

19. SUFFOLK COOPERATIVE LIBRARY SYSTEM



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Emma Clark Memorial Library Setauket, NY

The Suffolk Cooperative Library System (SCLS) was created by state charter on June 23, 1961 and confirmed by agreement of the Boards of Trustees of its member libraries in January 1962. Each of the 54 member libraries remains autonomous under separate charter from the New York State Education Department. Local library boards elect the 9-member governing board of SCLS. This Board appoints the Director of the SCLS. SCLS is one of 23 public library systems in the State of New York and is governed by NYS Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. 63% of the funding for SCLS comes from the State of New York; the remainder from member library support of shared services. SCLS exists to help local public libraries provide library services to the people of Suffolk County. In addition, the Patchogue-Medford Public Library is the legally designated central library, providing support services to SCLS libraries. At present, the system is organized to provide the following services:

ADMINISTRATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES which includes advice on library construction, automation, Civil Service concerns, legal and personnel matters. Resource sharing through an Interloan System and providing a daily delivery service of materials between mem-

ber libraries. SCLS offers printing services and the use of graphics equipment at SCLS headquarters in Bellport. Continuing Education workshops are organized and offered to member library personnel.

COMPUTER SERVICES are offered to member libraries with consulting services to promote computer technology. Technical assistance and help in maintaining equipment is also available.

INTERNET SERVICES through SuffolkNet offers libraries and library patrons a wide range of Internet services. Training for library staffs is also available. Library patrons may use the SuffolkNet telecommunications network from their homes.

UNION CATALOG information for materials held in member public libraries is available through the Union Catalog database. This information is updated on a daily basis.

CATALOGING SERVICES are provided through the Patchogue-Medford Library for specialized reference and referral. Special collections are also available through the system. Through Interlibrary Loan, books and magazine articles may be obtained from other libraries in the County, State, and throughout the United States. Government depository material is available, as well as census microfilm for genealogical research. Multi-language books and repair manuals may be ordered from the system at your local library.

YOUTH SERVICES offers services to children, young adults, and their families through a wide variety of activities including Summer Reading Programs, a Hospital Visit Program, and an annual Performers Showcase to help libraries choose programs for use in their library programming.

TALKING BOOKS PLUS is a program offering materials for the blind and physically handicapped. These materials are recorded by the National Library Service for the use of special needs patrons by the Library of Congress. Patrons may request equipment and materials for SCLS through their local libraries.



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H. Lee Dennison Building

County Center, Hauppauge, NY