

Levy Information

Why This Levy Matters:

Stark Library is funded through locally approved property taxes, the Ohio Public Library Fund (PLF), investment income, and grants/donations/fees.

FUNDING BREAKDOWN



The Operational Levy this November includes a modest adjustment to maintain current services – not an expansion. Cost of materials, salaries and benefits for staff, security services, property insurance, and vehicle repairs/maintenance have all increased significantly. Our state funding has also been reduced by \$350,000 per year.



▶ For every \$1.00 invested in Stark Library, the total economic benefit to the community is \$2.08.
- Ohio Library Council's Library ROI Calculator

Details of Levy:

- A renewal of 2 mills and an increase of 0.3 mill
- \$55 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value a year
- \$11 increase from 2019 levy
- \$4.58 a month
- 8 years

What this Levy supports:

- Early Literacy and School Readiness
- Access to Library Materials
- Technology Access
- Computers, Wi-Fi, Printing, Scanning, Faxing
- Workforce Support
- Daily Services people rely on
- Open Hours, Staff, Meeting Rooms, Study Rooms
- Maintenance and care of recent building improvements

The Operating Levy ensures we can provide services our community already uses in all locations across our service area as costs continue to rise, and our state funding is reduced.

If the Levy does not pass:

Stark Library will need to make the following reductions

- Reduced Library hours
- Fewer programs, services, and materials
- Reduced access to public computers and technology

How much does a library levy cost me?

Answer: The levy includes a 2-mill renewal and a 0.3 mill increase, which amounts to \$55 per year for every \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value. You can calculate your specific property tax impact using your local county auditor's online tools, such as the Stark County Auditor website.



Scan the QR Code to learn more or visit StarkLibrary.org/LEVY

Our Impact on Stark County:



Children's Programming/Events

Supporting Children, Students, and Families in Stark County

- Storytimes saw over 14,600 participants in 2025, including pre-school aged children and their parents, grandparents, or caretakers
- We welcomed over 42,000 people to our programs/events
- Our Bookmobiles participated in 246 community programs and events in 2025, with almost 15,000 participants



Early Literacy

Serving as a Trusted Community Anchor

- As a Dolly Parton Imagination Library program partner, we mailed 162,850 free books to 13,564 children across Stark County in 2025
- Each month, Bookmobile visits 5,000 children across 65 local Schools and Daycares
- Bookmobile visits 20 Stark County neighborhoods per month, bringing books, free Wi-Fi, DVDs, Hotspots and more to the patrons that need it most



Books and Digital Materials

Delivering Practical Everyday Services

- Almost 61,000 cardholders
- Our physical Collection houses almost 1.8 million items and our digital + physical circulation was just under 2.7 million in 2025
- We saw over 633,000 people walk through our doors in 2025



Computer and Wi-Fi Access

Bridging the Digital Divide

- Bridging the Digital Divide with free access to public computers, Wi-Fi in all of our locations, Wi-Fi Hotspots for families and students who may not have internet access at home
- Business services saw users print over 168,000 pages, utilized over 77,000 on-site computer sessions, and saw usage of almost 251,000 Wi-Fi sessions
- Bookmobiles have free Wi-Fi for visiting patrons – taking Wi-Fi access out into the community



Technology Help for Seniors and Job Seekers

Strengthening the Workforce and Local Economy

- Access to computers, business services, Tech Training classes & one-on-ones
- Community members booked our meeting and study rooms over 10,300 times in 2025
- Library staff had personalized one-on-one sessions for almost 16,000 community members

