

October 14, 2019

TO: RAILS Consortia Committee
FROM: Anne Slaughter
SUBJECT: FY2022 LLSAP Support Formula

In FY2016, we developed the first formula for distributing support to RAILS LLSAPs in a rational and explainable manner. Since then, the formula has gone through several iterations as our support has evolved, notably to incorporate factors designed to strengthen the equity of the distribution. We have just determined LLSAP Support Grant awards for FY2021 using the current version of the formula, and are now making more significant revisions to the formula for FY2022. We are still in the development process, and anticipate that the formula will be final in early spring 2020. Today we are sharing with you the high-level concepts guiding the formula revisions and the timeline for our process.

Formula

Though the new formula will be different, it will retain our key values of resource sharing and equity, supporting the goals of increasing resource sharing, ensuring LLSAP membership is affordable, and increasing LLSAP membership. We are considering the following metrics, which may not all end up in the final formula, or may be used in combination. We anticipate calculating some metrics on a library level using a tiered approach, while others may continue at the LLSAP level.

- Service population
- Collection budget
- Annual fee
- Operating budget
- Interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing transactions
- Bonuses for multitype membership and new libraries added

The current formula uses three-year averages for a number of the metrics, and we will carry those forward where applicable. The current formula also includes several metrics based on service quality (bibliographic quality and user-centered services) and, while we still share these values, we will remove these low-weighted categories from the formula and incorporate them elsewhere in the grant application.

Timeline

Our immediate next steps will focus on additional data collection and cleanup, then testing the metrics and weightings within the formula.

October 2019–December 2019	Data gathering, test formula, make final decisions on metrics
January 2020	Share metrics and get feedback from Consortia Committee
January–March 2020	Finalize formula, testing around outlier scenarios
April 2020	Share final formula at Consortia Committee meeting
May 1, 2020	FY2022 LLSAP Support Grant application sent to LLSAPs