

Universal Service Committee

Membership

- RAILS Board members
- Member library representatives
- RAILS Executive Director (ex officio)
- Associate Executive Director (ex officio)
- Consulting and Continuing Education Director (ex officio)

The RAILS Board President shall annually appoint at least two members from the RAILS board. Representatives from member libraries serve for two years and may serve for two consecutive terms. Terms shall be staggered so that half of member library representatives are appointed each year. There will be no alternate representatives.

New representatives are seated at the first meeting after the beginning of the RAILS fiscal year in July. Interim appointments may be made when necessary to fill vacant seats.

Quorum and Voting

A majority of the members on the Universal Service shall constitute a quorum.

Charge

Recognizing the importance of extending service to the more than 1 million unserved residents in Illinois, nearly 500,000 of which are in RAILS, RAILS has established a task force to explore solutions to the unserved. RAILS adopted a plan in October of 2016 which should be reviewed and changed as decided by the committee.

The committee will:

- Review the current RAILS plan to serve the unserved and document progress.
- Prioritize goals and objectives in the plan and develop appropriate action steps.
- Be a voice for the unserved by bringing the issue to the attention of local libraries and boards of trustees.
- Develop a thorough understanding of the reasons why there are unserved residents and the implications both for the individuals affected, libraries and Illinois as a whole.
- As appropriate, share information and work collaboratively with the RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee, RAILS Advocacy Committee, ILA Public Policy Committee and ILA Advocacy Committee.