MIDEASTERN MICHIGAN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
Technology Plan, 2026-29

1. What is the mission of your cooperative? Please note that the goals and strategies you list to answer the next question should be tied to this mission.

The mission of Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative is to advocate for and provide broad services and programs to public, multi-type and Associate libraries within its legal service area.

2. Provide clear goals and a realistic strategy for using telecommunications and information technology to improve library services. Please use the strategies to provide measurable milestones to meet your mission. This plan should cover a period of three years. If your institution is required by local authorities to operate under a longer planning cycle, this is acceptable.

Monitor technological developments that would benefit members; share information and/or implement projects to make use of those technologies.

Provide grant opportunities that focus on technology and innovation.

Provide members with information related to statewide broadband initiatives.

Develop relationships with technology vendors who have the expertise to provide service to members; provide referrals when needed.

Continue to work through the Cooperative Director's Association to offer discounts on products and services not available through the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services, the Library of Michigan, and the Michigan Library Association.

3. What is your cooperative's professional development strategy to ensure that staff understands how to use the new technologies to improve library services?

Provide opportunities for MMLC staff and member library staff to gain professional development through workshops and webinars.

Schedule vendor demos, when requested by members, to familiarize staff with new technologies.

Use Advisory Council meetings and direct emails to share current trends and technology that can assist libraries in enhancing patron services.

Work with MMLC's partners to provide greater access to professional development opportunities.

4. Provide an assessment of the telecommunications services, hardware, software, and other services that will be needed to improve cooperative services. Include your plans for replacement of outdated equipment.

MMLC Office:

- **Review Virtual Office capabilities, including secure cloud storage, email gateway services and other technology to support the MMLC Virtual Office.**

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- **Review need for new staff computers and cloud gateway software to support the MMLC Virtual Office model.**
- **Review website services and protocols.**
- **Update website to maintain relevance, to support communication and to meet ADA guidelines and requirements.**
- **Review existing equipment, services, and support annually.**

Technology & Innovation Program:

- **Review the existing program to allow eligible libraries more flexibility in deciding which technologies (equipment, services, and support) are required to provide the best patron experience in their libraries.**
- **Allow Innovation Program funds to be utilized for up to three consecutive years to support a larger project.**
- **Conduct an evaluation of use of funding by libraries to determine efficacy and relevance of grant program; revise process if needed.**
- **Require annual library evaluations and provide a summary report to the MMLC Board.**

5. Use this space to provide a budget to acquire and maintain the hardware, software, professional development, and other services that will be needed to implement the strategy for improved library services.

	10/1/ 2026 - 9/30/2027	**10/1/ 2027- 9/30/2028**	**10/1/ 2028 - 9/30/2029**
Hardware & Software	$2100	$2100	$2100
Web Services (including email)	$900	$900	$900
Telecommunication *Telephone, cell phone, internet	$1050	$1050	$1050
Contract services for information technology	$2200	$2200	$2200
Staff training	$ 0	$0	$0
Technology Grants to Public Libraries *Dependent on State Aid	$130,000	$137,000	$137,000
Total:	**$136,250**	**$143,250**	**$143,250**

6. Provide an evaluation process that will enable the Cooperative to monitor progress toward the specified goals and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities as they arise.