



Fiscal Year FY 2026-2027
Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

**OPERATING
REQUESTS**

(FORM B1)

For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
☒	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
☒	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
☐	Not requesting any changes.

**NON-RECURRING
REQUESTS**

(FORM B2)

For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
☐	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
☐	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
☒	Not requesting any changes.

**CAPITAL
REQUESTS**

(FORM C)

For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
☐	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
☒	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS

(FORM D)

For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
☐	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
☐	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
☒	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Wendy Coplen	(803) 734-0436	wcoplen@statelibrary.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Leesa M. Aiken	(803) 734-8668	laiken@statelibrary.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2026-2027 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:	<i>Leesa M. Aiken 9/24/25</i>	<i>Anna Claire Dando 10/1/25</i>
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Leesa M. Aiken	Anna Claire Dando

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	State Library
Agency Code:	H870
Section:	27

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Changes to Funding Source of Existing Positions	1,193,192	0	0	0	1,193,192	9.00	-9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Addition of new positions and associated funding	707,993	0	0	0	707,993	9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.00
3	B1 - Recurring	IT Shared Services	300,000	0	0	0	300,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Additional Operating Funds for Administration	11,000	0	0	0	11,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Increase Aid to Public Library Systems	1,226,268	0	0	0	1,226,268	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			3,438,453	0	0	0	3,438,453	18.00	-9.00	0.00	0.00	9.00

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Changes to Funding Source of Existing Positions
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$1,193,192 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$1,193,192
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☐	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☐	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☐	IT Technology/Security related
	☒	HR/Personnel Related
	☐	Consulted DTO during development
☐	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☐	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☐	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	☒	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Education, Training, and Human Development: Strategic Direction I Innovation: Demonstrate Excellence in Library Services. Provide continuing education and targeted skill development for library professionals and paraprofessionals. Provide consulting services to library staff and library board of trustees.
	Healthy and Safe Families: Strategic Direction II Collaboration: Strengthen Community Engagement. Provide reader advisory service and library materials to patrons who are blind or print disabled.
	Government and Citizens: Strategic Direction III Participation: Provide equitable access to information. Acquire, process, catalog, maintain, and delivery quality resources. Provide teachers, students, families, libraries, and the general public with access to electronic resources to meet informational needs of South Carolinians. Strategic Direction IV Preservation: Advance collection Stewardship and Access. Digitize and preserve South Carolina history. Provides transparency in government with centralized and free, statewide access to state publications. Serve as a depository for federal publications.

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

These funds will be used for personnel costs associated with salary and fringe.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

We are requesting a change in funding for nine positions which are currently funded using federal dollars. The programs associated with these positions are state not federal programs and should be funded using state dollars. The programs are related to the mandated functions of the State Library.

South Carolina Code 60-1-70 outlines a core function of the South Carolina State Library to support information and research needs of the General Assembly, state officers and agencies, and general public. Two of the requested positions serve in the Library Services Department, which relates specifically to the reference SC Code.

The South Carolina State Library provides 24/7 access to Discus, the State's Electronic Library for the K-12 community and has done so for twenty-five years. The State Library receives funding for the Discus databases, but does not receive funding for the associated positions of the department. Three of the requested positions serve in the Discus, Electronic Resources Department of the library, which is a core function of state government. The South Carolina State Library is a member of the K-12 Technology Initiative Board. South Carolina Code 60-1-60 outlines a core function of the State Library to provide citizens of the State specialized library services and materials not generally appropriate, economical, or available. The General Assembly has recognized the value of Discus by saving the State over \$54,000,000 in cost avoidance through the State Library's collaborative purchasing efforts.

South Carolina Code 60-1-160 requires all libraries in the State to submit an annual statistical report to the South Carolina State Library. One of the requested positions is the Statewide Data Coordinator position, which is responsible for library statistics.

South Carolina Code 60-1-130 charges the State Library with promotion of cooperation among governmental bodies and libraries for the sharing of resources. One of the requested positions is a Program Coordinator I position, responsible for duties associated with this governing mandate.

