

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Group Purchase of Wilson Select Database

On July 16, 2008 the Illinois State Library discontinued Wilson Select Plus and Periodical Abstracts for the people of Illinois as a result of the Governor's specific line item budget cut in the Secretary of State and State Librarian's budget. Illinois Library Systems have been gathering information regarding pricing and interest in continuing access to these two products. Based on our findings, there is broad-based support across all types of libraries for the Wilson Select Plus product.

Illinois Library Systems are pleased to announce that we have obtained a very favorable price for Illinois libraries that wish to purchase this product. We are developing a tiered pricing structure that will be as low as \$150 for some libraries and no more than \$3000 for large libraries. Products such as this are usually priced at a much higher price so through the negotiations via the Illinois Library System Directors Organization, libraries that commit to participating will receive substantial savings as part of this group offer. This offer provides all Illinois libraries with the opportunity to resume a base of access that is essential to the information needs of Illinois residents. The goal of this offer is to allow libraries to afford this product and to make the pricing favorable for all types and sizes of libraries. Libraries will receive individual pricing information no later than August 11, 2008.

Since time is of the essence, once pricing has been distributed, Systems will need a commitment decision from each library no later than September 15, 2008, in order for the service to begin as close to the start of the academic and school years. Specific information on how to communicate your decision will be included with the pricing information.

Wilson Select Plus provides online indexing and abstracting of a wide range of high-quality periodicals with all records pointing to full text articles. It is updated weekly and has coverage from 1994 to the present. There are over 1.5 million records from 2,393 sources. We know that for many libraries, the Wilson Select Plus database is the only

access patrons have had to full-text articles, making this resource vital to the people of Illinois in meeting their information needs. It is our belief that by working together, access to this important resource can be restored for the people of Illinois.

Illinois Library Systems are membership-based, regional organizations consisting of academic, public, school, and special libraries. Illinois is served by nine multitype Library Systems, each providing services to participating libraries in its region. Statewide, over 2,200 libraries of all types and sizes are members of Library Systems. Funding for Illinois Library Systems is provided through the Illinois State Library and the Secretary of State with funds appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly.