

**IX. General, Misc. Revenue, and Library Services and Improvement Funds**

**A. FY2023 Budget Submission – Discussion**

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The FY2023 budget request will be prepared according to the Division of Financial Management's (DFM) forthcoming budget development manual and will be submitted by August 30, 2021. The following enhancement requests are recommended by staff and a final decision by the Board will be made at its August meeting.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BROADBAND INCREASE IN REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS - \$40,000**

This enhancement would increase ICfL's appropriation for the Education Opportunity Resource Act (EOR), the state broadband reimbursement program for public library and school district broadband costs, from its current level of \$192,600 to a new level of \$232,600, an increase of \$40,000. This increase would ensure sufficient reimbursement funds are available to public libraries for their portion of broadband costs that are not covered by E-rate.

The Education Opportunity Resource Committee (EORC) determines the reimbursement methodology for this program. Based on current E-rate funding requests, we estimate our current level of \$192,600 of EOR funds will be exhausted and we will not be able to fully reimburse broadband costs for all eligible libraries in FY2023 and beyond. If there are any remaining funds, those may be used to help reimburse public libraries' internet content filtering and mobile hotspot costs.

**STATEWIDE SUPPORT FOR K-12 E-BOOKS AND AUDIO TITLES - \$307,000**

Providing centralized access to e-books and audio titles for K-12 students allows all Idaho students to have equal access to reading materials, as they do with databases and other online learning resources. The Idaho Commission for Libraries staff launched the Idaho Digital E-book Alliance (IDEA) in October 2020. One-time CARES Act Funds were appropriated by the legislature to include more students last fiscal year. To make this a sustainable statewide program that will enhance literacy efforts for all, we are requesting \$307,000 (approximately \$1 per Idaho student) in ongoing state funds to purchase e-books for K-12 students.