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From the State Library - May 5, 2021

Edge to be Discontinued May 31, 2021

Librarians, we wanted to let you know that Edge will be discontinued for Iowa public libraries on May 31, 2021. For three years, the State Library has supported the program to help public libraries of all sizes assess and align their technology resources to community priorities. We believe this initiative has had tremendous success in Iowa and have heard from many libraries how much it helped to identify areas of improvement and communicate those needs to stakeholders.



Edge Success

With Edge 1.0 and 2.0, **327** libraries completed a total of **449** assessments (some libraries completed multiple assessments to measure improvement). Of those, **164** libraries completed **377** action plans to target technology improvements in their library.

Data from your Edge assessments has given the State Library a big-picture view of the needs of libraries to help identify areas where we could potentially offer extra support; including ideas to help build community partnerships, and ways to improve participation and technology to accommodate people with disabilities. Edge has also shown us where Iowa libraries are succeeding; including with library staff offering technology expertise to patrons, having sufficient devices and bandwidth to accommodate user demand, and the widespread availability of digital content.

What You Need to Do

If you created an Edge account, completed the assessment and created SMART goals, you should log in to your Edge account to download and save the reports before May 31, 2021. This data will not be retained by Edge or the State Library.

If you have an assessment in progress, consider completing it so you can download your results and reports before the cutoff. Libraries will have access to complete any of the Edge Toolkits until May 31 as well.



Thank you for helping to make Edge a success! Edge has been an important tool to provide an opportunity for libraries to assess technology, communicate its impact and plan for the future to support the local economy, workforce, lifelong learning and strong communities. While the State Library is moving on to new projects and initiatives now, we may evaluate bringing it back in the future when the time warrants.

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