection just for schools (<https://railsforschools.biblioboard.com/home>). It combines content from the Time for Kids, ABDO, Recovering the Classics, Spotted Owl Press, and BiblioBoard Core modules. This provides a solution for schools that have expressed concerns about the age-appropriateness of some content in BiblioBoard Library. It also streamlines the browsing experience for school-aged students.

## SimplyE for Consortia

As part of the SimplyE for Consortia grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Minitex is working with Pinnacle Library Cooperative to test SimplyE. Pinnacle staff are currently testing both the iOS and Android apps. Minitex is also working with Green Hills Public Library District and Schaumburg Township District Library. Configuration for Green Hills PLD is nearly complete. Schaumburg began testing the week of August 12.

## Explore More Illinois

Explore More Illinois, the RAILS museum/cultural attractions program, has 207 participating libraries and 21 cultural attractions as of August 27, 2019. So far, the most popular attraction has been the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

## Find More Illinois

Hometown Public Library recently went live in Find More Illinois. The library has a standalone integrated library system and does not use OCLC, so Find More Illinois greatly expands its interlibrary loan options.

As of August 15, 2019, Find More Illinois participants include one academic library, twenty-eight public libraries, and four school libraries. Five more libraries are in the implementation process, including the first SWAN library.

Find More Illinois annual fees for libraries with collection expenditures of \$200,000 or more have been reduced as of July 1, 2019. (Fees for other libraries were already so low that it was not feasible to reduce them further.) In addition, in FY 2020, RAILS will continue to assist with implementation fees for members of shared catalog consortia in RAILS and for early adopters for libraries with standalone integrated library systems.

More webinars and in-person presentations have been scheduled for this fall to promote Find More Illinois. You can find the list of upcoming sessions at <https://www.librarylearning.info/tags/?FMIdemo>.

## Delivery

The quarterly delivery fine count was done from August 19–23, 2019. Analysis of the count is in progress.

On August 29, 2019, RAILS met with representatives from the Laboratory for Applied Spatial Analysis (LASA) at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. LASA has done previous delivery studies for RAILS, Illinois Heartland Library System, and the Illinois State Library. A more in-depth statewide study is beginning to assist with long-range planning of delivery services.

## Universal Service/Unserved

RAILS has asked all its public libraries to complete a survey on the scope of the unserved issue in their area and services that they currently offer to the unserved. The survey closes August 30, 2019, so results will be available in the fall. Grant Halter, RAILS Data Coordinator and Research Analyst, will also analyze other available data related to the unserved. This information will help RAILS look for additional ways to work with its members and other stakeholders to ensure that all in Illinois have equal access to public library service.