Proviso 117.107 suggests that state agencies move to a shared technology services plan with the Department of Administration to consolidate technology infrastructure of the State. The State Library has requested funding to move to the shared services plan, but will still have two positions in the Information Technology department onsite, which will need to be moved to state funds.

The South Carolina State Library receives federal funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, however this funding is not guaranteed and is extremely insecure in its current form. If federal funding was lost, the State Library would still be mandated to provide the services and functions of the above nine positions as they are state programs.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Addition of new positions and associated funding
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$707,993 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$707,993
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	9.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☐	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☐	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☐	IT Technology/Security related
	☒	HR/Personnel Related
	☐	Consulted DTO during development
	☐	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☐	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☐	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	☒	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Education, Training, and Human Development: Strategic Direction I Innovation: Demonstrate Excellence in Library Services. Provide continuing education and targeted skill development for library professionals and paraprofessionals. Provide consulting services to library staff and library board of trustees. Healthy and Safe Families: Strategic Direction II Collaboration: Strengthen Community Engagement. Provide reader advisory service and library materials to patrons who are blind or print disabled. Government and Citizens: Strategic Direction III Participation: Provide equitable access to information. Acquire, process, catalog, maintain, and delivery quality resources. Provide teachers, students, families, libraries, and the general public with access to electronic resources to meet informational needs of South Carolinians. Strategic Direction IV Preservation: Advance collection Stewardship and Access. Digitize and preserve South Carolina history. Provides transparency in government with centralized and free, statewide access to state publications. Serve as a depository for federal publications.
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

These funds will be used for personnel costs associated with salary and fringe for nine new positions.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

The South Carolina State Library has been functioning with roughly the same number of staffing allocations for over twenty years, however the manner in which we deliver services and meet our associated mandates has changed significantly. The number of direct patrons the South Carolina State Library serves has grown exponentially from 1,064 in FY22 to 2,463 in FY23 to 4,016 in FY24. As of January 2025, the South Carolina State Library had 16,115 cardholders which is an increase of over 300% from FY24. This remarkable rise in registrations reflects the successful outreach and promotional efforts implemented, as well as the increased engagement and utilization of library services by the community. We are requesting nine new positions which are related to the core functions of the South Carolina State Library and associated mandates.

South Carolina Code 60-2-20, designates the South Carolina State Library as the official state document depository for all state publications. As the State Documents Depository, the State Library plays a crucial role in preserving and documenting South Carolina's history. We successfully secured funding for the acquisition of a state-of-the-art scanner and digitization equipment last year, which significantly enhanced our ability to digitize state documents that are part of South Carolina's history. This advanced equipment is designed to meet the current and future needs of the SCSL, ensuring the preservation of our state's historical documents with greater efficiency and precision. The State Library's collection includes materials dating back as far as the late 1700s, making this investment critical for the preservation of South Carolina's rich heritage. The scanner's advanced technology increases the number of items that can be scanned simultaneously, significantly boosting productivity. We need funding for the accompanying personnel associated with this equipment so that we can meet the demands of our associated mandates and preserve the State's documents. Two of the requested positions will work in the digitization area of the State Library.

In additional effort to meet South Carolina Code 60-2-20, we have expanded our preservation area by acquiring a Kasemake CXD archival box-making machine. This advanced piece of equipment will enable the Library to produce custom-sized phase boxes, tailored precisely to the dimensions of individual items. Some of the State Library's collection is fragile and will only continue to age over time. The Kasemake machine will significantly enhance our preservation efforts as stewards of the State documents collection, ensuring long-term protection and minimizing further deterioration due to improper storage or handling. We need staff to run this machine and manage the collection. Two of the requested positions will work in the preservation area of the State Library.

