



March 19, 2025

On Friday, March 14th, the White House issued an [executive order](#) calling for the elimination of the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) (IMLS) “to the maximum extent consistent with applicable law.”

What is the IMLS?

The IMLS is the nation’s only federal agency that supports libraries and museums in the United States. The IMLS administers both federal grants to states, which determine how funds are spent, and discretionary grants to individual library entities.

How does this impact Peterborough library?

Peterborough Town Library benefits from services funded by the IMLS and provided by the NH State Library, such as the Interlibrary Loan System. Talking book services, which benefit New Hampshire residents who are physically unable to see, and Libby, the eBook and eAudio digital platform, are also funded in part by IMLS funding via the NH State Library.

Peterborough card holders borrowed 1,684 items from other libraries through interlibrary loan. This includes books for our Families Read Together and Pizza and Pages book clubs.

What happens next?

We don’t know exactly when and how changes will take effect. We are looking to the NH State Library for updates about the possible reduction of services or other impacts. We will inform our community if there are any changes to library services.

If you have questions or feedback on this executive order, we encourage you to contact your Congressional Representatives.

Visit <https://www.sos.nh.gov/Congressional-Delegation> for more information about NH’s Congressional delegation.