Baking Something New for 2024

American Library Association (ALA) Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS) and National Library Service (NLS) Project for Revised Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Print Disabled 2024

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# Reading the Recipe: The purpose of this project.

This project intends to review and revise the Revised Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped 2017.

This is an ongoing contract & collaboration between ALA-ODLOS and NLS for the Blind and Print Disabled

Previously, the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), a division of ALA, developed the initial Standards and its five previous editions under contract with NLS for the Blind and Print Disabled.

The Standards purpose is to provide a framework of service for NLS network service providers.

This project aims to develop standards with the maximum input from patrons, staff, and other constituents.

The process should take about 18 months with expected completion of a final draft of the Standards by September 2024.

NLS will continue to foster adherence to the standards through consultant visits, reports, continuing education & training, and ongoing communications.

# Gathering the Ingredients: Our work so far.

* Creation of a Working Team, comprised of Regional Librarians, NLS representatives, Project Director (ALA-ODLOS).
* Creation of an Advisory Team, comprised of Regional Librarians, NLS representatives and select stakeholders.
* Open spots for select representatives for the Advisory Team.
  + Representative from National Federation of the Blind
  + Representative from an Organization representing persons with a physical disability
  + Representative from an Organization representing persons with a reading disability
* Finalized the Statement of Principles and Considerations to guide the work in revising the Standards.
* Considers the Process, Scope/Content, Service, Patrons, and Administrative and Legal components.

# Mixing the Ingredients: Project Timeline.

* Public Forum: Sunday, June 25, 2023, 2-4PM at ALA Annual Conference.   
  Location: McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois
* First Draft: Expected September 2023
* Public Forum: January 19-22, 2024 (Date/Time TBD) at ALA LibLearnX Conference.   
  Location: Baltimore, Maryland
* Second Draft: Expected March 2024
* Public Forum: Spring 2024 (Date/Time TBD) at NLS Biennial Conference.   
  Location: TBD
* Final Draft: Expected September 2024

# Taking it out of the Oven: Public Comment

Guiding Questions for Feedback

* + Consider your patron experience, staff position, or interactions at your local Network Service Provider (NSP)
  + What are best practices at your NSP?
  + Are there gaps in services or barriers to service at your NSP?
  + What do you feel is the most essential aspect of service for patrons at your NSP?
  + How has your NSP services changed over the past 3-5 years? What services do you think should remain unchanged for the next 3-5 years?
  + Just a few examples!

Opportunities for Public Comment

* + Email [amattingly@ala.org](mailto:amattingly@ala.org) by Friday, June 2, 2023
  + Attend Public Forum on Sunday, June 25, 2023 at 2pm
  + Attend Public Forum during LibLearnX 2024 in late Jan 2024
  + Comment on Drafts as shared in NLS Operations Alerts, expected Sept 2023 & March 2024
  + Attend Public Forum during NLS Biennial Conference in Spring 2024