
E-Rate in North Dakota

Submitted by **Al Peterson**

If you are a new director and have come across a folder marked “E-Rate” and wondered what the heck this is, then, let me help answer a few questions for you.

What is E-rate?

E-rate is one component of the Universal Service Fund that specifically addresses schools and public libraries. The Universal Service Fund (USF) consists of money collected from telecommunications companies that is dedicated to increasing high speed internet access to schools, libraries, rural health services, tribal lands, and areas of the country where the costs of broadband is higher than more urban or populated areas.

Where does USAC Get the Money?

Universal service is paid for by contributions from telecommunications carriers, including wireline and wireless companies, and interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers, including cable companies that provide voice service, based on an assessment of their interstate and international end-user revenues. If you ever looked on your phone bill or cable bill and saw a fee for Universal Fund, this is where the money comes from.

What's our library's role in E-rate?

North Dakota applies for E-rate through two consortiums. If you find paperwork with StageNET or North Dakota Public Library E-Rate Consortium at the top, you are part of the E-rate Consortiums. What the North Dakota Information Technology EduTech department is filing is what is known as a State Master Contract with E-rate. This contract is for a bulk broadband service spread out to members of the consortium. Your library is not responsible for filing the application or the bid for services. We still need from you two forms filled out every year, a Letter of agency and a Form 479. I will be e-mailing a copy of these forms to participants in the beginning of October.

What is a Letter of Agency?

The Letter of Agency is a written agreement stating that you, as a library, are willing to allow the consortium coordinator to file the E-rate forms on your behalf. You need to keep a copy of this letter in your E-rate files.

What's the Form 479 for?

A Form 479 Schools and Libraries Universal Service Certification by Administrative Authority to Billed Entity of Compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act is a declaration that your library is compliant with the CIPA Guidelines. I always include instructions on how to fill out this form. For more information about CIPA, visit <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act>.

If I filled them out last year, do I have to fill it out this year?

Yes.

How do I get my signed forms back to you?

These forms can be physically mailed back to **Al Peterson, North Dakota State Library, 604 East Boulevard Ave, Bismarck, ND 58505.**

If you would prefer to scan them, you can send it through e-mail to alpeterson@nd.gov. Please keep the originals in your E-rate files for ten years. That way, if we ever get audited by the FCC, we can go back ten years to show compliance.

Lastly, if you are attending this year's NDLA Conference in Fargo, you can bring the finished forms with you and hand them to me or leave them at the North Dakota State Library's booth.

If you have any questions about E-Rate, please feel free to contact Al Peterson at 701-328-4661 or alpeterson@nd.gov.



NATIONAL Friends OF LIBRARIES WEEK

OCTOBER 15-21, 2023

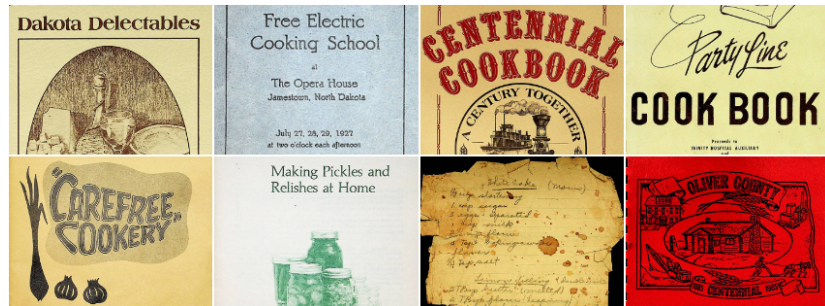
AN INITIATIVE OF UNITED FOR LIBRARIES



Artificial Intelligence Basics

This week's article focuses on artificial intelligence fundamentals. While consulting resources and compiling information for this work, I came across terms that I was not familiar with which, of course, resulted in more research. For me to achieve a foundational knowledge of this transformational technology called artificial intelligence, meant learning definitions of various terms, concepts associated with the terms, and how the concepts relate to AI.

[Continue Reading](#)



Prairie Recipes

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

The "Prairie Recipes" collection consists of cookbooks, recipes, and cooking guides from the collections of institutions (churches, hospitals, businesses, etc.), communities, state agencies, libraries, and private citizens from the state of North Dakota and across the Northern Plains. The collection is provided by the North Dakota State Library and is available on Digital Horizons at <https://digitalhorizonsonline.org/digital/collection/prairierecipe>.



Microlearning

There is no denying that attention spans are shrinking. Since the year 2000, when mobile phones became commonplace, attention spans have decreased from 12 to 8 seconds (Chokhani, 2023). This switch caused a shift in learning and retention: Enter microlearning!

[Read More](#)

Your Toolkit



HEALTH LITERACY MONTH
Building Awareness Through Action
October 1-31, 2023

- Social Media Graphics
- Video Assets
- Print Resources
- Zoom Backgrounds
- and more!

Here are some tools to help you take action!

