

Amy Dettmer

From: Mollie Stanford <mollie.stanford@alslib.info>
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2025 1:55 PM
To: Amy Dettmer
Subject: 2026 MOE Certification -- Grand Rapids Area Library
Attachments: 2026 MOE - Grand Rapids.pdf

Greetings, Amy!

Around this time each year, our colleagues from State Library Services/Minnesota Department of Education notify every Minnesota county and every Minnesota city that operates a public library with the minimum amount they are required to provide for library service in the coming year (in this case, 2026).

These letters used to have much greater significance as those minimum amounts frequently changed as a result of just how much the city or county provided in the preceding two years. Over ten years ago, the Minnesota Legislature saw fit to essentially freeze the amounts for all of the jurisdictions. Since the Legislature enacted that freeze, the amount on each year's letter is the same as the year before. It will remain the same for future years until the Legislature un-freezes the amounts. A number of cities and counties across the state fund their respective libraries at amounts above what appears on their letter, however there are still some that fund at the minimum amount.

As the letters are being sent directly to city clerks and/or city administrators, I want to make sure you have a copy for your records as well. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

Best,
Mollie

Mollie M. Stanford, MLIS (she/her)
Executive Director
Arrowhead Library System
5528 Emerald Avenue, Mountain Iron, MN 55768
(218) 741-3840

*My work day may look different than your work day. Please do not feel obligated to respond outside of your normal working hours.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **De Vera, Emma (She/Her/Hers) (MDE)** <emma.devera@state.mn.us>
Date: Tue, Aug 12, 2025 at 12:59 PM
Subject: 2026 MOE Certification
To: kjohnson@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us <kjohnson@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us>, mollie.stanford@alslib.info <mollie.stanford@alslib.info>

Hello,

Attached is your county's 2026 state-certified maintenance of effort amount. Please note that this amount is not reflective of the actual cost of maintaining your local library or libraries. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Thank you,

Emma De Vera (she/her)

State Library Programs Specialist

651-582-8702 | emma.devera@state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Education

400 NE Stinson Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55413

education.mn.gov





August 12, 2025

Dear Minnesota City Clerks,

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring your city's residents have access to public library services. The attached documentation provides your city's state-certified level of library support for 2026. Minnesota Statutes, sections 134.34 and 275.761 establish the amount at 90% of the state-certified level of support set in 2011.

Please be advised that should a city fall below its state-certified level of library support, Minnesota Statutes, section 134.34, subdivision 4 requires removal of the city from State Library Services' funding formulas. This would greatly reduce the breadth and depth of library services available to the city's residents.

Thank you again for your continued support of Minnesota's libraries. Together, we can ensure that all Minnesota residents benefit from quality library services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Emma De Vera'.

Emma De Vera
State Library Program Specialist



August 2025

CERTIFICATION OF MINIMUM LOCAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENT: 2025

This is to certify the 2026 minimum level of financial support to be provided for operating expenses for public library services and participation in the regional public library system programs pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 134.34 for the city of:

Grand Rapids

The state-certified level of library support for 2026 is: **\$391,618**

This amount represents the equivalent of 90% of the official 2011 state-certified level of library support.