

Work for Policy and Membership Committee FY2026

Membership

New Members: Membership criteria taken directly from the Illinois Administrative Code (23 ILAC 3030.200)

- Can be accepted at any time.
- Follows a site visit by system staff and completion of an application.
- Brought to this committee and moved to the full board for approval and submission to the Illinois State Library.

Suspensions: This applies to libraries that no longer meet the membership criteria outlined in the administrative code.

- Can be acted upon at any time; most typically, it is done as part of the annual mandated certification that is completed at the end of March and can be brought to the committee and the full board before the end of the fiscal year.
- Red flags raised during certification call for system follow-up and documentation. Most typically, the red flag has to do with insufficient staffing.
- During certification, libraries can also elect to withdraw from the system. This has been the route chosen by several special libraries through the years.

Challenges: At times, libraries face challenges that are shared with this committee for the purpose of transparency. It is always hoped that these situations will resolve in a positive manner, but it is prudent to keep the committee informed. Examples have included:

- Prolonged building closure
- Non-Compliance with applicable laws and statutes
- Libraries in the news

Note: The bulk of this committee activity will take place between January and May.

Policy

The board can charge this committee to work on external policies. The most recent example was the public comment policy adopted by the board in November 2023.

Membership Breakdown for FY2026

Academic Libraries: 28 School Libraries 240 Public Libraries 227 Special Libraries: 26

Total: 521 Member Agencies