



Library Partnerships

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees: 4/23/2015

In order to better serve the community and make more effective use of public resources, the North Olympic Library System seeks and encourages collaborative relationships with non-profit organizations, public service agencies, governments, commercial entities, and other groups. The Library will seek and respond to partnership opportunities that help the Library reach new audiences, cross-promote library/community services and offerings, and expand access to library services.

A library partnership is defined as a collaboration that involves a significant exchange of services, use of facilities, or other in-kind transactions between the Library System and another entity, and/or significant shared responsibility for a service or event. Each partner contributes to the enterprise. While the Library and the other entity may not have identical goals for the collaboration, their goals should be complementary and not contradictory. A successful partnership will build on the strength of each partner, and reach new or shared constituencies that neither partner, working alone, could serve as effectively.

The following criteria will be applied in determining the nature and conditions of library partnerships in which the library system will engage:

- All partnerships must be consistent with the Library's *Strategic Roadmap*, values, services and initiatives.
- All partnerships must be consistent with the Library's policy of equal access to service, and all other NOLS policies.
- Partnerships must not give unfair advantage to, or cause discrimination against, any sectors of the community.
- The Library will give priority to developing partnerships with organizations that provide opportunities to expand access to library services and reach new audiences.
- The Library and the potential partner will develop a written statement outlining the responsibilities and exchanges that form the basis of the partnership.
- Library partnerships will be approved by the Library Director, who may consult with the NOLS Board of Trustees.