

New York
Libraries Need
Your Help!

Speak Up for NY State Library Aid

2018-2019

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Libraries are for everyone; they provide a safe and welcoming space for all New Yorkers, regardless of race or ethnicity, religion, country of origin, income, or education level. They offer free and equal access to educational opportunities, and are the primary source of Internet access for many of our neighbors. New Yorkers of all ages, experiences, and needs turn to their local library for early literacy programs; classes in adult education and financial literacy; health groups and fitness workshops; technology assistance; English and other language classes; and many other programs and services too numerous to list here.

The Governor's budget proposes a +3% increase in education funding, but **cuts library aid by -4%. These cuts would leave library funding at year-2000 levels, and for the eleventh consecutive year, would leave library funding far short of what Education Law mandates.** In fact, since 2007, more than \$115M in state library funding has been withheld.

Take action now and tell the Governor and the Legislature that library aid should be **increased, not cut.** A pre-drafted letter is available at the following link and can be sent as is or modified. It only takes a moment or two to complete.

Thank you.

Speak up for libraries at:

<http://cqrcengage.com/alany/app/write-a-letter?1&engagementId=429353>