V. Federal Fund
    B. Program, Idaho Digital E-Book Alliance – information item

ICfL's New State-wide E-book Service: IDEA

The Idaho Digital E-Book Alliance (IDEA) is a statewide partnership between the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), public libraries, and school libraries with the goal of expanding access while reducing barriers to digital e-books and e-audio content via OverDrive.

This collection will begin with $225,000 in LSTA funds (including $79,000 in Cares Act funds), with ICfL staff selecting and purchasing content. We currently have requests to several other funding sources to support these efforts. The ICfL is committed to supporting student learning and therefore is initially dedicating 75% of the IDEA collection to children, juvenile, and teen titles.

Building the Alliance is necessary for libraries to access this collection. It includes a three-pronged approach.

1. Sharing the IDEA collection with public libraries through reciprocal lending agreements. These agreements are only available to existing OverDrive member libraries and consortia.
2. Facilitating OverDrive membership with the 32 public libraries not currently offering OverDrive e-book/e-audio service. These libraries will be encouraged to join an existing OverDrive consortium to begin offering this e-book service. Once the service is in place, these libraries will have access to the IDEA collection through the consortia reciprocal borrowing agreement with the ICfL.
3. Reducing barriers for students by facilitating school and public library agreements to allow schools access to age-appropriate materials from the public library and IDEA collections via the OverDrive school SORA app. Access through this app will not require students to have a public library card, often a barrier to students obtaining reading materials, as authentication happens through the school's IP address.

In addition to the alliance, the IDEA collection will be available to the 280,000 Idahoans who do not live within a public library service area, with ICfL facilitating electronic access. This population includes students and very rural schools often without a school or public library.