Shared Services. Shared Resources.

OhioLINK
Ohio’s Academic Library Consortium

121 member libraries serving
600 thousand patrons
50 million library items
20 million articles
50 thousand theses & dissertations
100 thousand e-books
OhioLINK is a consortium that efficiently manages the state’s scholarly resources.

OhioLINK negotiates on behalf of 121 member libraries throughout the state, giving aggregated purchasing power to Ohio’s academic libraries. OhioLINK, the state’s most viable cost-saving mechanism for academic libraries today, serves nearly 600,000 students and faculty. Since 1992, OhioLINK has brought valuable resources to libraries at the lowest possible cost.

OhioLINK services include:

OhioLINK Central Catalog

The OhioLINK central catalog combines the holdings of its member libraries — 120 higher education libraries, plus the State Library of Ohio — into a shared catalog totaling nearly 50 million items. The shared catalog lists books, e-books, e-journals held on OhioLINK’s servers and other materials available on publishers’ websites.

Students and faculty discover materials available throughout the state and get those items delivered to their home institution — exponentially stretching the reach of Ohio’s higher education libraries. This extremely cost-efficient system has been nationally admired for more than 20 years. In 2014, nearly 500,000 physical items were borrowed through OhioLINK.

Online Databases

OhioLINK member libraries can access more than 125 electronic research databases covering all academic subjects.

OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center

OhioLINK’s Electronic Journal Center (EJC) is the first place Ohio’s college students and researchers go to find the latest journal articles. It contains millions of full-text articles in 10,000 journals from large publishers like Elsevier Science/Academic Press and Wiley Blackwell, to small presses like Kluwer Law and Berkeley Electronic Press. In 2014, patrons downloaded nearly two million full-text articles in OhioLINK’s collection. There are 8,000 more journals available at publishers’ sites, where millions more articles are downloaded annually. Content is funded through a combination of OhioLINK central funds and member library contributions.

OhioLINK Electronic Book Center

The OhioLINK provides access to more than 100,000 eBooks, many of which are found in the Electronic Book Center (EBC). The collection includes reference works, American and English literature, and technology titles, as well as the popular Safari eBook collection. There were nearly one million downloads from the EBC in 2014. Content is funded through a combination of OhioLINK central funds and member library contributions.

OhioLINK Electronic Theses and Dissertations

OhioLINK Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) contains nearly 50,000 theses and dissertations from students at Ohio’s world-renowned academic institutions. In 2012, Google thanked OhioLINK for making ETD open-access content easier to find by Google Scholar. Theses and dissertations from Ohio’s academic institutions were downloaded nearly 1 million times from researchers around the globe in 2014.
OhioLINK Music Center

The OhioLINK Music Center is an online streaming music database of international works in a variety of genres, from Classical to Spoken Word. The Music Center contains more than 81,000 tracks from more than 22,000 albums and receives tens of thousands of downloads annually.

OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository

The OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository (EAD or Encoded Archival Description) contains a huge variety of descriptions of archival collections from contributing institutions in Ohio and showcases the rich collections housed in archives, libraries and other institutions throughout the state. The repository provides access to collections on a broad scale, including some 17,000 subjects ranging from Bella Abzug to the Ziegfeld Follies, increasing the visibility of these valuable resources for researchers.

OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC)

The OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons is a nationally recognized, award-winning statewide digital platform for saving, discovering and sharing Ohio's historical and scholarly materials.

The commons represents content from Ohio's colleges, universities and cultural institutions. The materials cover 500 individual collections and include: 3,000 digital educational films and documentaries, more than 100,000 electronic images, and more than 250,000 stored items. With combined holdings of more than 850,000 unique, scholarly and historical records, the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons ranks as one of the largest institutional repositories in the world.

Pooling Group Purchases

OhioLINK has been building relationships with content providers for 20-plus years. Because of this long history and the 600,000 college students, faculty and staff it represents, OhioLINK is able to deliver unrivaled intellectual assets at very favorable pricing for Ohio's academic community. The long-term effect is to save millions of dollars.

- In 2013-2014, OhioLINK negotiated, invoiced, and managed published digital content worth $53 million on behalf of its 121 member libraries. Consortium subject matter experts decide which journals, databases or eBooks OhioLINK should renew or purchase; OhioLINK member institutions fund more than 80 percent of the content subscriptions from their local campus budgets.

- Every $1 million spent in annual group licensing saves libraries $3 to $4 million over what it would cost to license the content individually.

- OhioLINK secured lower prices for the 10 most-used e-journal resources than other library subscribers in the United States, with OhioLINK's average rate increase at just 2.6 percent, compared to a national average price increase of 4.3 percent.

- OhioLINK negotiated a total cost savings of $1.8 million over three years for OhioLINK's Electronic Journal contracts.

What people are saying about OhioLINK:

“OhioLINK’s shared-collection development policy makes our money go much, much further.”

— Susannah Cleveland, Bowling Green State University, Head Librarian, Music Library & Sound Recordings Archives

“I have benefited immensely from OhioLINK. The nearly unlimited access to journal articles and research databases from OhioLINK and The Ohio State University has helped me dive further into my research and expand my mind to develop more creative and novel solutions to cancer detection engineering.”

— Josh Javor, The Ohio State University, Undergraduate Student, Mechanical Engineering, Electromagnetic Medical Imaging Device Research
The OhioLINK Advantage: Shared Services. Shared Resources. Powered by Member Participation.

“I don’t recall any book or reference that I’ve needed that I haven’t been able to get through OhioLINK.”
– Jane L. Fox, Ph.D., Research Professor, Department of Physics, Wright State University

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OH•TECH
Ohio Technology Consortium
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