

About Lyrasis

Lyrasis is a nonprofit membership organization that formed in 2009 and traces its [history](#) back to 1936. We help libraries, archives, and museums increase their impact while reducing costs through collaboration at scale, providing shared products and services that include content licensing, open access (OA) initiatives, and the Palace Project ebook platform. Additionally, we champion open source software through hosting services and community development. While both members and non-members benefit from our services and scale, Lyrasis members receive exclusive [benefits](#) such as discounts, continuing education, and a direct voice in our governance.

The [mission](#) of Lyrasis is to “empower libraries, archives and museums through content services, open technologies and community-based solutions that expand access to information, preserve cultural heritage, and advance the shared goals of our members and the communities we serve. Collaboratively, we build a future that is inclusive, equitable, accessible and sustainable.”

Lyrasis membership includes more than 1,000 collections-holding institutions located throughout the United States. Of these members, 87% are academic libraries, 4% public libraries, and 3% special libraries. The balance are K-12 libraries, state libraries, museums, historical societies, archives, performing arts organizations, group members, and others. A [listing of current Lyrasis members](#) is available on our website and is continuously updated with changes in membership.

Learn More About Lyrasis

- [Lyrasis About Page](#)
- [Lyrasis Product and Service Catalog](#)
- [Lyrasis Content & Scholarly Communication Program Overview](#)
 - [Open Access Programs](#)
 - [Open Research Infrastructure Programs](#)
 - [Meet the Content & Scholarly Communication Initiatives Team](#)
- Lyrasis on social media:
 - [LinkedIn](#)
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
 - [Bluesky](#)

Contact Us

For questions please contact csci@lyrasis.org.

Lyrasis Organizational Standards

The mission of Lyrasis is to empower libraries, archives, and museums through content services, open technologies, and community-based solutions that expand access to information, preserve cultural heritage, and advance the shared goals of our members and the communities we serve. We work to build a future that is inclusive, equitable, accessible and sustainable.

The Lyrasis Content & Scholarly Communication Initiatives (CSCI) team contributes to this organizational mission by bringing relevant vendor products and services to the communities we serve, prioritizing relationships that reflect the following considerations:

- 1) Align with the mission and values of Lyrasis and its members;
- 2) Address the needs of library and scholarly communities in unique or innovative ways;
- 3) Advance more open and collaborative scholarly communication ecosystems;
- 4) Achieve sustainability as an organization and a Lyrasis partner; and
- 5) Adhere to best-in-class licensing and technical standards.

CSCI decides whether to establish new vendor and publisher partnerships in accordance with the [CSCI Evaluative Framework for Prospective Vendors and Partners](#). This is a living document that provides an equitable and transparent framework to guide CSCI's decision making.

Lyrasis and vendors adhere to the mutual expectations outlined in the Evaluative Framework in meaningful and measurable ways, with particular attention to the following expectations:

- Central consortial licensing with no institutional signature requirements.
- Pricing that aligns with current economic realities facing libraries.
- Central billing management through Lyrasis.
- Commitment to long-term preservation of licensed content.
- Offers available to, and equitably structured for, all Lyrasis members.
- Sustainable and scalable business models for Lyrasis members.

New Vendor and Partner Evaluations

Lyrasis strategists selectively provide members unique and robust resource opportunities and ensure that Lyrasis staff and systems are in place to manage and advance each new vendor relationship with care and attention. Vendor evaluations are highly context-based and require dialogue and analysis applied within an evaluative framework. The Content & Scholarly Communication Initiatives Senior Director makes final decisions about whether to pursue a prospective vendor relationship, consulting with other Lyrasis leadership as needed.

Additional, or alternate, criteria or processes may apply.

Evaluation Timeline

- **Step 1:** Lyrasis identifies potential vendors and partners.
- **Step 2:** Lyrasis conducts an initial internal review of vendors and partners to determine viability of a consortial relationship based on [Organizational Standards](#).
- **Step 3:** Lyrasis conducts external reviews of vendors and partners to confirm viability of a consortial relationship based on [Organizational Standards](#).
- **Step 4:** Lyrasis holds an internal review meeting to assess all gathered evaluation materials.
- **Step 5:** Lyrasis makes final decisions that determine follow-through workflows.