South Carolina Code 60-1-120 charges the State Library with providing library services to blind and print disabled patrons. The State Library (SCSL) serves as a vital resource for individuals who are blind or print-disabled through its Talking Book Services program. There has been a notable expansion in both enrollment and engagement with this essential service. From FY24 to FY25, the Talking Book Services program experienced a significant 50% increase in new BARD users and a 6.5% increase in circulation. Additionally, TBS Reader Advisors fielded 9,751 calls and almost 14,500 emails from patrons, which is a 74% increase from FY24. The rules associated with who can participate in Talking Book Services were expanded by the National Library Service to include children with learning disabilities. One of the requested positions will focus on outreach to eligible members of the public.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

South Carolina Code 60-1-80 tasks the State Library with providing consultation to all public libraries in South Carolina and institutional libraries. During FY24, South Carolina public libraries circulated over 24 Million items and had 10.3 Million library visits. The South Carolina State Library plays a critical role in supporting these institutions by offering direct expertise and guidance to public libraries, county library boards, and local government entities. As legislative changes affecting libraries continue to be introduced and implemented, the demand for consulting services and strategic support from the State Library has steadily increased. This ongoing engagement ensures that libraries remain responsive, well-informed, and equipped to navigate an evolving policy landscape. We have been unable to effectively provide outreach and service to institutional libraries. The addition of this position would allow us to fulfill the obligations associated with this mandate.

South Carolina Code 60-1-60 outlines a core function of the State Library to provide citizens of the State specialized library services and materials not generally appropriate, economical, or available. The General Assembly has recognized the value of Discus by saving the State over \$54,000,000 in cost avoidance through the State Library's collaborative purchasing efforts. The South Carolina State Library provides 24/7 access to Discus, the State's Electronic Library for the K-12 community. The State Library receives funding for the Discus databases, but does not receive funding for the associated positions of the department. One of the requested positions is for the addition of a Discus Trainer to increase outreach to teachers and schools. The South Carolina State Library is a member of the K-12 Technology Initiative Board.

South Carolina Code 60-1-140 charges the State Library with planning, developing, and operating a statewide library network to improve resource sharing and accessibility for all users in the state. The State Library's responsibilities include recommending priorities for interlibrary cooperation, creating a state plan, setting network policies, and establishing a computer system to facilitate interlibrary loan and reference services. SCLENDS, the consortia of public libraries sharing resources across the state is currently comprised of 22 libraries. SCLENDS circulates roughly 362,000 items a month, with a collection of over 2.75 million items. We are expecting to add nine more libraries in the coming year, but we do not have dedicated staffing available to handle the addition of these libraries. There are no positions currently assigned to this mandate. The addition of a SCLENDS Coordinator position is needed to handle the associated work with fulfilling the obligations of the corresponding mandate.

The SCSL has been operating with the same number of staff for over thirty years. The addition of an Accountant/ Fiscal Analyst position is requested. Changes to Proviso 27.1 require the completion of additional paperwork and monitoring associated with State Aid to public libraries. Current staff are unable to handle this addition to their workload. The addition of Proviso 104.10, SFAA – P-Card Oversight adds additional duties and responsibilities to the finance office. Reporting and associated duties have changed and necessitate the addition of another position to ensure separation of duties and compliance with state audits and federal grant reporting.

The South Carolina State Library is experiencing a sustained period of strategic growth and increasing statewide impact. As demand for our programs and services continues to rise across multiple sectors we must expand our staffing capacity to keep pace with these evolving responsibilities. The SCSL does not have regular vacancies and needs these additional positions to fulfill our mandates. The addition of new positions is essential to maintaining service excellence, supporting innovation, and ensuring that we can effectively meet the diverse and growing needs of our customer base, which includes public libraries, educators, government agencies, individuals who are blind or print-disabled, students, researchers, and the general public.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	IT Shared Services
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$300,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$300,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☐	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☐	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☒	IT Technology/Security related
	☐	HR/Personnel Related
☒	Consulted DTO during development	
☐	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☐	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☒	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
☐	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Education, Training, and Human Development: Strategic Direction I Innovation: Demonstrate Excellence in Library Services. Provide continuing education and targeted skill development for library professionals and paraprofessionals. Provide consulting services to library staff and library board of trustees. Healthy and Safe Families: Strategic Direction II Collaboration: Strengthen Community Engagement. Provide reader advisory service and library materials to patrons who are blind or print disabled. Government and Citizens: Strategic Direction III Participation: Provide equitable access to information. Acquire, process, catalog, maintain, and delivery quality resources. Provide teachers, students, families, libraries, and the general public with access to electronic resources to meet informational needs of South Carolinians. Strategic Direction IV Preservation: Advance collection Stewardship and Access. Digitize and preserve South Carolina history. Provides transparency in government with centralized and free, statewide access to state publications. Serve as a depository for federal publications.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

