Enoch Pratt Free Library

Pillar: Prioritizing Our Youth
Service Number: 788
Fiscal 2023 Recommended Budget: $45,586,110

Service Description

The Enoch Pratt Free Library has a dual role serving as the public library system for the City of Baltimore and as the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) for the State of Maryland. The Library provides equal access to information for all members of the community and the state of Maryland, regardless of economic level, race, gender or educational level at no cost to customers. Specifically, the Pratt provides homework support; information referral and reference services online and in person; databases that contain research information on a wide variety of topics that support formal and informal learning; access to research materials about the City and State; family literacy activities; author programs; informational programs; job and career training and computer training classes; meeting room spaces; and broadband access to communities throughout Baltimore City and the state. The Enoch Pratt Free Library operates 21 neighborhood libraries, the Central Library/SLRC, two Bookmobiles, a Mobile Jobs vehicle, and other outreach services.

Major Budget Items

- The recommended budget removes $300,000 of CARES funding that expired on December 31, 2021, which was used to support library branch cleaning operations.

- The agency received an additional $737,000 in state funding from the Fiscal 2021 State legislative session. The most significant portion of this increase will go toward the purchase of databases related to the Sailor network, which will be made available to customers statewide.

Type	Performance Measure	Actual 2018	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Target 2021	Actual 2021	Target 2022	Target 2023
Output	# of Library Resources Customers Use (in millions)	1.31	1.73	1.79	1.65	1.21	1.80	1.80
Output	# of Participants in Literacy and Lifelong Learning Programs	140,995	154,544	135,272	45,000	73,246	150,000	100,000