

Free Direct Access Talking Points

- Required as part of System Plan of Service
 - http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/excerpts/finished_regs/903.htm
 - Needs to be approved by > 50% member Boards
 - Last approved plan was in 1999
 - Funding model changes warrant a re-write
- FDA in a nutshell
 - Allows for onsite use of resources for all persons dwelling within the geographic boundaries of the System, and borrowing privileges for non-CTS, System-resident cardholders, if no serious inequities or hardships for CTS residents
 - Plan defines what constitutes serious inequities and hardships
 - If inequities and hardships exist, library
 - may place restrictions upon the loan of library resources. Such restrictions shall be limited to nonprint materials and equipment, and printed materials less than one year old, including fiction and nonfiction books and periodicals. Such materials must have been purchased from local funds.
 - may place restrictions upon attendance at library programs. If attendance must be limited, local residents may be given first access to them. Such programs must have been supported entirely from local funds.
- What it means
 - For the State: it provides a mechanism for all New Yorkers to have access to public library services whether or not their locality provides funding for those services
 - For the libraries: it provides a tool for approaching heavy use localities outside the CTS for adequate levels of financial support
- What's changed
 - County support is declining, and was cited in previous plan as partly supporting use by unserved localities
 - Tax cap legislation
 - Threat of reduced/eliminated funding by non-CTS localities