



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 157
[2013 Assembly Bill 288]

**County Payments to Public
Libraries in Adjacent Counties**

Prior Law

Under prior law, a county must make a **library service payment** to each public library in the county, and to each public library in an adjacent county, except for a county with a population of at least 500,000 (currently only Milwaukee County), if both of the following apply: (1) the county does not maintain a consolidated public library; and (2) the county contains residents who are not residents of a municipality that maintains a public library.

The library service payment must be paid by March 1 of each year, and must equal at least 70% of the amount of the cost of providing loans of material made to the county's residents who are not residents of a municipality that maintains a public library. The cost of providing loans of material made to these residents are computed by multiplying the number of loans made by the library to these residents (who are not residents of a municipality that maintains a public library) by the library's average operational cost per loan.

In order to receive a library service payment, the public library must have submitted by July 1, the following information to the county clerk of the county (or counties) where it is located, and to the county clerk of each adjacent county, except Milwaukee County:

- The number of loans of material made by that library during the prior calendar year to people who are residents of the county, or adjacent county, who are not residents of a municipality that maintains a public library.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

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- The total number of loans of material made by the library during the previous calendar year.¹

2013 Wisconsin Act 157

Under Act 157 (hereinafter, “the Act”), a county that maintains a consolidated public library must provide a notice not later than April 1 of its intent to bill to a public library for a library service payment. The Act also provides that if a county that maintains a consolidated public library provides such a notice of intent to bill an adjacent county, except Milwaukee County, for a library service payment, it may be billed by any adjacent county, except Milwaukee County, for a **modified library service payment**. The amount of the modified library service payment is based upon the number of loans of material made by the billing library to residents who are not residents of a municipality that contains a branch of the consolidated library.

Effective date: This Act went into effect on March 29, 2014.

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¹ The Department of Public Instruction also advises that a library also provide by July 1, the amount of the total library operating expenditures, not including capital expenditures or expenditures of federal funds, for the prior year, as this is required to determine the amount of the library service payment.