State funding and services administered by Georgia Public Library Services

If a community determines that it desires a public library, it can be formed according to the provisions outlined in the *Official Code of Georgia*. In doing so, it becomes involved with Georgia Public Library Services (GPLS) the state agency for libraries in Georgia. GPLS is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. Its chief executive officer is the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Library Development and Services, the State Librarian. Primarily, GPLS administers state and federal funding and coordinates statewide initiatives. Consulting services are also available.

State funding is provided for professional salaries, library materials and operational support. The funding is apportioned by formula to the library systems on the basis of population and geography. Local funding authorities are expected to provide funding on a permanent basis. The local funding authority (in this instance the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners) must maintain equal or greater funding from year to year. It is referred to as 'Maintenance of Effort (MOE)'. Failure to do this would result in the loss of state grants, services and access to some federal aid.

GPLS also issues service standard recommendations. Outside of physical building square footage, the library normally focuses on standards for access, materials, and technology.

> **Annual State Grant for professional salaries, library materials and operational support.**

	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
State Grant:			
Materials	424,585	303,527	143,471
Salaries and benefits	627,701	625,084	571,021
Operational support	378,988	361,143	424,853
	1,431,274	1,289,754	1,139,345
Decease in State funding		**-10%**	**-12%**

> Discounted Group purchase of GALILEO databases, which were used by Gwinnett County Public Library customers more than 60,000 times in FY09.

There are over 100 databases that are available to Gwinnett.
Estimated cost if Library had to purchase $ 1,128,000

> Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Group Services which include cataloging, interlibrary loan, and union listing of serials.

Estimated cost if Library had to purchase $ 30,000

> State (GPLS) applies for competitive federal funds, Library Services and Technology Grants (LSTA), in technology, family literacy and other areas from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Vacation Reading Program grants and free materials which serve 35,697 Gwinnett children in FY09
Grant received in FY09 $ 4,700

PRIME TIME Family Reading Time grant is designed specifically for under-served families with children ages6-10.
Prime time Grant received in FY09 $ 5,467

> Eligibility for State grants for new construction

The new Hamilton Mill Branch Construction Grant $ 2,000,000

> Gwinnett County Public Library staff have access to continuing education

> Library services for customers with disabilities