



# Achievement of Library Excellence Award Information Sheet

Each year, the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association (TMLDA) confers awards for outstanding contributions by public libraries to their communities. Since 1966 TMLDA has served to promote the public library profession, improve the methods of library service delivery, and maintain high standards of professional ethics. TMLDA remains an affiliate of the Texas Municipal League.

The Achievement of Library Excellence Award is open to TMLDA member library directors and the libraries they represent. To receive the Achievement of Library Excellence Award, the library must support standards of excellence in the following categories:

1. Services to underserved populations either through outreach, special programs, collaborations with other libraries or organizations, special classes, special collections, etc.
2. Innovative and effective marketing materials highlighting basic services and publicity about specific programs the library offers
3. Collaborative efforts with community organizations
4. Enhanced service to the public during the past year either through increase in service or a change in type of services
5. Literacy support for all ages (including summer reading programs)
6. Support for digital inclusion through public internet access, digital literacy training, and online library services
7. Support for workforce development
8. Cultural, topical, and educational programming for adults and families
9. Professional staff training to include training opportunities for staff at all levels
10. Any other initiatives that speak to library excellence

TMLDA recognizes that two of the many strengths of Texas libraries are individuality and the ability to meet the specific needs of the communities served. Each award-winning library has chosen to emphasize the programs and services that best support local users where they live, work, and play. While no two public libraries are alike, they each strive for excellence.

According to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 542 public libraries exist in Texas. Of those libraries, only 73 received this award in 2022.