

RAILS IS FOR ALL LIBRARY STAFF!

Do you have a [Library Directory & Learning Calendar \(L2\)](#) account? If not, click the link and set up an account using your library email address. Once that's done, you'll have access to many of the resources for all levels of staff on [L2](#) and on the [RAILS website](#). Read on for more information.

No matter what your staff position, RAILS has something for you, including:

Professional Development/Continuing Education (CE)

RAILS offers webinars at no cost to library staff at all levels. Visit [L2](#) to search events by keyword, topic, location, audience, date, and more.

Many RAILS CE programs are recorded and available in our [CE Archives](#).

Networking and Collaboration Opportunities

RAILS has over [40 mailing lists](#) for staff in different positions to discuss common challenges and best practices. Positions/topics covered include:

- Circulation
- Electronic Content
- Facilities & Building Management
- Interlibrary Loan
- Makerspace
- Marketing & PR
- Middle Managers
- Programming
- Readers Advisory
- Reference
- Technical Services
- Technology & Network Management
- Youth Services

RAILS has a [Networking Groups Directory](#) with info on meetings and a contact person to find out more. Groups cover almost every department and staff position.

Looking for colleagues who share your position at different Illinois libraries? Log into L2 and do an [Advanced People Search](#).

[RAILS Online Roundtables](#) are hour-long forums where library staff share best practices on a wide variety of topics.



Affordable Access to E-Resources

[eRead Illinois Axis 360](#) provides affordable access to nearly 65,000 e-books and audiobooks. Approximately 35% of items in the collection are aimed at children/young adults.

[Inkie.org](#) is a suite of resources available to everyone in Illinois at no charge courtesy of RAILS. Users can browse unique e-content collections from Illinois authors and libraries. Library patrons of all ages can design and self-publish their own e-books using Pressbooks software.

[Explore More Illinois](#), RAILS online cultural and recreational pass program, features over 54 attractions of interest to library patrons of all ages. There is no charge for libraries to join.

[Find More Illinois](#) connects participating standalone and shared online catalogs. Library patrons can quickly search all these catalogs in a single search. The one-time setup fees are waived for libraries that join before the end of 2023! No annual fees will be billed until July 1, 2023.



Other Opportunities

[The World Language Cataloging Services](#) program provides original and copy cataloging for materials in world languages in a library's regular collection. This service is made possible by a grant from the Illinois State Library and there is no charge for libraries to use the service statewide.

RAILS offers a variety of [Deals and Discounts](#), including group purchase offers, to help just about every library department save money.

Staff at all levels can play a role in promoting and advocating for their library and all libraries. The [My Library Is...](#) campaign provides talking points and other resources that can help.

Engage with RAILS on social media:

Facebook - [/railslibraries](#)

Instagram - [railslibraries](#)

Twitter - [@RAILSLibraries](#)

TikTok - [@railslibraries](#)

LinkedIn - [/railslibraries](#)

To find out more about what RAILS can do for you:

- Visit the [RAILS website](#).
- Subscribe to the [weekly RAILS E-News](#).
- Contact the [RAILS Communications Team](#).

