

The value of your OCLC resource sharing subscription



As a member of the WorldCat® Resource Sharing network, your library is part of a global community whose focus on cooperation is unmatched. Together with other member institutions, you help users worldwide find and obtain articles, books, theses, visual and sound materials and more. Not only do you satisfy your users with access to more than 1.6 billion physical and digital holdings, but you help prove the premise of library value—that sharing resources with others simply makes sense.

The fundamental value of sharing: jointly creating a better experience for everyone

When your library shares resources through WorldCat, you benefit in two main ways. First, you elevate your collection's profile, making unique and important local materials more readily available to information seekers worldwide. Second, your users gain access to the materials in many other libraries, improving the experience you're able to provide. It's a win-win for everyone involved.

Your resources are further enhanced by the WorldCat® partner program, which puts your library's holdings in the search results of search sites such as Yahoo! Search, Google and Google Books. Web users outside the library environment discover your resources at the place where many start their search.

WorldCat Resource Sharing gets your library's physical and digital items into the hands of end users quickly. This drastically cuts the amount of administrative work performed by your staff, freeing them to concentrate on other work that increases user satisfaction.

More choices for you and your users

As part of the WorldCat Resource Sharing community, your ability to satisfy information seekers is unmatched. At the core of this global, 10,000-library-system is the comprehensive WorldCat database. With more than 1.6 billion holdings—both physical and digital—WorldCat crosses all manner of subjects, languages and cultures. You'll fill 95 percent or more of requests, so your library will increasingly be viewed as a "one-stop" provider of essential services to its customers.

From library to desktop

When your library participates in OCLC® resource sharing services, users benefit from personalized features—24 hours a day, 365 days per year—via the Web. Having documents delivered straight to their desktops allows users to revisit documents over a period of time. Self-service functions allow users to check on the status of their interlibrary loans, and they are provided with electronic updates of their requests' progress.

Integration with the FirstSearch® reference service means less duplicative effort for you, while access to materials through WorldCat.org™ and WorldCat® Local means better search options for your users. And Direct Request lets users place requests directly from an online citation, bypassing staff review and going directly into the WorldCat Resource Sharing system.

Saving time and money

OCLC helps you connect discovery to delivery while cutting the amount of staff time required to process requests. You'll manage resource sharing tasks more efficiently so that you can concentrate on your users. The ILL Fee Management feature of WorldCat Resource Sharing allows you to reconcile resource sharing charges and receipts directly through your monthly OCLC invoice, saving money by eliminating invoices and check writing to individual lending partners. And OCLC's Policies Directory lets you review the lending and copying policies of other libraries participating in WorldCat Resource Sharing. Interlibrary loan requests are automatically deflected to the next resource lender for materials your library does not wish to loan. And because WorldCat® Registry data is incorporated in the Policies Directory, it's all done automatically, improving workflow and reducing the amount of time a request remains in "pending" status.

The work of libraries is founded on the ideals of sharing and community value. WorldCat Resource Sharing gives you—and your users—the chance to participate in and benefit from the largest example of library cooperation in history. Contact your OCLC Library Services Consultant to learn more: libservices@oclc.org.