OCLC Services for Special Libraries

Programs and products to help you better serve your users
OCLC for special libraries

For more than 40 years, OCLC—a nonprofit library services organization—has dedicated itself to the public purposes of furthering access to the world’s information and reducing the rate of rise of library costs for all types and sizes of libraries. Researchers, students, professionals, faculty and other information seekers use OCLC® services to access electronic resources, online reference services and information about library collections to obtain resources from libraries around the world.

Meeting the needs of special libraries

OCLC has products and services for nearly every aspect of special library management. From cataloging and metadata services to digital collection development and electronic resource delivery, OCLC has a wide range of products designed to work together for you and your users. Specialty researchers, including legal, medical and government professionals use OCLC services because of their richness, ease-of-use and depth. Special librarians appreciate the unparalleled efficiency, economy and quality that comes from participation in a worldwide library cooperative.

Start by taking advantage of WorldCat

OCLC and its member libraries cooperatively produce and maintain WorldCat®, the largest bibliographic database in the world with 136 million records in 470 languages representing more than 1 billion individual items. When you catalog in WorldCat, your library holdings gain visibility on the Web through WorldCat.org™ and WorldCat Local™ and are referenced from within a world-class information service.

- WorldCat.org: A Web destination with search and social networking features that allow your special library users to discover, localize and personalize content from your collections and those of 10,000+ WorldCat libraries globally. The site is the centerpiece of a Web system that distributes data about WorldCat-cataloged items across popular search engines, the social Web and other partner sites.

- WorldCat Local features your library’s resources in a library-branded view of WorldCat.org with smart delivery options that help users get to the items they find in search results. WorldCat Local “quick start”—an introductory version of WorldCat Local that delivers local and global resources in a single search—is included at no additional charge with a subscription to WorldCat on OCLC’s FirstSearch® service.

Following are some of the services OCLC provides for special libraries and their users.

Cataloging and metadata services

OCLC offers a broad range of services designed to reduce costs, enhance productivity and complement your cataloging workflow.

- OCLC CatExpress® is an easy-to-use service that enables special libraries to put materials on their shelves faster than ever before. Libraries receive MARC records for popular and hard-to-find materials, and individual library collections become more visible on the Web via WorldCat.org (www.oclc.org/catexpress).

- Connexion® is a full-service online cataloging tool. It is used by librarians to create and edit quality bibliographic and authority records, and share records with the entire OCLC cooperative to the benefit of libraries around the world (www.oclc.org/connexion).

- OCLC Contract Cataloging can assist you with cataloging ongoing acquisitions, backlogs and special formats in more than 60 languages (www.oclc.org/contractcataloging).

- The eSerials Holdings™ service automates the process of setting and maintaining your library's holdings information in WorldCat for electronic serials, further increasing access. This service is available at no charge to OCLC member libraries. Now you can order MARC records for holdings set through eSerials (www.oclc.org/eserialsholdings).
Electronic resources

OCLC offers a wide range of electronic resource services that provide access to reference databases, eBooks, eAudiobooks, electronic journals and more.

- **NetLibrary® eBooks and eAudiobooks:** As the leading provider of eBooks, NetLibrary offers a growing catalog of nearly 200,000 titles on a wide range of subjects. eBooks and eAudiobooks are great for special libraries that support multiple locations and virtual workers, as they’re available for any user, no matter where they are ([www.oclc.org/netlibrary](http://www.oclc.org/netlibrary)).

- **FirstSearch:** OCLC’s online reference database service offers more than 85 databases that help your users find the resources they need, with enhanced emphasis on items in your library’s collection ([www.oclc.org/firstsearch](http://www.oclc.org/firstsearch)). OCLC has recently expanded the FirstSearch Base Package to include CONTENTdm® “quick start” and the CAMIO®, OAIster® and ArchiveGrid® databases at no additional charge to subscribers.

