



## Mockingbird, the Arkansas Statewide Virtual Union Catalog – Arkansas libraries sharing their catalogs with libraries around the state

Mockingbird, the Arkansas Statewide Virtual Union Catalog provides a single point of access to participating Arkansas library catalogs. Library users can search this combined catalog and ask their home libraries to request selected materials to be delivered to their libraries for them to borrow. Mockingbird is not a replacement for your library’s own catalog, rather it works with a continually growing number of different catalog systems around Arkansas to provide this extended discoverability and access functionality.

- The Arkansas State Library is covering the cost of the platform implementation as well as the ongoing annual costs associated with the platform itself.
- The SHAREit platform by Auto-Graphics has been chosen, and implementation began in February of 2022. Approximately fifty libraries/library systems are in the first two implementation phases, representing public, academic, and special libraries.
- SHAREit uses Z39.50 to connect with library catalogs to be able to pull together search results in real time for discovery.
- Policies, processes, and workflows for resource sharing logistics are up to the participating libraries to determine locally.
- Users may request materials in Mockingbird in either a mediated or an unmediated way, based on the preferences of individual participating libraries/library systems.
- Some libraries may opt to participate in Mockingbird for discoverability and may not use it heavily for resource sharing. Other libraries will use Mockingbird as a resource sharing tool to manage loans between their libraries and other libraries within their localities and around the state.
- Resource sharing can be centralized or point-to-point. For example, a regional library system may have one centralized process for ILL, or they may handle ILL individually by each county in their system, each branch in their system, etc.
- In addition to discovery and resource sharing, Mockingbird can be used for copy cataloging purposes.
- Libraries implemented in phase 1 went live on June 22, 2022; implementation for phase 2 libraries is in process with a scheduled go live date of September 6.