These funds will be utilized to move the South Carolina State Library to a shared services model for information technology with the Department of Administration's, Division of Information Technology as recommended by Proviso 117.107.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The South Carolina State Library (SCSL) currently consumes Networking and Enterprise Content Management services from the South Carolina Department of Administration's (Admin) Division of Technology Operations (DTO). SCSL is requesting funds to accommodate the Office of Technology and Information Services (OTIS) rate adjustment and the expansion of the use of IT shared services to include endpoint, server, storage and firewall services.

The adoption of shared services supports Proviso 117.017 and provides many benefits to state agencies including redundant staffing, flexible scaling of computing resources through an operational expense model and dedicated security oversight that lets agencies focus on their core missions and provide better service to citizens. These capabilities provide the opportunity for the adoption of a common statewide computing platform that drives consistency and efficiency, and offers enhanced security to rapidly identify and remediate security vulnerabilities while adhering to state standards. The IT shared services model also allows purchasing at an enterprise scale, which drives millions of dollars in negotiated savings for the state as a whole.

Without these funds, SCSL's IT posture will be adversely impacted. Admin has provided cost estimates for IT shared services totaling \$298,361 annually and \$160,000 in one-time migration costs. The \$160,000 one-time cost will be absorbed by Admin DTO to reduce the financial requirements of adoption for the SCSL. This recurring funding request will allow DTO to return to a net neutral financial position and continue to deliver secure, flexible and scalable shared IT services.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	4
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Additional Operating Funds for Administration
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$11,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$11,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☒	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☐	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☐	IT Technology/Security related
	☐	HR/Personnel Related
	☐	Consulted DTO during development
	☐	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☐	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☐	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	☒	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Education, Training, and Human Development: Strategic Direction I Innovation: Demonstrate Excellence in Library Services. Provide continuing education and targeted skill development for library professionals and paraprofessionals. Provide consulting services to library staff and library board of trustees. Healthy and Safe Families: Strategic Direction II Collaboration: Strengthen Community Engagement. Provide reader advisory service and library materials to patrons who are blind or print disabled. Government and Citizens: Strategic Direction III Participation: Provide equitable access to information. Acquire, process, catalog, maintain, and delivery quality resources. Provide teachers, students, families, libraries, and the general public with access to electronic resources to meet informational needs of South Carolinians. Strategic Direction IV Preservation: Advance collection Stewardship and Access. Digitize and preserve South Carolina history. Provides transparency in government with centralized and free, statewide access to state publications. Serve as a depository for federal publications.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

These funds will be used for operational costs associated with the new Proviso 104.10 which requires state agencies to have an independent compliance audit of their P-Card program.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Proviso 104.10 passed during the FY26 Legislative Session requires agencies to undergo an independent audit of their P-Card program, separate from the audit that is already conducted by the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor. The fees associated with this audit were unexpected and unbudgeted for the FY26 fiscal year. The State Library cannot absorb an \$11,000 audit cost without additional funding for operations.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	5
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Increase Aid to Public Library Systems
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$1,226,268 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$1,226,268
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☒	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☒	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☐	IT Technology/Security related
	☐	HR/Personnel Related
	☐	Consulted DTO during development
	☐	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☐	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☐	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	☒	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	These funds are pass-through funds to all public libraries in the State of South Carolina. The State Library does not retain any of these funds for agency use.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	These funds are pass-through funds to all public libraries in the State of South Carolina. The State Library does not retain any of these funds for agency use.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Disbursement of State Aid to County Libraries funding combined with local dollars provides funding to public libraries in South Carolina so that they may provide quality programs and products to South Carolinians.

