Our mission is to exceed the expectations of our customers, the taxpayers, by operating at the highest levels of accuracy, cost-effectiveness, and accountability in a customer-centered environment.

**TEL Fast Facts**

- In 1999, the Tennessee Electronic Library was created by the Tennessee Legislature.
- The entire library community in Tennessee, especially Tenn-Share, the Tennessee Library Association and Friends Of Tennessee Libraries.
- Available to all Tennessee residents.
- TEL has grown from 18 databases from GALE (vendor) to over 40 databases from 6 vendors, paid for with a mix of state and federal dollars.
Why is TEL Important?

• Prior to TEL, libraries had to purchase their own databases.
• Most public libraries were unable to purchase databases for patrons to use because they were prohibitively expensive.
• It levels the playing field for small and rural public libraries and their patrons who now have 24/7/365 access to materials.

Where is TEL?

• Your library’s homepage (but you don’t need a library card to use it!)
• Anywhere a Tennessee resident has access to the internet (you can google it!)
• ELVIS has left the building
• Geo-location software

What are public library patrons looking for?

• Genealogy
• Jobs
• Test Prep
• Kids’ activities!
• Answering Basic Reference Questions
• Research for papers/reports
• Reading material
• Language learning/ESL
TEL Updates

• Statewide library staff training
• More Sophisticated Geolocation Software
• Individual Statistics by Library
READS Fast Facts

- Went live on March 1, 2009
- Available to all library card holders in good standing in the regional library system.
- Contains ebooks, audiobooks, periodicals and streaming video.
- Paid for with State and Federal money.
Why is READS important?

• Offers a wide range of subjects, many that smaller libraries cannot afford to purchase.
• It levels the playing field for small and rural public libraries and their patrons who now have 24/7/365 access to materials in multiple formats.
• It allows patrons the privacy to read what they like.

Where is READS?

• Your library’s homepage
• Anywhere a Tennessee resident in the regional library system has access to the internet
• Available on virtually any device: computer, smartphone, Ipad, tablet
READS Updates

• Facebook page
• Libguide
• Curated Lists
• Partnerships with other entities (KidCentral, Imagination Library, Governor’s Children’s Cabinet)
• Quarterly newsletter
• Library board regularly reviews and evaluates the effectiveness of the library’s online resources (Governance #4)
• Library promotes the Regional E-book and Audiobook Download System (Collection #4)
• Library staff has been trained to use the Tennessee Electronic Library and promotes its use to the community (Collection #5)
• Library hosts at least one TEL training session for the public and staff annually (Collection #6)
• Library will have a web presence including one-click access to TEL and READS with information about library programs and activities as well as library contact information (Technology #7)
Library board regularly reviews and evaluates the effectiveness of the library’s online resources (Governance #4)

- Utilize statistics provided on Data Collection Libguide
- “The Library Board has a Technology Committee that reviews technology needs.”
- “The board receives updates at meetings and reports on their experiences as users of these resources.”
Library promotes the Regional E-book and Audiobook Download System (Collection #4)

- Library Website
- Library Social Media Pages:
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - Instagram
- Adding READS titles to print bibliographies
- Providing e-cards for READS access only
Library staff has been trained to use the Tennessee Electronic Library and promotes its use to the community (Collection #5)

- Statewide “TEL Road Show” in May, 2017
- Piloted by Holston River (April 2016):
  - Gale - Emily Mageski, Ken Estell, and Sharon Norris
    - In Context and the Gale Unified Interface
    - Training and Facilitation Best Practices
  - TEL Gale Resources to Support Health, Wealth, and Happiness
  - Learning Express - Shana Ashwood
    - LearningExpress Library Overview
    - ProQuest - Wendell Butler
      - HeritageQuest: An Introduction
    - Tennessee State Library & Archives - Erin Loree
      - Discover World Book Online

Library hosts at least one TEL training session for the public and staff annually (Collection #6)

- Ask the library staff to conduct a TEL training session during a board meeting.
- Partner with the local Senior Citizens Center.
Library will have a web presence including one-click access to TEL and READS with information about library programs and activities as well as library contact information (Technology #7).

- Find your library’s website on the Tennessee Public Library Directory and ensure your library has one-click access to TEL and READS.
Important Links

- TEL: http://tntel.tnsos.org/
- READS: http://reads.lib.overdrive.com/
- READS Teen Page: http://reads.lib.overdrive.com/teens/
- READS Screening Room: http://reads.lib.overdrive.com.ScreeningRoom/
- READS Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/TNREADS/
- READS Libguide: http://tsla.libguides.com/READS
- READS Newsletter: http://sos.tn.gov/node/6107
- Data Collection Libguide: http://tsla.libguides.com/datacollection/
- Public Library Directory: http://tnsos.net/TSLA/PLD/
Important Links

- READS Screening Room: [http://reads.lib.overdrive.com/ScreeningRoom/](http://reads.lib.overdrive.com/ScreeningRoom/)
- READS Facebook Page: [https://www.facebook.com/TNREADS/](https://www.facebook.com/TNREADS/)
- READS Libguide: [http://tsla.libguides.com/READS](http://tsla.libguides.com/READS)
- READS Newsletter: [http://sos.tn.gov/node/6107](http://sos.tn.gov/node/6107)
- Public Library Directory: [http://tnsos.net/TSLA/PLD/](http://tnsos.net/TSLA/PLD/)