

BACKGROUND

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), the first comprehensive national library network, began in 1967. Under the leadership of the National Library of Medicine and through the participation of medical libraries and other information resources throughout the nation, it has developed into a well-organized and effective network for meeting the information needs of the nation's health professionals and the general public.

The NN/LM includes eight Regional Medical Libraries (RMLs). Each is responsible for coordinating services in a designated geographic area. The South Central Region serves Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. The RML has been located at the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library, Houston, TX, since 1991.

NN/LM MISSION

Our mission is to advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by:

- ◆ providing all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information;
- ◆ improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health.

The program is coordinated by the NLM and carried out through a nationwide network of health science libraries and information centers.

JOINING THE NETWORK

There are two categories of membership within the NN/LM: **Member** and **Affiliate**. **There is no cost for Network membership.**

An NN/LM **Member** can be any health sciences library or health-related information center, institution, or organization that: (1) is regularly staffed; (2) has an Internet connection; (3) has its own collection of health sciences materials (books, journals, audiovisuals, electronic databases); and, (4) provides information services (**must** include DOCLINE) to health professionals and/or the general public.

An **Affiliate** is a library or information resource center that is called on for health information by its users, but which does not meet all of the criteria for **Member** participation. An **Affiliate** member might form a cooperative relationship with a **Member**, for example, for reference assistance or document delivery.

Each **Member/Affiliate** must:

- ◆ Designate an individual as the local contact person for Network information/communication;
- ◆ Agree to be listed in the appropriate regional directory, produced optionally by each RML, and the national registry of Network members;
- ◆ Provide basic information on collections and services to NLM and the RML.

APPLICATION

Institution Name

Department/Library Name

Address

County

City, State, ZIP

Contact Person

Phone Number

Fax Number

Email Address

Complete the above application and mail or fax to:

**NN/LM SCR
Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas
Medical Center Library
1133 John Freeman Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030-2809
Phone: 713-799-7880 or 800-338-7657
Fax: 713-790-7030**

BENEFITS OF NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

- ◆ Guaranteed access to interlibrary loan services available to the Network;
- ◆ An invitation, on a periodic basis, to provide input to its RML on the region's programs and services;
- ◆ Access to its region's newsletter and other information sources;
- ◆ A certificate, which names the institution as a recognized member of the NN/LM;
- ◆ Special mailings of NLM posters, brochures, and other publications;
- ◆ Opportunities to apply for project funding through the RML;
- ◆ The opportunity for librarians from member institutions to be invited to serve on the RML's Regional Advisory Committee;
- ◆ Enrollment on the regional electronic discussion list;
- ◆ A subscription to the *NLM Newslines* and the opportunity to obtain the NLM Annual Report upon request from the NLM Office of Public Information.

NN/LM GOALS

- ◆ To develop collaborations with NN/LM libraries to improve access to and sharing of biomedical information resources throughout the nation;
- ◆ To promote awareness of and access to biomedical information resources for health professionals and the public;
- ◆ To encourage, develop, and support connectivity to the Internet through the inclusion of Network member libraries, health professionals, and organizations providing health information to the public, in the National Information Infrastructure.

For more information:
<http://nmlm.gov/about/membership/>

Or call:
800-338-7657
nnlmscr@library.tmc.edu

NLM Contract N01-LM-1-3515



Become a Network Member



and Make the Connection!

National Network
of Libraries of Medicine
South Central Region

Network Membership
Application and Information

<http://nmlm.gov/scr>