Use these resources on your digital and social media channels to build awareness of health literacy month.

healthliteracymonth.org • [#healthliteracymonth](https://twitter.com/healthliteracymonth)

Building Health Literacy Awareness Through Action

October is Health Literacy Month – a time when health organizations, literacy programs, libraries, social service agencies, businesses, professional associations, government agencies, and other groups work together to integrate and expand the mission of health literacy. Together, we can build a world with greater health equity where all people can attain positive health outcomes. Visit <https://www.healthliteracymonth.org/> today to learn how you can turn awareness into action! #healthliteracymonth

Niche Academy Highlight

by Al Peterson

Submitted by Al Peterson

[Category: Library 101- Issues Libraries are Facing](#)

New Tutorial: *The Fight Against Book Ban*

The Fight Against Book Ban was recently presented by Niche Academy. If you missed the live webinar, you can now watch the recording at your own convenience.

[Category: Library 101- Library Boards and Friends Group](#)

New Tutorial: *Welcome to the Board- Strategic Planning*

Last month, a new series titled *Welcome to the Board* was introduced in the category of Library 101- Library Boards and Friends Group. We added a third installment this month. *Welcome to the Board- Strategic Planning* covers strategic planning step-by-step and the trustee's role in that process.

[Category: Library 101 – Library Directors](#)

New Tutorial: *The ADA for Libraries*

Finally, we added a new tutorial on accessibility. *The ADA for Libraries* discusses the how and the why of making spaces in your library accessible to everyone.

[Start Learning](#)



Upcoming WebJunction Webinars

[Climate Action Planning \(Part 2\): Disaster Preparedness and Community Resilience](#)

Tuesday, September 26 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

[Climate Justice](#)

Tuesday, October 3 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

[Revitalizing Morale: Cultivating a Supportive Library Culture](#)

Wednesday, October 11 (2:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

[Building Community Relationships for Better Library Services](#)

Tuesday, October 24 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

[Living Our Values Out Loud: Programs that Walk the Talk](#)

Tuesday, November 28 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

[Stronger Together: Collective Impact and Climate Action Programming](#)

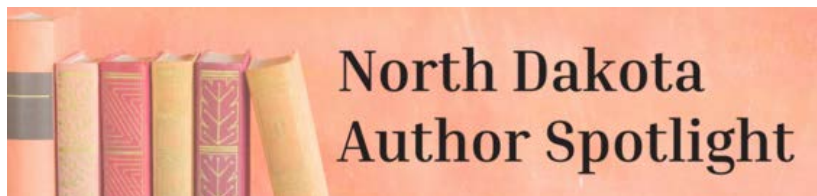
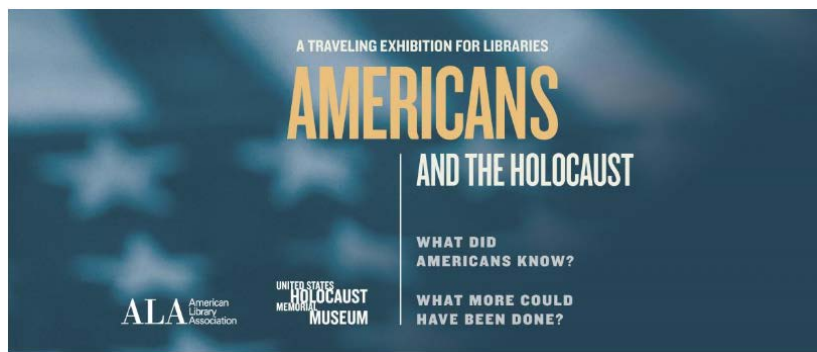
Wednesday, December 13 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)



Social Media Policies

If your library has an account on any of the social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), you should have a social media policy. This week, we will discuss external (public-facing) social media policies.

[Continue Reading](#)



Lois Greiman

Born on a cattle ranch in North Dakota, [Lois Greiman](#) has written numerous historical romance novels and romantic comedies. Her novels have received several awards.

The State Library has many of Greiman's books, which can be checked out for up to eight weeks.

Chrissy McMullen Mysteries

- Unzipped
- Unplugged
- Unscrewed
- Unmanned
- One Hot Mess
- Not One Clue
- Uncorked
- Unhinged

Highland Brides

- Highland Jewel
- Highland Flame
- Highland Wolf
- The Lady and the Knight
- Highland Scoundrel
- Highland Enchantment
- Highland Hawk

Highland Rogues

- The Fraser Bride
- The MacGowan Betrothal
- The Warrior Bride

Home in the Hills

- Hearth Stone
- Hearth Song

Hope Springs

- Finding Home
- Home Fires
- Finally Home

Men of the Mist

- Taming the Barbarian
- Tempting the Wolf
- Bewitching the Highlander

Sedonia

- The Princess and Her Pirate
- The Princess Masquerade
- Seducing a Princess

Witches of Mayfair

- Under Your Spell
- Seduced By Your Spell
- Charming the Devil

Other Books

- Counterfeit Cowgirl
- Heart on the Run
- His Bodyguard
- My Desperado
- Surrender My Heart
- The Gambler

[Reserve a Book](#)

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To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndspla@nd.gov.
Times referenced are Central Time.