LEARN ABOUT YOUR STATE LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER

WHY IS THE PRATT CENTRAL LIBRARY THE STATE LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER

The Central Library of Baltimore City's public library system, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, was designated the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) by the General Assembly in 1971.

This designation and accompanying State support allow all Maryland citizens to have access to a public library whose resources are unparalleled in the State. Acting in place of the state library, which exists in most states, SLRC works cooperatively with regional, local public, school, special and academic libraries in a network, which allows materials and information to be shared statewide. SLRC provides services to Marylanders and serves as a back-up information resource for local libraries and their customers.

THE STATE LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER GIVES MARYLANDERS FREE ACCESS TO:

BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS

The Library's collection includes over 3 million items.

Books and Audio Books
Films, Videos, DVDs
Maps
Music recorded and sheet
Newspapers and Magazines
Maps
Music
Photographs
Prints, Drawing, Special Collections
U.S. Government and Maryland State documents

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Databases: Full text and/or indexes to newspapers and periodicals, telephone numbers, biographical data, census information, business, and other databases. State funded databases available statewide can be found at the Sailor web site: http://www.sailor.lib.md.us

Enoch Pratt Free Library Web Page: SLRC/Central and its Departments, web-based subject and how-to guides, and online learning modules at: http://www.prattlibrary.org

SAILOR: Maryland's online public information network.
The SAILOR Operation Center is located at Enoch Pratt Free library's Central Library.
http://www.sailor.lib.md.us

Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage
The Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage Program is a collaborative, statewide digitization program bringing together the stories of Maryland's cultural heritage by providing access to artifacts and records of history.
http://www.mdch.org

CUSTOMER SERVICES:

Reference assistance for answering questions and helping you find material on all subjects
Telephone service during Library hours; and after hours telephone service Monday through Friday until 11 p.m.
Customized demographic charting and mapping of Maryland census information (there is a fee for customized service)
Government Reference Service providing research for Maryland State government agencies
Reserve booking of videotapes, DVDs and films
Subject and age-level specialists
Maryland AskUsNow Online reference

SPECIAL IN DEPTH COLLECTIONS

African-American Department
Business Collection
Grants Collection
H. L. Mencken Collection
Job and Career Information Center
Maryland Department
Regional Information Center (demographic and economic trends, transportation, the environment, land use, and planning)
Special Collections Department (art work, posters, ephemera)

HOW DO YOU TAP THIS RESOURCE DIRECTLY?

Visit the Library at:

Enoch Pratt Free Library
State Library Resource Center/Central Library
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Get a Pratt library card here, at any Pratt branch, OR use your public library card from any Maryland county public library. (Most materials can be returned to any public library in the state.)

Hours
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 5:30	10 - 5	10 - 5	1 - 5

Sunday hours apply October – May

Have a Question?
Information Services has the Answer. . .

Call the librarian
410-396-5430 during regular hours
410-396-3557 after hours; 800-325-6483 toll-free in Maryland

Fax a Question
410-396-1441

Email a Question or Chat with a librarian
http://www.prattlibrary.org/findanswers/email_question.html

Visit the Enoch Pratt Free Library State Library Resource Center/Central Library Web Page
http://www.prattlibrary.org

Visit SAILOR Web Page

http://www.sailor.lib.md.us

Visit Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage

http://www.mdch.org

HOW DO YOU TAP THIS RESOURCE FROM AROUND THE STATE?

If you are not within easy driving or within local telephone calling distance or do not have home Internet access, you may use the extensive resources of the State Library Resource Center through your own local public library. All public libraries in Maryland, and most academic and special libraries, have access to SLRC collections and expertise through the Maryland Interlibrary Organization (MILO), which has its headquarters in Pratt's Central Library.

MILO provides:
Interlibrary loan of books, films, videotapes, DVDs, CDs, and other materials
Photocopies of periodical articles and pages from reference books (ask your local library about fees)
Research using specialized information sources and trained, experienced subject experts

, , , AND SOME QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

To give you some idea of what Marylanders have already asked the State Library Resource Center, here is a sampling of questions:

- Do you have a repair manual for a 1937 DeSoto?
- What are the effects of having multi-personality disorder?
- What are the lyrics to *Cincinnati Dancing Pig?*
- Do you have all the novels of Nobel Prize winner Kenzaburo Oe?
- What are the largest national associations headquartered in Maryland?
- Can you tell me how to trace my African-American genealogy?
- How many translations of the Bible have there been and does the Library have them?
- What were the living and working conditions of children at the turn of century?
- How many school-aged children live within a three-mile radius of my tutoring service?

Subject Resources at the State Library Resource Center

African American Department
Audio-Visual/Sights and Sounds (Videos, Films, CDs, DVDs)
Business, Science, and Technology
Children's Department
Fiction / Young Adult / Student Express
Fine Arts and Recreation (Art, Architecture, Music, Dance, Sports)
Government Reference
Grants Collection
Humanities (Literature, Religion, Philosophy, Library Science)
Information Services
Job and Career Information Center
Maryland Department
Periodicals
Regional Information Center
Social Science and History (including Education, Travel, Politics, Historical Biography, and more)
Special Collections

Enoch Pratt Free Library
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www.prattlibrary.org