



Consortium Value Report 2024

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Savings At a Glance

Shared ILS

Average Library ILS Cost

Standalone Cost \$119,380

STELLA Membership \$35,600

Average Savings \$83,780

The standalone cost includes \$60,000 for staff to maintain the ILS and perform cataloging work. That cost is dramatically lower when shared as part of STELLA's services.

Shared Collections

Total collection 3.5 mil items

Unique titles 1.08 mil titles

Individual Collection Sizes

Smallest collection 3,898 items

Largest collection 173,705 items

Average collection 63,741 items

43 non-English languages with over 45,000 titles across our five largest collections: **Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, and Gujarati.**

Members share over **22,000**

Advantage+ titles in OverDrive.

Circulation

2023 total circs 4,519,276

Individual Circs

Smallest circ 2,455

Largest circ 512,316

Average circ 92,230

Items borrowed from other STELLA libraries 400,737

Total value of items borrowed \$8.98 million

About the Consortium

Incorporated in 1986, STELLA currently supports **43 member libraries** across three counties in central New Jersey.

Our eight full-time and one part-time staff work to provide the services that save you money.

Libraries in our consortium can maintain reciprocal relationships with MURAL, RVF, Open Borrowing, and other organizations.

Consortium Size 43 member libraries

STELLA Staff 9 staff

Incorporated October 1986

Activity



In 2023, STELLA members added **85,000+ bibliographic records.**

We sent **70,000 SMS messages** for held and overdue items.



Patrons **checked out** an average of **12,381** items per day.

Our library catalogs served over **6.3 million pages.**



The STELLA Libraries app was used **376,197** times and added to **9,806** new devices.

Benefits of Membership

Additional Ways to Save

STELLA also reduces the costs of doing business and expands your options:

- technical support for the ILS, and other services
- on-going training
- creating MARC records as needed
- committees, and collaborative discussion lists
- group purchases & volume discounts
- creation of custom reports

Digital Collections

- Membership to eLibraryNJ
- Starter membership to Hoopla (first \$50/month)

STELLA receives an additional 10% discount on OverDrive titles.

What You Get

Autonomy

STELLA believes in library autonomy wherever possible, with reasonable requirements when cross-library functionality is involved.



Community

Access a staff intranet with knowledge base, recorded webinars, and more.



Join active member library participation in system-wide committees and online discussions.

Email Groups

Collaborate with email groups customized for your library's needs.



Services

Core Services

Integrated Library System

Innovative Polaris ILS provides web-based access for staff and customizable settings for each library. It includes robust APIs and integration with 3rd party vendors, with STELLA support.

Cataloging

Use SkyRiver to catalog your material or ask our catalogers create new MARC records for titles if suitable records are not available elsewhere.

Library Catalog

Vega Discover provides an intuitive catalog and accessible interface. Built with modern data standards with format rollups.

Reports & Analytics

LibraryIQ provides statistics & reports so that you can assess activity levels, customer service, and analyze your collection.

Library App

The STELLA Libraries app, powered by SOLUS, lets you showcase your library's resources and provides event and room booking integration. It can be customized with features including contactless checkout.

Patron Engagement

Patron Point enables your engagement with your community. Send customized emails to your patrons and automated campaigns.

Event and Room Booking

Vega Program lets you easily manage library events through registration forms, landing web pages, automated event flyers, and attendee communications. Patrons can view available rooms and self-book study rooms or program spaces.

Optional Services

Public Computer Management

Automate computer management with SAM; we assist with installation, training, and support.

Email Management

STELLA creates and supports email accounts at stellanj.org or your library's own custom domain through Google Workspace.

Technology Support

We provide SonicWall firewall and PC support for devices using or connected to the ILS.

Staff Training

STELLA provides in person and virtual training for your staff on a variety of topics.

Group Purchasing

Discounted subscriptions and purchasing opportunities are available for products and services (PCs, Faronics and more)