

Library Residents on the **Bleeding** Edge: Delivering value through innovation, leadership, and inclusion

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What is a Residency?

“The post-degree work experience designed as an entry level program for professionals who have recently received the MLS degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association.”¹

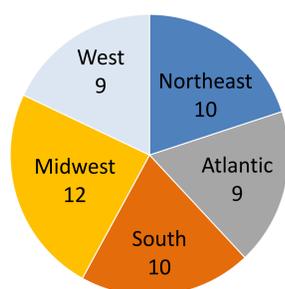
RESIDENCY	INTERNSHIP
Post-degree work experience	Pre-professional work experience
ALA-accredited MLS degree required	Concurrent with graduate work
Typically for 2 or 3 years	Usually a year or less
Full-time professional librarian position	Often part-time

Throughout the United States and Canada there are approximately 50 library residency programs. This number changes year to year, as programs become inactive and new programs are created.

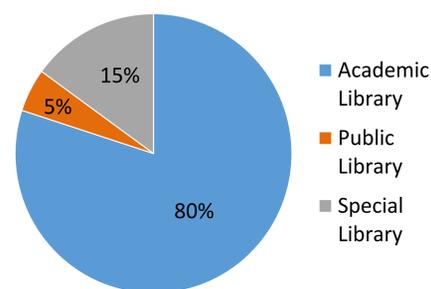


Nearly 80% of programs reside in academic institutions. Programs at other types include Los Angeles Public Library, the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and OCLC. Two of the oldest residencies are at the University of Delaware (1992) and The Ohio State University (1991).

By Region



By Institution Type



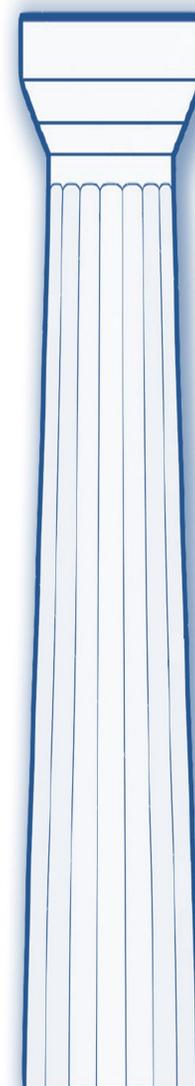
*The above charts include approximations, and are as accurate as possible based on program information currently available through the ACRL Residency Interest Group.²

Pillars of the Residency Experience

*All of the titles, responsibilities, and projects highlighted come from descriptions of current residencies.

Leadership

Residents are leaders, imagining and executing work in new areas of academic librarianship



Titles

Innovation Leadership Residency, Undergraduate Services Resident Librarian

Responsibilities

Academic Innovation, Embedded Librarianship, Assessment

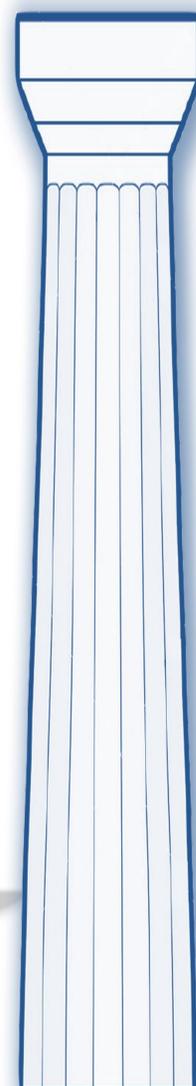
Project

“I initiated an assessment analysis of reflection responses collected during information literacy instruction for several semesters. I identified areas of measurement, and recruited and trained colleagues on a qualitative analysis software program to assist our efforts. The results of this analysis continue to inform how we frame learning objectives and deliver instruction to our students each semester.”

—Rosalinda H. Linares

Innovation

Residencies are a catalyst for innovation in academic libraries, pushing the boundaries of programs and services



Titles

Digital Research Services Librarian, Metadata Transformation Librarian

Responsibilities

Scholarly Communications, Data Curation, Informatics

Project

“My residency capstone project was an investigation of the use of the flipped classroom pedagogical model for library instruction. It was a great experience leading a group of instruction librarians in a pilot of new teaching strategies. The reflective and intentional nature of the project helped us all improve our teaching and push our boundaries. I provided motivation, support, and guidance for my colleagues in exploring new territory for library instruction.”

—Sara Arnold-Garza

Inclusion

The diverse perspectives of residents sustain programs and services supporting many campus communities



Titles

Diversity Residency Librarian, Library Residency for Diversity and Innovation

Responsibilities

Diversity and Intercultural Initiatives, Outreach Services, Marketing and Communication

Project

“As part of my residency, I developed a community outreach plan for undergraduate international students. I had to lead in educating library staff about the experiences and needs of international students, developing connections across the university, and raising awareness and communication surrounding this issue. I proposed and co-chaired a Task Force on Library Services to International Students. My efforts ensure viable support for this growing community.”

—Ariana Santiago

References:

1. Brewer, Julie, Comp. (1992, Oct.). *Internship, Residency, and Fellowship Programs in ARL Libraries. SPEC Kit 188* (Report No. ISSN-0160-3582). Washington, DC: Association of Research Libraries. (ED359970). Retrieved from <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED359970.pdf>
2. ACRL Residency Interest Group. (2015). *Programs*. Retrieved from http://acrl.ala.org/residency/?page_id=2723