

Help OSLA Advocate for Quality Online Resources

Online subscription reference databases have become an essential part of the school library collection. Ontario students do not have equal access to quality online resources. Some larger school boards are able to purchase boardwide licenses for databases. Schools in other areas are restricted in access because of the sometimes prohibitive cost of single site licenses.

OSLA believes in equitable access to quality online resources for all Ontario students. OSLA strongly supports the Ontario Digital Library Project (ODL). One of the goals of the ODL project is to provide provincial licensing for online resources, for all citizens of Ontario.

The Ontario Ministry of Education provides provincial software licensing for all publicly-

funded schools in Ontario. Access to this software greatly enhances learning opportunities for Ontario's students. The Ministry seeks advice on licensing needs through the Ontario Software Acquisition Program Advisory Committee (OSAPAC). OSAPAC seeks input from Ontario teachers through its annual online survey.

Help advocate for licensing an online reference database by completing the OSAPAC survey. It takes only a few minutes to complete the survey. All teachers in publicly funded schools in Ontario may participate. Complete the survey yourself, and encourage other teachers on your staff and in your local Teacher-Librarians' Association and other subject associations to do the same.

Access the survey at: <http://www.osapac.org>

Follow the links to the OSAPAC Survey

OSAPAC Survey: Software Needs Assessment



Software Request: Identification

Please identify the type of software you wish to be licensed, and/or any titles that you wish to recommend.
Typical types: Authoring, Graphics, Utility, Instructional, Tutorial, Simulation, Exploration, Book, Reference, ...

Priority

1

2

Software Type

Click for Choices

Click for Choices

- ✓ Click for Choices
- Application
- Authoring
- Book
- Drill and Practice
- Exploration
- Game
- Graphics
- Instructional
- Programming
- Reference
- Simulation
- Tutorial
- Utility
- Virus Protection
- Other

Specific Title

DO NOT suggest a specific title. Conflicting input in this area may limit licensing opportunities.

Identify **Reference** as your choice from the menu.

Complete the Comments box, to reinforce your intent.

Suggested wording:

Ontario students need access to a quality suite of online reference databases (encyclopedia, atlas, almanac, etc.) through provincial licensing and participation in the **Ontario Digital Library Project**.

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