



DALNET Benefits

DALNET Benefits for Users

- Provides a high-quality, web-based information gateway, that is readily available and reliable.
- Supplies a central portal for access to unique local information resources, including digital collections from member libraries.
- Provides users with a web-based portal for assistance in conducting searches on the internet, evaluating the quality of information resources, learning how to use various databases and linking them to library resources throughout Michigan.
- Offers expanded access to library materials through consortium resource sharing agreements and interlibrary loan agreements.
- Enables users to identify and locate library materials, with searches scoped to the level of preference: individual libraries, subsets of DALNET libraries, or across all DALNET libraries.
- Provides users with the advantages of a virtual union catalog, such as consistent query interpretation across multiple libraries with quick response time across a large number of library records.
- Supports efficient computerized library services, including up to the minute information about the availability of library materials, circulation information, journal collection status, and computerized checkout.
- Offers access to an array of online user-initiated services, such as the ability to review materials checked-out, renew books, and request books from other libraries.



DALNET Benefits

DALNET Benefits for Member Libraries

- Enables member libraries to better serve the information needs of their users through innovative, cooperative networking among various types of libraries and their personnel in southeast Michigan.
- Empowers the membership to determine the growth, development, and directions for the consortium. Priorities of DALNET are directed by a Board comprised of representatives of each institution; each member is assured an equal voice in the decision making process.
- Provides highly skilled technical DALNET staff who are solely devoted to library electronic access issues for members.
- Enables libraries to maximize their investment in collections through resource sharing. These collaborations are important as they are considered in accreditation for many member libraries.
- Provides opportunities for collaborative projects and external funding.
- Assists library staff with digital projects, enabling them to create and provide access to unique local information.
- Gives library employees opportunities for professional development that have direct application to their jobs.
- Exposes members to the latest developments and trends in the information service profession which helps libraries avoid becoming stagnant and insular in their outlook and planning.



DALNET Benefits

DALNET Benefits for Integrated Library System (ILS) Members

- Offers over twenty years of experience in providing centralized library automation support and services to various types of libraries in southeast Michigan.
- Maintains hardware and software for an Integrated Library System which lessens the necessity for each library to maintain the full complement of experts and hardware to operate their own, while offering a more advanced system than members could support individually.
- Allows libraries to streamline staff operations and realize cost savings through sharing standardized bibliographic and authority records.
- Increases leverage in negotiations with library vendors and other system service providers. Saves labor and overhead costs by centralizing management of contractual agreements.
- Adheres to national standards for library automation and digitization to ensure compatibility and transferability of records.
- Links members to regional, state, and national library networks which expand our access resources and services within and beyond the southeast Michigan region.