OhioLINK
Ohio’s Academic Library Consortium
www.ohiolink.edu

90
member libraries
serving

600
thousand
patrons

50
million
library
items

20
million
articles

40
thousand
theses &
dissertations

81
thousand
e-books

Saving Ohio’s academic libraries millions of dollars.
OhioLINK is a consortium that efficiently manages the state’s scholarly resources.

OhioLINK negotiates on behalf of 90 higher education 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 90 member libraries, including 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 all Ohio’s higher education libraries. This extremely cost-efficient system has been nationally admired for more than 20 years. In 2012, more than 600,000 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 2012, patrons downloaded nearly four 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 Electronic Book Center (EBC) contains more than 50,000 e-book titles, covering numerous subjects, and includes scholarly monographs, encyclopedias, dictionaries and other reference works. Most e-books are permanently owned by OhioLINK, and some collections in the EBC are available worldwide, such as OSU Brittle Books. In 2012, the Wiley e-book collection was added. There were nearly two million downloads from the EBC in 2012. Some 31,000 more ebook titles are available at publishers’ sites, where they are downloaded millions of times annually. 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 40,000 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 more than two million times from researchers around the globe in 2012.
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.

Recent Grant Activity

In 2012, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awarded OhioLINK a $50,000 Digital Humanities grant to encourage creative scholarship within the state’s historical collections. OhioLINK also was named a recipient of an EDUCAUSE Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC) grant for $750,000 to develop affordable digital textbooks.

Pooling Group Purchases

OhioLINK has been building relationships with content providers for twenty 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.

- 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’s average price increase was 2% for the consortium’s portfolio of journals, compared to an average price increase of over 4% for many other consortia worldwide.
- In 2012, OhioLINK negotiated a contract for its membership that was nearly a tenth of the cost of what a library would pay individually.

What students are saying about OhioLINK:

“I don’t have to pay for my books with OhioLINK, so it is as important as my paycheck”.
– Anonymous University of Cincinnati Student

OhioLINK buzz on Twitter:

“I’m going to pick up my next book that just arrived today from OhioLINK. It’s the best thing ever”—D.

“Excited that FL state uni libraries finally have an unmediated borrowing service. I got spoiled by OhioLINK in undergrad & law school.”—E.