



South Central Kansas Library System

BASIC LIBRARY SKILLS TRAINING (BLaST) FAQs

What is BLaST certification?

Basic Library Skills Training (BLaST) is a series of programs designed for new librarians and library staff to assist you in learning fundamental skills and understanding basic library services.

Who can earn BLaST certification?

If you are employed by a SCKLS member library, you may earn **BLaST** certification. The revised eligibility requirements outlined here apply to all SCKLS librarians new to BLaST in 2020.

Why should I consider pursuing BLaST certification?

If you are new to the library profession or looking to fill knowledge gaps, **BLaST** certification provides you with a path to foundational professional development. Gain new skills, pursue a basic understanding of library services, prove you're invested in growing, and best of all boost your own self-confidence in the workplace.

What do I have to do to complete BLaST certification?

We've streamlined our requirements. To earn a **BLaST** certificate, attendance is required at a minimum of 12 eligible trainings. You may begin the certification process at any time, and there is no deadline for completion.

What trainings are eligible for BLaST certification?

As you peruse the SCKLS continuing education calendar, notice that each training is classified as either **BLaST** (foundational library skills), **Library Talks** (current topics of interest) or **webinar** (online learning). Individualized choice makes learning more personal, and we want you to meet your specific learning goals. So, for BLaST certification, please choose *ten* **BLaST** trainings, *one* **Library Talk** and *one* **webinar**.

Certification Pathway	BLaST	Library Talks	Webinar	TOTAL
Required # of Trainings	10	1	1	12

When will I find out if I'm BLaST certified?

We are excited to acknowledge your achievements! Please be patient as we transition to new registration software this year. Our goal is to recognize individuals who have earned **BLaST** certification twice a year—in July and January.

Check out our 2020 BLaST offerings below, or find the complete SCKLS Continuing Education Calendar at <https://www.sckls.info/events>

Pre-registration is required. For further program information or for assistance with registration or special accommodations, contact Katherine Hughes, Training Specialist. SCKLS may be able to accommodate special needs, including disabilities or dietary requirements, with advance notice.

Katherine Hughes
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**Basic
Library
Skills
Training
(BLaST)**



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BASIC LIBRARY SKILLS TRAININGS (BLaST)

✓	2020 BLaST TRAININGS	DATE	TIME
	Core Values in Library Service	Thursday, February 6	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
	Library Customer Service Skills Basics	Thursday, February 6	1 – 4 p.m.
	2020 Summer Library Program Workshop	Tuesday, February 25	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
	How Your Library Technology Works	Tuesday, March 10	9 – 11:30 a.m.
	Get to Know Your Internet	Tuesday, March 10	12:30 – 3:30 p.m.
	First Aid / CPR / AED	TBA	TBA
	Basic Preservation	Thursday, August 6	9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
	Basic Book Repair	Thursday, August 6	1 – 4 p.m.
	Children's Story Time Workshop	Wednesday, September 9	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
	Cataloging, ILL and Copyright Essentials	Wednesday, September 16	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
	Selecting and Evaluating Your Library Collections	Wednesday, September 16	1 – 3 p.m.
	Youth Services: Building the Foundation	Thursday, November 12	9 – 11:30 a.m.
	Readers' Advisory: Creative Ways to Talk Books	Thursday, November 12	1 – 3:30 p.m.
	Database Research Skills	Thursday, December 3	9 – 11:30 a.m.
	Learning Skills with the Kansas State Library	Thursday, December 3	1 – 4 p.m.
	Public Governance Orientation	<i>By appointment only</i>	Contact Paul Hawkins
✓	OTHER ELIGIBLE EVENTS YOU ATTEND	DATE	TIME

Basic Library Skills Trainings (BLaST) are programs designed for new librarians and library staff that cover fundamental skills and basic library services. **BLaST** trainings are held at the South Central Kansas Library System, 321 North Main Street, South Hutchinson as well as other designated locations. Trainings include light refreshments and may include a complimentary lunch. Register for **BLaST** trainings using the [Calendar of Events](#) on the SCKLS [website](#). When you register, be sure to indicate that you want **BLaST** Certification credit for your attendance at the training. Once you have completed a minimum of 12 eligible trainings, SCKLS will issue you a **Basic Library Skills Training (BLaST)** Certificate.