

# Public Library Technology

## Associate in Applied Science in Occupational Development

### Program Description:

The Public Library Technology program provides critical training in areas such as cataloging, technical services, administration, children's and young adult programming, adult library services, collection development, and library technology in addition to the general education skills needed to work in a public library. An increased use of electronic resources in libraries enables library technicians to perform tasks once done by professional librarians. Because opportunities will be best for those with specialized postsecondary library training, the PLT program prepares workers for current trends in the library field to meet more sophisticated information and computer literacy needs. This program is available 100% online so individuals in rural locations can take these courses without having to leave their libraries or homes.

### Career Outlook:

Job opportunities are favorable as retirements among Baby Boomers between now and 2012 will impact a significant portion of the estimated 113,000 workers employed as library technicians nationally. In 2006, the US Department of Labor reported an estimated 8% increase in jobs available to library employees pursuing paraprofessional positions in public and academic library settings over the next decade. West Virginia employs over 450 individuals in this job category.

### Salary Forecast:

According to the May 2008 Bureau of Labor Statistics report, median annual earnings of library technicians were \$28,820. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$17,110, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$45,770. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of library technicians in 2008 were as follows:

Colleges, universities, and professional schools	\$34,310
Junior colleges	\$32,910
Local government	\$28,850
Elementary and secondary schools	\$29,240
Other information services	\$28,380

### Program Admission Requirements:

The college adheres to an open admissions policy which means applicants with a high school diploma or a GED are eligible for admission. Applicants with neither a high school diploma nor a GED may be admitted on a conditional basis.

### Educational Opportunities:

Once a student completes the A.A.S. in the Transfer Studies program, s/he can move into a Bachelor's degree program. Once a student earns a B.A. he/she can move on to a Master's in Library Science Program May 2006 for – the terminal credential required of professional librarians. Median annual earnings (professionals holding an American Library Association Accredited Master's in Library Science) as of May 2006 were \$49,060. The middle 50 percent earned between \$39,250 and \$60,800. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$30,930, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$74,670.

**Major Code – CL30**

<b>FIRST YEAR<sup>1,2</sup></b>	
<p><b>Fall Semester</b></p> <p>ENL 111 Written Communication .....3</p> <p>IT 101 Fundamentals of Computers (EDGE) .....3</p> <p>MAT 115 Business Mathematics .....3</p> <p>PLT 100 Intro to Public Libraries (EDGE) .....3</p> <p>PLT 230 Public Library Reference &amp; Young Adult Services<sup>3</sup></p> <p>PLT 240 Public Library Organization &amp; Administration .....3</p> <p><b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>.....18</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester</b></p> <p>COM 112 Oral Communication .....3</p> <p>PLT 210 Public Library Cataloging .....3</p> <p>PLT 235 Advanced Reference Skills<sup>3</sup> .....3</p> <p>PLT 250 Public Library Technology<sup>3</sup> .....3</p> <p>SS 201 Human Relations .....3</p> <p><b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>.....15</p>
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>	
<p><b>Fall Semester</b></p> <p>ENL 115 Written Communication II<sup>4</sup> .....3</p> <p>IT 107 Fundamentals of the Internet .....3</p> <p>PLT 215 Advanced Cataloging .....3</p> <p>PLT 255 Collection Development<sup>3</sup> .....3</p> <p><b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>.....12</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester</b></p> <p>ENL 231 Technical Report Writing .....3</p> <p>ENL 240 Literature of American Pop Culture<sup>4</sup> .....3</p> <p>PLT 265 Preservation of Library Materials<sup>4</sup> .....3</p> <p>PLT 280 Sp Tp: Public Library Marketing .....3</p> <p>SS 215 Lifespan Psychology .....3</p> <p><b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>.....15</p>
<p><b>Summer</b></p> <p>PLT 220 Children's &amp; Young Adults Services .....3</p> <p>PLT 260 Adult Library Services .....3</p> <p><b>Other Required Course</b></p> <p>PLT 299 Capstone Experience .....3</p>	
<b>HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 69</b>	

**Employment Opportunities:**

- Library assistants
- Library technicians

**Earn A Degree Graduate Early (EDGE):**

This program provides students the opportunity to receive credit for their high school EDGE courses.

**Contact Information:**

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1. All PLT Courses are offered only online

2. The complete PLT A.A.S. degree may be obtained online.

3. Course substitutions or an independent study option will be made for PLT majors in lieu of PLT 215, 265 and 280 if they are not offered.

4. Students may take PLT courses in any sequence except when prerequisites are listed.