While each public library in our state receives some form of local support, it is the addition of state dollars that make many of the services and programs above the basic offerings possible. The request for an additional \$1,226,268 will increase the minimum State Aid to County Libraries from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Last year there were over 10 million visits to public libraries in South Carolina, with over 24.4 million items borrowed, 7.9 million wi-fi sessions occurring, and 56,000 programs took place with over 1.3 million participants attending. Over half of South Carolina citizens are library card holders. These funds are used in a variety of ways depending on the needs of individual counties.

Without these additional funds public libraries will be limited in their offerings of programs, materials, and valuable technology to aid workforce development, which fuels an area's economic development.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION

CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
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AMOUNT	\$735,179
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	We are unable to reduce staff or staffing positions. Our staff are our greatest resource; their ingenuity and intelligence are what have afforded us the ability to continue to meet the needs of our customers to include the General Assembly, public libraries, teachers, students, families, and other state agencies.
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	A 3% fund reduction based on the total budget received by the South Carolina State Library includes Reduction in pass through funds allocated by the General Assembly to State Aid to Public Libraries. State Aid funds to public libraries and Discus, South Carolina’s electronic library for the K-12 community to include, teachers, students, and families would take the bulk of any reduction.
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	The 3% reduction calculation includes pass-through funds titled "Aid to County Libraries" and should be excluded from the State Library's budget calculation. Aid to County Libraries makes up approximately 65% of the State Library's total budget. The reduction has been calculated including the funding for aid to county libraries. Reducing the general fund reduction amount to the true 3% of the State Library appropriation, not to include pass-through funds would be significantly lower at \$258,379. If the general fund reduction is not recalculated, the State Library will be forced to reduce funds for the aid to county libraries by \$479,799. The State Library will also reduce our electronic resources budget by \$258,379, which will limit the databases purchased to support Discus. Discus is the state's on-line library used by teachers, children, the K-12 community, and South Carolina residents.
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Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS	South Carolina State Library operates on a very small budget and uses allocated resources and partnerships to their fullest potential to maximize the State's funds. We cannot reduce funds by \$50,000 and continue to be effective in meeting our goals and objectives.
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What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

Agency Name:	State Library		
Agency Code:	H870	Section:	27

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Discus - South Carolina's Virtual Library for the K12 Community
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	\$54,000,000 per year.
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What is the expected savings to South Carolina’s businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☐	Repeal or revision of regulations.
	☐	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	☐	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	☒	Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	The South Carolina State Library saves the State over \$54,000,000 dollars in cost avoidance every year by leveraging the State's funds for Discus. The South Carolina State Library negotiates statewide contracts with vendors for products included in Discus, for approximately \$2,770,452 per year. If each school and library purchased the products that are provided through Discus the cost would exceed \$57,000,000. Discus provides equal access to accurate information to all South Carolinians.
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Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	N/A
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Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	N/A
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

SUMMARY	The South Carolina State Library's mission, vision, goals, and objectives center on creating an environment with equal access to information that supports growth both personally and professionally for individuals and businesses. We believe in leveraging our funding to provide access to quality resources. We have found that partnerships help us achieve our goals by sharing resources for a broader impact. Our partners include USC, SC Department of Education, SC ETV, South Carolina Homeschool Association, SC State Museum, South Carolina 250, SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, First Steps, South Carolina Commission for the Blind, and the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission.
	The Discus collection of more than 70 subscription databases is available 24/7 and supports K-12 schools, public libraries, and academic institutions. All K-12 schools, including charter, virtual, public, home, and private, use Discus extensively for research, learning, and programming.
	Discus usage increased 22% from FY 23-24 to FY 24-25 and had a seamless access rate of 98%, with the remaining access occurring using the statewide username and password.
	The State Library added a third former educator to the training staff to strengthen the

relationship with SC educators and public librarians. The mixture of elementary and high school educator knowledge has been well received by audiences and session attendees. The Discus trainers understand the needs of educators and incorporate training deliverables in their session outcomes.

Virtual and onsite training requests continued to increase compared to previous years, with 133 trainings and webinars completed and 33 exhibit tables monitored at state and regional conferences. A total of 10,320 individuals attended an in-person workshop, watched a live online or recorded training session, or stopped by the Discus conference exhibit tables.

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?