

SRCS FAQ

What is SRCS?

SRCS, Indiana's Statewide Remote Circulation Service, is a resource sharing tool which links together the catalogs of multiple Indiana libraries running on a variety of ILS into a single interface which allows authorized users to search and request selected items from the collections of over 150 Hoosier libraries. The requested materials are then delivered to the user's home library where they may check them out as they would any other item.

How do you pronounce SRCS?

SRCS is pronounced like "Circs"

What does SRCS do?

SRCS offers a virtual current union catalog for participating libraries through which patrons can request materials from other participating library systems and have them delivered to their local library using the InfoExpress library courier.

How big is this virtual union catalog?

By the end of Phase II during the spring of 2017, SRCS is expected to include nearly 200 academic, public and special libraries, including the Indiana State Library. That combined catalog contains over 36 million items all held in Indiana. This collection is larger than the collections of Library of Congress or Harvard University Library.

How does SRCS work?

When an authorized user logs into the SRCS catalog for your library and enters a search, the system then checks the actual online catalog of the participating libraries using a Z39.50 connection. If they find a library where that item is owned, currently on the shelf and in a loanable location and format, then, and only then, will a Request this Item button appear? They click on it and a request is sent to a library that currently owns and has that item available.

How is that different from an OCLC ILL request?

OCLC sends requests based upon libraries who have cataloged that item. SRCS sends requests that currently own that item and have it available according to their own catalog.

How are users authorized?

Each library authorizes its own set of patrons. This can be done using NCIP, a similar, but less powerful connection called SIP2 or through batch uploads.

What happens if the patron's home library owns the book they are looking for?

There is an internal switch within SRCS that can alert the patron that the item they are searching for is currently available locally. This alerts the user, but does not stop them from placing the request.

Does this mean I can borrow anything that I find in the SRCS Catalog?

No. Each library defines the materials that they are willing to offer through SRCS. Typically this excludes items in reference collections, online items or items in high demand locally.

Can I request photocopies through SRCS?

No. SRCS is intended for returnable items only.

Is there a list of the libraries that are participating?

Participation in SRCS is strictly voluntary. There is a list of the libraries participating in the SRCS project is available at <http://in.gov/library/SRCS.htm>.

How much does it cost for my library to join SRCS?

There is no cost to any participating library for joining this service. The State Library has agreed to underwrite the cost for setup and the annual connection fee for all participants to promote resource sharing throughout the state.

Are there any hidden costs for my library?

No, but we are advising participating libraries to expect an increase in their resource sharing once they join SRCS. There are some additional products which may enhance your library's experience. The State library does not underwrite these costs.

What are these "additional products?"

The most common product is NCIP, which connects SRCS to your local ILS. Once you update a record in SRCS, NCIP automatically passes that information to your ILS. Without it, you may have to update both systems in order to keep things in sync, but NCIP is **not** required to run SRCS.

Where can I buy NCIP?

You will need to contact your ILS provider to see if they have a version of NCIP available and purchase it from them.

How long do materials circulate on SRCS?

Each library can set their own loan period, but the recommendation of the Resource Sharing Committee is for the minimum loan period for all materials in SRCS to be 21 days.

How are renewals handled?

Patrons can log into SRCS and view the status or request renewals for their active requests. It is up to the owning library to either grant or deny this renewal request.

How are fines handled?

SRCS is interlibrary lending, so no daily fines are levied.

What happens if my patron loses a book borrowed through SRCS?

The process in this case is that same as it is for a traditional ILL request. The borrowing library reimburses the lending library for the replacement cost of the lost item. They are then free to press their patron for reimbursement using their normal fines and billing procedures.

How can my library join SRCS?

Approximately once each year, the State Library will open a window for libraries to join SRCS. Interested libraries may submit a letter of intent at that time. The current window closes on 31 January 2017.

How do I get more information about SRCS?

Contact Statewide Services at the Indiana State Library at or 1-800-451-6028 or [StatewideServices@library.in.gov?subject=SRCS Question](mailto:StatewideServices@library.in.gov?subject=SRCS%20Question), if you need more information about the SRCS program.