



About the North Texas Regional Library System (NTRLS)

The Texas State Library System

NTRLS is one of the 10 regional library systems which, along with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), make up the Texas State Library System. The regional systems exist to promote and assist in the development of strong community libraries. Texas public libraries which meet State accreditation standards earn membership in their regional system and, as such, receive benefits from the System office which include consulting, on-going training and support for individual programs such as automation and literacy. The System is responsible for setting policies and procedures for the services it provides to member libraries, but each member library remains autonomous.

Non-Profit Status

The North Texas Library System was established in 1969, along with the other nine systems, and changed its name to NTRLS in 1994 when it became the first Texas library system to acquire not-for-profit status as a private 501(c)(3) organization for the purpose of enlarging its funding base. A portion of NTRLS funding comes from the TSLAC through federal grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). In addition, the Library Foundation of North Texas (LFNT) accepts donations from individuals, foundations, corporations and other community groups to support services to libraries in the NTRLS region and distributes that funding through NTRLS.

Membership and Service Region

Current members of NTRLS include over 70 public library entities in the 20-county region. Since multiple libraries funded by a single governmental entity are considered one library entity, the number of library buildings in the service area is nearly 100. The region served encompasses a geographic area of 16,489 square miles and a diverse service population of nearly 2.5 million.

Mission

NTRLS values ethics, accountability, innovative leadership and services focused on membership needs and exists principally to serve existing and emerging libraries through consulting services and continuing education.

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