EAST EASTERN ACADEMIC SCHOLARS' TRUST

What is EAST?

The Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust is a shared print initiative whose mission is to create a collective collection that secures print monographs and serials in support of teaching, learning, and research. As part of this mission, EAST has created a decentralized repository system, which means that each of its retention partner member libraries agrees to store and make accessible the titles assigned during the collection analysis process. This practice allows member libraries the opportunity to deselect print items knowing that they are maintained at other institutions and trusting that they will be freely available for borrowing when needed by patrons. Libraries that are EAST members are required to retain, loan, and replace items that are designated for retention at their library.

The following list gives important information about retained titles:

- Monograph, journal and serial titles are retained for 15 years (currently through June 30, 2031).
- The EAST retention commitment is reflected in the 583 MARC Field of bib or holdings record.
- EAST Retention commitments can be transferred or reallocated; procedures for doing so are outlined in the Retention FAQ, under the Retention & Access menu on eastlibraries.org
- Member libraries can determine if another institution retains a particular title by searching the database available on the eastlibraries.org homepage. Additional data about the full EAST retained collection is available via OCLC, and the Gold Rush and PAPR databases. Contact the Project Team with any questions.

Why is my institution an EAST member?

Each EAST member joined for a variety of reasons, including wanting to safeguard and provide access to the scholarly record while recognizing that no single institution can do so by itself. EAST allows member libraries to make collection management decisions by taking into account other EAST members' willingness to retain and loan specific titles. Membership in EAST also indicates that an institution is interested in participating and contributing to the broader conversation around issues of shared print, that is taking place at state, regional, national, and international levels.

How does membership in EAST affect my institution?

To preserve the safety net of retentions, EAST members are required to maintain updated retentions information, including metadata, and to participate in the lending network via inter-library loan.

Where can I go if I have questions about EAST?

The EAST website, eastlibraries.org, is your go-to place to find answers. The site provides comprehensive and dynamic FAQs and Best Practices on topics including retention commitments and Interlibrary Loan. It contains a listing of each library's EAST Voting Member and Operational Contact. For additional guidance, contact the EAST Project Team directly.

EAST and Interlibrary Loan

Titles agreed to be retained by EAST member libraries are held as a light archive within their local circulating collections. The EAST Major Operating Policies[1], as approved by the Executive Committee, allow EAST member libraries to use their own local policies to fulfill borrowing requests of retained titles from other EAST libraries, keeping in mind that the majority of EAST members as well as the EAST Monographs and Interlibrary Loan Working Groups strongly advocate for no-charge lending across the EAST member libraries. EAST libraries publish their policies in the OCLC Policies Directory.

Interlibrary Loan staff are responsible for ensuring EAST member libraries have access to materials across the membership. An EAST OCLC Group Access Capability (GAC), named EAST, has been created. Interested librarians should consult the list of OCLC and DOCLINE symbols[2] for a list of symbols included in the EAST GAC. For RAPID members, an EAST pod is available.

The EAST ILL Working Group reviews policies and advises on implementation details. It has created an EAST ILL Best Practices document[2]. As EAST continues, it remains important to measure the impact on ILL units across the membership. Therefore, compiling, analyzing, and providing access to loan and request data will be increasingly important. To that end, EAST collects GAC and POD level statistics, though libraries may wish to devise their own mechanisms for measuring impact. The EAST ILL Working Group also continues to explore statistics gathering.

All EAST members adhere to the principles of the ILL Code for the United States.

How do I become personally involved in EAST?
EAST periodically looks for volunteers to serve on its various committees and working groups, and the best way to find out about these opportunities is to sign up for our emails. You can also use the Contact Us form on the EAST website to request to be added to the EAST.Members list-serv.

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[1] EAST Policy documents can be found at https://eastlibraries.org/policies-mou and information about the Executive Committee can be found in the Governance section of the EAST website: https://eastlibraries.org/governance

[2] Links to the ILL Best Practices document, lists of member OCLC and DocLine symbols, and information on how to add to the OCLC Policies Directory are all available in the Access section of the EAST website: https://eastlibraries.org/access