WorldShare Interlibrary Loan automates your interlibrary borrowing and lending processes through the largest resource-sharing network in the world to save your staff time and to ensure timely delivery of items to the people who need them.

Deliver the world to your users through sharing.
Expand your collection without expanding your budget.

No one library can maintain a collection with everything that users could possibly need. But not every library can support a full interlibrary loan staff to manually track requests, negotiate charges and lending periods, mail print resources, cut checks and send invoices. Simplify your ILL processes by automating tasks and relying on the largest cooperative of resource-sharing libraries in the world. Get your users the resources they need quickly and securely to help make breakthroughs possible.

In the face of a limited materials budget, reach out to a global network of libraries to supply your users with the resources they need. WorldShare ILL connects you to thousands of libraries whose entire collections can be viewed at a glance in WorldCat®. Together, these libraries have created a shared, global library collection for the benefit of all library users.

Although your library may have few library specialists, your library generalists and temporary student workers can help with your ILL tasks. WorldShare ILL is simple to learn and teach to staff with any level of experience. And you can set up your library’s policies and other standard information in advance to make sure it’s correctly included on every request.

With a manual process for ILL tasks, you spend a lot of time in one-on-one conversations with other libraries to fulfil requests. WorldShare ILL simplifies your processes by showing you other libraries’ holdings, policies and fees before you make a request. When one library can’t fulfil a request for any reason, it’s automatically routed to the next library you identified.

Library users expect to get the materials they request quickly. With WorldShare ILL, you can provide electronic resources shortly after receiving the request. Post these documents on a secure portal where only the user who made the request can access them.

Managing invoices and payments to cover ILL fees can take time away from other, more value-added tasks. WorldShare ILL allows you to consolidate all your ILL charges and payments into your OCLC invoice so you can reconcile a month’s worth of transactions all at once.

Your library’s stakeholders may not understand the value of ILL services without solid metrics. WorldShare ILL includes built-in statistical reports that you can share with others to show how ILL contributes to the greater value of your library. These reports can also help you identify trends to help further streamline your workflows and policies.
Get users what they need quickly and securely.

Share collections with libraries around the world or just across town. Look beyond a library’s holdings and choose who you want to share with based on cost, location, item format, delivery and payment methods, and turnaround time, all within a single interface.

Use general staff and student workers to manage your ILL workload. WorldShare ILL’s intuitive workflows make it easy to teach to library generalists and student workers. And, because the system is cloud-based, you won’t need IT support to implement and use it.

Pre-set your borrowing and lending preferences to streamline your ILL processes. Automatically incorporate your deflection policies, shipping information, custom lender groups and other information into each request.

Illustrate the value of ILL services through statistics. Show your stakeholders how much your users and other libraries rely on your ability to support ILL. Analyse borrowing and lending patterns in your library to refine staffing, workflows and policies.

Deliver documents with confidence that users can access them securely, quickly and easily. Article Exchange allows you to access borrowed documents from within the WorldShare ILL interface and send a secure and time-sensitive access link to the user who requested it.

Connect users to electronic resources with easy identification of e-resources available through other libraries or open-access providers. Through integration with the WorldCat knowledge base, ILL requests you receive include a direct link to articles that you’re licensed to supply, so you can immediately and automatically fulfil those requests.

Simplify ILL payments and charges by routing all fees through your regular OCLC invoice. Interlibrary Loan Fee Management (IFM) allows you to easily reconcile all ILL fees on a monthly basis. Free your staff from calculating fees, writing and mailing checks, and following up on unpaid invoices.

If you’re a net borrower, you can pay fees with one payment each month. If you’re a net lender, the remaining balance goes toward your invoice. Participating libraries report an average savings of more than $45 USD ($63 AUD) per request by eliminating invoices and check writing for individual transactions.

"WorldShare ILL complies with copyright restrictions while being vendor-friendly and easy to use. This is the most uncomplicated way of processing requests I’ve seen in my 15 years of working with ILL."

Robyn Clark-Bridges
Evening Supervisor and Interlibrary Loan Associate
Mount Mercy University
Automate interlibrary loan staff workflows and help your users quickly get the resources they need.

Quick, secure document delivery

Eliminate security and access problems that arise when emailing large documents to other libraries and library users. Article Exchange offers a secure location within WorldShare ILL where you can upload a requested document and provide access only to the user who made the request. Documents made available through Article Exchange are available only for five views or 30 days, which helps you adhere to copyright restrictions.

Libraries can access Article Exchange through the WorldShare ILL interface without any additional fees or software installations. This integration allows you to see an alert when your requested document is available, so you no longer need to email libraries directly. Without the need to wait on email responses, you can fulfil requests within hours, not days.

“Within 24 hours...”

“Article Exchange within WorldShare Interlibrary Loan is not just a great thing for our staff, it’s also a great thing for our users, because it means that electronic delivery of book chapters and articles happens often within 24 hours.”

Karl Stutzman
Assistant Director of Digital Library Services
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Share your specialised collections.

The library collection at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary maintains a specialised collection focused on the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition. The library wants to make these resources available to everyone and to make sure it can provide the broad resources that its students may need. The library uses Article Exchange, so Karl no longer has to photocopy, scan or email document requests. Now, he can get documents to students quicker and more securely than ever before.

Read other members’ experiences at oc.lc/storiesANZ.

Contact us at Australia@oclc.org to learn more.

Ask us about implementing automated interlibrary loan services at individual institutions or for your group, learn how WorldShare ILL connects with WorldShare Management Services, hear how other libraries have benefited, find out about upcoming ILL events and more.

Because what is known must be shared.