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Action for Libraries — September 2001

Free trial extended to November 30

BCR Launches netLibrary Trial, Shared Collection for Public Libraries

By James Speed Hensinger

BCR is offering a new shared collection of netLibrary electronic books designed specifically with the public library community in mind. However, all types of libraries are welcome to participate in the new BCR Public Library Collection.

During a two-month free-trial period, September 1 through October 31, BCR member libraries will have free access to the collection. Libraries that sign up to participate in the collection before October 20 will not experience an interruption in access when the trial is over.

BCR's netLibrary collection provides participating libraries with perpetual access to netLibrary e-books at a fraction of the full cost of the books. (In some cases, less than 2 percent of the direct costs.) Access fees are included in the cost. Participating libraries pay only once; this is not a subscription.

The initial BCR Public Library Collection is about 3,000 titles, which are now being selected based on BCR's survey completed by public librarians over the last two months. The title list will be available by September 1. Watch this BCR URL for a list of the titles to be included: www.bcr.org/~ids/Reference/Netlibrary/NL-Menu.html.

As additional libraries join, BCR anticipates the size of the collection will double to around 6,000 titles. BCR will add new titles quarterly in increments in proportion to participants' contributions during that period.

Public library pricing for the collection is based on the population served. Library systems and districts may buy in as a whole, or individual branches may purchase based on their respective populations served.

Population Served

Up to 10,000

10,001 to 25,000

25,001 to 50,000

Investment

\$700

\$1,200

\$2,700

50,001 to 100,000	\$5,000
100,001 to 200,000	\$7,200
200,001 to 400,000	\$15,000
400,001 and higher	\$25,000

A separate pricing model based on student body size is available for academic and K-12 libraries. State libraries and consortia require individual quotations. Please contact BCR's Laura Chittivej at lochittiv@bcr.org.

For more information and to access forms to register for the free trial and forms to participate in the Public Library Collection, visit www.bcr.org/. Click on **Reference Databases**, then on **netLibrary**.

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