Requested Documentation

If you are a vendor, publisher, organization, or resource provider interested in pursuing a relationship with Lyrasis, please share the following documentation to aid in the review process, as available, directly to christy.cortes@lyrasis.org.

- Institutional license agreement
- Accessibility documentation such as a VPAT
- Pricing information, including consortial discounts if applicable
- Detailed information on resource offerings

Additional information may be requested during the evaluation process.

Next Steps for New Vendors and Partners

Please note that a limited number of vendors will be onboarded each Fall or Spring season. If Lyrasis decides to move forward with a new vendor or partner, setup of a new offer or service may take 6-12 months as Lyrasis staffing capacity allows. Rollout of products, services, and programs entails finalization of license terms and pricing, creation of administrative workflows, and development of a marketing plan to introduce a new partnership and offerings to the Lyrasis community. Lyrasis strategists strive to launch

Working with the CSCI Program

Lyrasis is a 501(c)(3) membership organization that is committed to serving our members and is not an agent or reseller. The Content and Scholarly Communication Initiatives (CSCI) team at Lyrasis provides many benefits to the Lyrasis member community. Among these are the expert scaling of equitable subscription, purchase, and open access program support opportunities that meet the needs of Lyrasis members. These opportunities come with many benefits based on business expectations intended to ensure mutual continuity, sustainability, and accountability.

Vendor and Partner Benefits of Working with Lyrasis

- Lyrasis negotiates best-in-class central licenses that are broadly acceptable to the Lyrasis community of more than 1,000 members, relieving the administrative burden on libraries and other organizations that otherwise would have to negotiate licenses individually.
- Lyrasis provides central billing management (i.e. quoting, invoicing, collecting payment) for all subscriptions, purchases, or other programs offered by vendors and partners.
- Lyrasis addresses both routine and complex member inquiries and concerns, coordinating responses and the facilitation of conversations between members and vendors.
- Lyrasis carefully vets each new vendor and partner as well as their offerings, instilling confidence in our members of the enduring value of partnered products and services.
- Lyrasis builds enduring communities around vendor and partner products and services.

Business Expectations for Vendors and Partners

Marketing

- New or time-limited special offers generally will be advertised during either our fall offer campaign (September–November) or our spring offer campaign (March–May).
- Special offers and promotions generally must be communicated to Lyrasis by August 31 of each year for a fall campaign and by January 31 for a spring campaign.
- Offers should be available to, and equitably structured for, all Lyrasis members.
- Promotion of partnered products and services generally consists of Lyrasis product pages, New Featured Offers and listserv announcements, social media, blog posts, and webinars.
- Lyrasis has a very large vendor portfolio and strives to balance promotion of our various accounts throughout the year, in alignment with equity considerations and member needs.
- With rare exceptions, we do not advertise events that are not hosted or offered by Lyrasis.

Pricing

- Pricing quotes for Lyrasis members generally must be routed through Lyrasis to ensure that all costs are accounted for and represented accurately to members.
- Participation in partnered programs via Lyrasis should be more cost-effective to members than participation would be if the members worked directly with the vendor.
- Negotiated consortial pricing is presented to Lyrasis members over list pricing.

Licensing

- Vendors and partners generally must allow institutions to agree to abide by license terms via email acknowledgment to Lyrasis rather than requiring formal license signatures.
- Central licenses must adhere to library and industry standards and best practices such as privacy, accessibility, scholarly sharing, and use of AI and emerging technologies.

- Shared understandings between Lyrasis and its partners must be established through means such as an MOU to document mutual expectations of the business relationship.

Commitments

- Vendors and partners will demonstrate commitment to Lyrasis [Organizational Standards](#).
- Lyrasis and its vendors and other partners will be responsive, courteous, enthusiastic, and collaborative in their dealings with each other and with Lyrasis members.