



COMING & GOING

Key Information for
Entering and Exiting
the Profession of
School Librarianship

 **Alliance Library System**

Consulting and Continuing Education
(309) 694-9200
www.alliancelibrarysystem.com



STARTING OUT

Various programs are available for certified teachers who wish to work toward an endorsement in school librarianship. This list is not all inclusive. Please check with your Regional Office of Education before proceeding.

Dominican University includes a Graduate School of Library and Information Science. <http://www.dom.edu/gslis/index.asp>

Although the program is not complete, **Illinois State University** is in the process of developing a Post-Baccalaureate Program in School Librarianship. Two courses are currently offered. For more information, please email Dane Ward, Associate Dean for Public Services, Milner Library, at dmward@ilstu.edu.

Indiana University at Indianapolis School of Library & Information Science Online Blue Ribbon Certification focuses on the Teacher of School Library Media Leadership Certification. <http://eduscapes.com/blueribbon/>

Mansfield University includes a School Library and Information Technologies Portal. <http://library.mansfield.edu/schoolib.asp>

Northern Illinois University offers a type 10 certification in media through the Department of Education Technology Research and Assessment. www.cedu.niu.edu/etra/slm_program/slm_certificate.htm

Independent study courses are available through the **University of Idaho**. <http://www.uidaho.edu/isti/LibrarySciencePage.htm>

University of Illinois' Graduate School of Library and Information Science includes traditional on-campus courses, as well as LEEP, GSLIS's online education program. <http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/>

University of Utah's Continuing Education Department provides a distance education program with both online and print-based classes. <http://continue.utah.edu/distance/indstudy.php>

The **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's** School of Information Studies offers a complete program to attain certification from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as an Instructional (School) Library Media Specialist. <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SOIS/>

WRAPPING UP

Are you planning on retiring in the next few years? Review these tips on how to recruit your replacement and leave your library in good hands.

Three or Four Years Before You Retire

- When talking to the school board, parent teacher organizations, and other community groups, include information and statistics on how school libraries (especially yours) help children succeed.
- Listen and talk to other teachers about continuing education opportunities in school library education. Someone may be looking for a change, and getting training and certification to be a school librarian may be exactly the change they are seeking.
- Talk to teachers, parents, students, and others about the joys of being a school librarian. Provide information on programs to which they can apply.
- Volunteer to organize a booth on librarianship for the school's career fair. Invite other types of librarians to join you in recruiting at the booth.
- Talk to the school's administration about encouraging a current staff member to get the appropriate training.

Two Years Before You Retire

- Ask teachers you think would enjoy being, as well as thrive as, a school librarian to consider working toward certification. If they take two courses per semester and in the summer, they can complete certification in time.
- Talk to other school librarians in your area of the state about your upcoming retirement, and ask for their help in recruiting qualified librarians or teachers who might be interested in becoming certified.
- Continue to talk about the connection between a good school librarian, the library itself, and children's success in school.

Six Months Before You Retire

- Spread the word far and wide that you will be retiring, so interested parties will be sure to hear of it.
- Announce your retirement and resulting job opening on ISLMANET-L.
- When your school system posts the advertisement for your position, provide a copy for your library system's website. Send it to ISLMANET-L again.
- Begin writing up the procedures for all of your activities so the new librarian's learning curve will be eased.
- Weed your collection and files so the library is in its best shape for the new librarian.