- **Electronic journals:** OCLC’s Electronic Collections Online™, accessible through FirstSearch, provides bibliographic information, article citations and full text for a collection of more than 5,000 electronic journals from over 70 publishers in a wide range of subject areas including science, medical, technology and business ([www.oclc.org/electroniccollections](http://www.oclc.org/electroniccollections)).

- **ArchiveGrid:** Researchers can learn about the contents of archived historical collections, including historical papers, personal papers and family histories held in archives throughout the world ([www.oclc.org/archivegrid](http://www.oclc.org/archivegrid)).

- **OAIster:** OAIster is one of the world’s largest aggregators of records pointing to open archive collections, with more than 19 million records contributed by more than 1,000 organizations worldwide.

Digital Collection Management

- **CONTENTdm Digital Collection Management Software:** Makes everything in your digital collections available to all of your users wherever they are. No matter the format — history archives, photographs, newspapers, books, maps, slide libraries or audio/video—CONTENTdm can handle the storage, management and delivery of your collections to users across the Web.

Reference and discovery services

OCLC’s reference and discovery services benefit your special library with Web access to library collections, and a global virtual reference service called QuestionPoint®. This interactive service helps special librarians connect with remote users via chat and e-mail, both enhancing support and increasing staff efficiency. It enables you to benefit from the expertise of subject specialists to assist a wide range of special libraries. The Web-based chat tool with cobrowsing capability, coupled with the e-mail reference component, enable seamless integration of chat, follow up and referral, as well as one-stop reporting tools for all types of reference services ([www.oclc.org/services/reference](http://www.oclc.org/services/reference)).

Resource sharing and delivery services

When your special library belongs to a resource sharing network as vast as OCLC, your users get the information they need. OCLC supports an established network of more than 9,100 libraries with OCLC services at the core of their sharing activities to manage the flow of your materials, increase productivity and reduce paperwork. OCLC offers both stand-alone systems and integration with what you currently use, all with the goal of supporting local, group and global sharing ([www.oclc.org/resourcesharing](http://www.oclc.org/resourcesharing)).

Community and education

OCLC also supports its membership through community activities and original information science research. One of the world’s leading centers devoted to exploration, innovation and community building on behalf of libraries, archives and museums, OCLC is dedicated to helping institutions more effectively serve users of information and collections ([www.oclc.org/community](http://www.oclc.org/community)).
Learn more about WorldCat.org

If you want to learn more about integrating WorldCat and OCLC into your world, call or e-mail your OCLC Library Services consultant and we'll help you get there.

In the meantime, we invite you to explore WorldCat and see for yourself what it can offer you and your special library users. Visit WorldCat.org for more information.

1. Sign up for a free user account at www.worldcat.org and:
   - Create lists of items you want to keep track of or share with others. Lists can be viewed by author, title, published date or in a “covers only” view. Automatically “watch” others’ lists for updates.
   - Filter search results by location when you designate up to ten “Favorite Libraries.”
   - Write a review and rate items.
   - Use tags to search for items based on interests and keep track of your own research.

2. Search for your favorite author, character or group in WorldCat Identities at www.worldcat.org/identities.

3. Update your WorldCat Registry profile or create one at www.worldcat.org/registry/institutions.

4. Generate automatic citations for individual items and lists using APA, Chicago, MLA or Turabian styles.

5. Learn how to build Web links to WorldCat pages for particular items, or to WorldCat search results for one or more keywords at www.worldcat.org/links.

6. Download the WorldCat Mobile application for your phone at www.worldcat.org/m. It currently works with Windows Mobile 5.0, BlackBerry, Palm OS 5.4 or later, Apple iPhone, Nokia, MIDP 2.0, and CLDC 1.1 Java-equipped phones.

7. Help users of your Web site discover content and resources in WorldCat libraries worldwide with affiliate tools like the downloadable WorldCat search box. See www.worldcat.org/affiliate for details.

For more information about WorldCat please visit www.oclc.org/worldcat.

- Sign up for updates and offers at www.oclc.org/email.
- Register for RSS feeds and podcasts at www.oclc.org/rss.

OCLC helps libraries in more than 100 countries.
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